

Media Release

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Origin's Revolutionary SLIVER technology wins REDI Grant

SLIVER technology has ended 2005 with another accolade by winning \$5 million in grant funding from AusIndustry's Renewable Energy Development Initiative (REDI) program.

"REDI is a terrific program fostering innovation in renewable energy, an area that is critical to retaining our future quality of life", said Phil Mackey, General Manager Renewable and Low Emission Technologies.

"We are delighted to see Origin's exciting SLIVER technology recognised for its potential by the Australian Government. This grant will assist Origin take SLIVER technology to international markets".

The grant will also enable Origin Energy Solar to continue its SLIVER research and development program and manufacturing process development to ensure the ongoing competitiveness of the technology, thereby assisting Australia regain its global market share in the photovoltaic sector.

Phil Mackey will accept the award at a ceremony on Monday morning at Parliament House in Canberra.

Background:

Origin Energy's revolutionary SLIVER technology was invented in conjunction with the Australian National University's Centre for Sustainable Energy Systems. A \$1 million grant from the Government's Australian Greenhouse Office contributed to the technology development.

SLIVER technology benefits include:

- Improved tolerance to partial shade = better real world performance
- low silicon use without losing any performance
- mono-crystalline, high performance silicon with more than 30 years of proven reliability
- invented and produced in Australia.

Construction of the Origin Energy Solar manufacturing plant was completed in September 2004, with first modules reaching pre-production in December 2004 with progressively larger modules being produced throughout 2005.

Origin Energy is Australia's number one grid-connect solar retailer - with a national market share of over 30%.

In 2005 SLIVER® has won a Global Eco-Tech 100 Award, Australia's leading environmental prize; a prestigious Banksia Environment Award and was short-listed for a Eureka Award and an Australian Institute of Energy - Excellence in Energy Award.

SLIVER® is a registered trade mark of Origin Energy Solar Pty Ltd, a wholly owned company of Origin Energy Limited, Australia's second largest energy company.



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