

# WBHO Building Energy sign module and inverter deals for 81MW South African project

http://www.pv-tech.org/news/23598

By Julia Chan - 13 December 2012

WBHO Building Energy, a construction firm in Southern Africa, has inked two separate module and inverter supply agreements for its 81MW Kathu Solar Facility.

The first agreement was signed with Elettronica Santerno, part of the Italian company Carraro Group. Under the agreement, the company will supply inverters and components to WBHO Building Energy in a deal worth €13 million (US\$16.9 million).

The second agreement was signed with JinkoSolar, which will see the company deliver 81MW worth of PV capacity in the form of 344,540 PV modules. These modules will help the plant generate approximately 146GWh of electricity every year.

JinkoSolar will begin shipping the modules in the first quarter of 2013 and all modules will be delivered by the end of 2013.

The inverters and modules will be installed at the 81MW solar park which is currently under construction near Kathu, a mining town in the Gamagara Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province, South Africa.

The project, which was approved under the South African government's Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement (REIPPP) Programme, is being developed, designed, constructed and commissioned by WBHO Building Energy.

When complete, the project is expected to be one of the largest individual PV plants in South Africa.

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### 來源網址:

http://www.pv-tech.org/news/wbho\_building\_energy\_sign\_module\_and\_inverter\_supply\_agreements\_for\_81mw\_sohttp://m. engineeringnews.co.za/article/tracking-solar-pv-plant-under-construction-2012-12-14



## Tracking solar PV plant under construction

By: Anine Vermeulen



Global renewable-energy company Building Energy expects to create 400 jobs during the 21- month construction period of its 81 MWp tracking solar photovoltaic (PV) plant in Kathu, in the Northern Cape.

Construction of the project, which is one of the 28 preferred bidder projects selected in the first window of the Department of Energy's Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Programme (REIPPP), started this month.

The R3-billion plant is being funded by mandated lead arranger Rand Merchant Bank.

"The plant will generate more energy than any other solar PV generator globally – an estimated 180 GWh/y. This is because of the tracking technology of the plant, which follows the sun during the day, instead of staying static and waiting for the sun to reach the solar panels," said Building Energy CEO **Matteo Brambilla**, adding that the high solar irradiation in the Kathu area enabled the plant to produce more solar energy than any other plant in the world.

Brambilla told *Engineering News* last month that the plant would be commissioned in phases and that it was possible that the facility could supply energy to the national electricity grid ahead of the official completion date of mid-2014.

He added that Building Energy, in joint venture (JV) with South African

construction group Wilson Bayly Holmes-Ovcon, otherwise known as WBHO, would build the plant. The plant would be operated for 20 years by another JV between Building Energy and the Guma Group.

Meanwhile, 60 people will be permanently employed to operate and manage the plant over its 20-year life span.

Chinese solar panel manufacturer JinkoSolar will supply the PV modules, Italian manufacturer Elettronica Santerno the inverters and Spanish engineering firm Ercam the tracking systems.

"The country is experiencing strong demand for renewable energy, which can be installed quickly, and which is cost-competitive and a reliable source of power.

"South Africa has created a modern and efficient framework for renewable energy, kick-starting one of the most vibrant markets in the world. As a global renewable-energy company, we are proud of our accomplishments in the country and recognise the dedicated team and various independent parties that helped deliver this successful outcome.

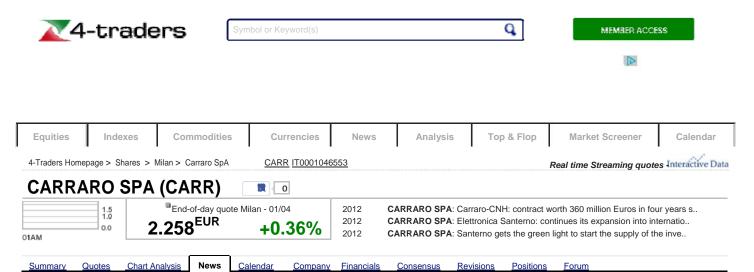
"Building Energy's ability to finance the construction of the plant through nonrecourse project finance underscores the strong appeal of predictable cash flows from solar technology and utility-scale project-execution expertise," stated Brambilla.

Building Energy is pursuing a projects pipeline of more than 500 MW in sub-Saharan Africa and plans to submit more projects during the upcoming third bid window of the REIPPP.

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## Carraro SpA : Elettronica Santerno: continues its expansion into international markets

12/11/2012| 01:41pm US/Eastern

A supply agreement worth 13 million Euros for the "Kathu Solar Facility", the most important photovoltaic field in South Africa

Imola, 11 December 2012 - Elettronica Santerno, the Carraro Group company specialising in power electronics, has concluded with WBHO Building Energy an important agreement for the supply of an integrated system of inverters and components for one of the largest photovoltaic plants (81 megawatts) currently under construction in the entire African continent.

This agreement, worth 13 million Euros, follows only a few days after the recent start up of the supply contract for one of the largest solar fields in the world which is under construction in the United States.

"With this further major contract, Elettronica Santerno today has a 2013 order backlog of 40 million Euros, representing almost the entire turnover of the company in 2012. - commented Enrico Carraro, Group Chairman - This represents an excellent starting point for next year, which envisages strong growth in turnover compared to the current year. This increase in turnover, combined with restructuring actions already undertaken, will at the same time lead to a significant improvement in terms of margins".

"Today, Santerno products have what it takes to be implemented where there is a market. Both in terms of sales network as well as Research and Innovation, we have a clear vision which we are proving in practice. Also thanks to these references our competitive position is showing a marked improvement at the international level" concluded Enrico Carraro.

The new South African plant will be built near Kathu, one of the main mining towns of the Northern Cape province. A particularly difficult environment in terms of altitude, radiation and temperature, for which Elettronica Santerno will provide inverters which have already demonstrated solid reliability in harsh environments such as in Tibet or Gujarat (India).

South Africa, as well as being the leading economy of the African continent, today represents a country with great development potential in the field of photovoltaics, thanks to a government roadmap which envisages that, in 2020, 42% of installed energy will come from renewable sources. <u>Go to Press release 11.12.2012</u>

### 來源網址:

http://www.4-traders.com/CARRARO-SPA-70220/news/Carraro-SpA-Elettronica-Santerno-continues-its-expansion-into-international-markets-15588138/

