## Solarvalley Central Germany and Renewable Energies and Energy-Efficiency Systems at Fraunhofer IKTS





## Solarvalley Central Germany – Technological advance by regional collaboration



Source: Invest in Germany Research 2008, EuPD 2008, Photon 2008

## • 65% PV companies located in Central Germany

- Research, development, production
- 18% of worldwide solar cell production
- 4 companies listed in world top 10
- 8500 direct employees in PV industry
- growth rate of companies > 30%





## Solar Energy – Crucial factor on the energy market

### **Innovation strategy**

- Cooperation along the entire PV value chain
- Concept of development from fundamental research to innovative application
  - → 27 Global operating companies
  - ➔ 7 Renowned Research Institutes
  - ➔ 4 Universities
  - → 3 Federal states



## Acceleration of Innovations –

### Integral concept throughout cluster of excellence solarvalley

Matched R&D program for the entire value chain:

Cost reduction for components efficiency increase in this model

Integral modern education concept for photovoltaics: Competence center for vocational and professional training New Bachelor- and Master program, foundation professorship International

leading

**PV cluster** 

Development of a state-connecting network:

Solarvalley Central Germany e.V. with regional offices in Dresden, Erfurt and Halle





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## Electricity for future generations – Technology and products leading to net parity

Definition, preselection technology, supplier

**Optimization** process, products Start mass production new solar systems

#### **Milestones 2011**

- Materials cost reduction > 30%
- Efficiency crystalline solar cell > 20 % (equates with 25% increase)
- Thin film > 10 % (equates with 30% increase)
- Reliability and module warranty ≥ 30 years (equates with 20% increase)

#### **Political conditions in Thuringia**

- 10 million € R&D joint projects
- SolarZentrum Erfurt as additional institute of TU Ilmenau
- Center of Spectroscopy at IMN Ilmenau
- Focus on thin film at IPHT





# Economic growth by vocational and professional training – new jobs



#### **Milestones 2011**

- Professional qualification: 5.000 skilled workers
- Recruiting of experts outside of Central Germany: 2000
- Network of academic education (Bachelor, Master): 400 graduations / year
- Doctor's degree: 40 graduations / year
- National and international partner



## High-Tech in Central Germany – Region for PV with high attractiveness for economy & society



#### **Milestones 2011**

- PV communication platform, monitoring of success of the innovation process
- New PV applications
- Cross-linked research infrastructure
- Set-up and establishment for suppliers, allocation of areas for building development



## Fraunhofer – Institute for Ceramic Technologies and Systems IKTS Dresden

| Regular staff:            | 218             |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Student workers:          | 47              |
| Total budget:             | € 20.8 million  |
| Industrial revenues:      | 41.3 %          |
| Public research revenues: | 38.9 %          |
| Core financing:           | 20.6 %          |
| Area:                     | 102 laboratorie |
| Institute director:       | Prof. Dr. Alexa |





2 laboratories and pilot plants of approx. 9400 m<sup>2</sup>



www.ikts.fraunhofer.de



## **Profile of Fraunhofer IKTS – Business Units**

#### **Structural Ceramics**

#### **Functional Ceramics**





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## **Renewable Energy at IKTS**

#### **Research Activities:**

- Development of Materials and Processes for PV application
- System solution for efficient biogas production
- SOFC: from mW to kW application
- Development of small fuel cell systems (SOFC, PEM)
- Membrane and Filter Technology (Diesel Particulate Filter)
- TEG (Thermoelectric Generators)
- "energy harvesting" (Piezoceramics)
- Battery Technology (Li-Ion)



Force transducer for small, dynamical forces



Ceramic fuel cell stack



Filter segment with specific filter design



## IKTS – SOFC Systems Competency on entire production line



From materials to systems – From laboratory scale to small batches



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## **IKTS – LTCC-based micro fuel cell charging station**



From materials to systems – From laboratory scale to small batches



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## **IKTS – Functional materials**



From materials to systems – From laboratory scale to small batches



## **IKTS – Photovoltaics: Metallization**



From materials to systems – From laboratory scale to small batches



## **IKTS – Photovoltaics: processing and characterization**



- BTU firing furnace
- IR firing furnace continous line
- Automated 2x4 point probe for resistivity measurements
- Solar simulator





## **IKTS – Material development – battery production**

#### **Powder – suspension - paste**

- Materials for Cathodes Li-Mn-Co-Ni Oxides
- Development and production of pastes for anodes and cathodes
- Ceramic membrane materials
- $\rightarrow$  Functionality, stability, processing



From materials to systems – From laboratory scale to small batches



## **IKTS – Renewable energy generation: biogas production**

- Development of methods and systems for municipal and industrial wastewater treatment plants
- Successive utilization of organic substances for energy production by special educt treatments
- Fermentation of biogenous remnants (straw)
- Efficiency improvement of plants biogas







## IKTS – Renewable energy generation: from biomass to heat and electrical power

Biogas





















**Electric Power** 





Heat



## **IKTS – High-end characterization methods**

- Powder characterization (PSD, BET, Zeta-Potential)
- XRD (Hot-Stage-XRD)
- Simultanous thermal analysis (DTA/TG/MS)
- Impedance spectroscopy (in situ)
- Rheological characterization
- Chemical stability
- FTIR / Raman spectroscopy (in situ)
- FESEM coupled with EDX equipped with FIB
- Ultrasonic microscope
- Computed tomography
- Ellipsometry
- Reflectometry





## Summary

Solarvalley e.V. business office Dresden: EESA and Fraunhofer IKTS



Renewable energy research projects at Fraunhofer IKTS

- Development of materials and processes for PV application
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- SOFC: from mW to kW application
- Development of small fuel cell systems (SOFC, PEM)
- Membrane and filter technology (Diesel particulate filter)
- TEG (Thermoelectric generators)
- "energy harvesting" (Piezoceramics)
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IKTS