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Contact:
Steve Schoo
Independent Power Systems
sschoo@solarips.com
303-443-0115

Colorado College Students Spark Interest in Solar Electric

Students Work with Staff and Donors to Install 25kW Solar Electric System

Colorado Springs, Colo. – May 19th, 2008 – This year Colorado College graduates will toss their caps at a commencement ceremony powered in part by renewable energy from the sun. The new solar electric system, installed by Independent Power Systems of Boulder, CO, is the result of the efforts of a group of Colorado College students, led by Colorado College junior David Amster-Olszewski.

The system, installed on the south-facing roof of the Edith Gaylord Apartments, a location chosen for its high visibility, is the first of its kind campus, and is part of a larger ten year sustainability effort on the part of Colorado College. The 24.6 kW system covers an area of 2070 square feet, and is capable of producing more than 34000-kilowatt hours of energy per year. A wireless monitoring system will show students, and visitors, real-time system performance, and energy use.

“This system represents a small, but important first step in the right direction toward our long-term goal of carbon neutrality” said George Eckhardt Colorado College Facilities Manager. Eckhardt added “the students, staff and donors wanted to make a visual statement to the community and other academic institutions that reflects CC’s commitment”.

“Students and donors expressed a clear interest in moving forward on renewable energy wich makes good financial sense.” said Tom Nycum, Vice President of Business, and Finance .

"I knew from my research that solar electric is not only a proven, viable and cost-effective technology, but it can also be installed rapidly and has immediate benefits" said David Amster-Olszewski, the Colorado College student responsible for spearheading the installation. "I really wanted to make the point that adopting renewable energy doesn't have to be time-consuming, or difficult" added Amster-Olszewski "Independent Power Systems definitely helped me prove this, by doing an excellent job installing this gorgeous system. They beat a very tight deadline by almost a week, and helped achieve the goal of having PV installed before by graduation".

Independent Power Systems, a SunPower Premier Dealer, designed and installed the system in just two weeks, to be ready in time for the 2008 Colorado College commencement ceremony. "If this were any other group I'd say I was surprised by this rapid turnaround" said Independent Power Systems President Tony Boniface. "Our design and installation crew have again proven that IPS is the go-to team for superior work on a tight deadline".

"Just as with their stellar work at Coors Field, Independent Power Systems has once again proven they have the right stuff" said, Shane Messer, Regional Sales Manager for SunPower.

A grant from Colorado Springs Utilities helped offset the cost of the system for Colorado College. "We're excited that one of our academic institutional customers like Colorado College has taken advantage of our Renewable Energy Rebate Program for Photovoltaics," said Deborah Mathis, Colorado Springs Utilities' Program Manager. "This is our largest PV installation to date and we hope this is the first of many commercial projects of this size in our service territory.

About Independent Power Systems

Independent Power Systems (IPS) is an emerging leader in solar electric engineering, design, and installation. In 2007 Independent Power Systems was awarded the SunPower Intelegant Award for excellence in residential solar electric design and installation. Based in Boulder, CO, IPS has designed and installed residential, and commercial renewable energy systems, including Coors Field, for more than a decade. To learn more, please visit www.solarips.com

About SunPower

SunPower Corp. (NASDAQ: SPWR) designs, manufactures and markets high-performance solar electric technology worldwide. SunPower's high-efficiency solar cells and panels generate up to 50 percent more power per unit area than conventional solar technologies and have a uniquely attractive, all-black appearance. For more information on SunPower please visit the SunPower website at www.sunpowercorp.com. SunPower is a majority-owned subsidiary of Cypress Semiconductor Corp. (NYSE: CY).

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