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NEWS RELEASE

Innomech aims to be carbon neutral by year end

Ely-based GB Innomech (Innomech) – which specialises in developing advanced automation to improve manufacturing efficiency and costs – has today confirmed a major investment in solar power that will allow the company to be carbon neutral by the end of the year.

Innomech's new solar PV system will generate sufficient energy to fully meet its annual energy consumption of around 45,000 kWh [or electricity units]; a figure that is already significantly lower than might be expected for a building or company of comparable size because Innomech relies exclusively on energy-efficient geothermal heating, ventilation and lighting systems.

The new solar power system is being supplied and installed by Solarbase Energy from Grantham, Lincolnshire. The first phase, comprising 141 hidden roof-mounted panels and each measuring 1 x 1.5 metres, has already been completed to deliver around half of Innomech's annual power consumption. A series of ground-mounted units, around the edge of the site alongside hedges planted as part of the wildlife management scheme, will be installed by the end of the month. The complete system is expected to pay for itself within six years.

"Innomech has always been committed to minimising the environmental impact of its business and uses clean technologies wherever possible, provided they have commercially-acceptable payback times. Our own eco-friendly building already incorporates multiple technologies for more efficient energy use and waste management so investing in a full solar power system is a very natural next step for us," said Tim Mead, commercial director at Innomech.

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The Innovation Centre, the company's dedicated headquarters at Witchford, near Ely secured three industry awards for its environmentally-friendly design when it opened in 2004. The building was designed in-house at a time when architects and construction companies charged huge premiums to incorporate even the simplest sustainable or energy-saving technologies. All installed technologies and systems were specifically chosen by Innomech to minimise the environmental foot print and reduce the running costs to a minimum without compromising the commercial operation.

In addition, Innomech is also a member of the World Society of Sustainable Technologies.

Notes to editors:

About GB Innomech

GB Innomech (Innomech) specialises in automating highly complex and labour-intensive manufacturing processes to maximise outputs, improve product quality and boost business performance. The company works with major international manufacturers in sectors such as pharmaceuticals, medical devices and environmental, as well as earlier-stage businesses looking to bring breakthrough technologies or products to market.

Innomech has a growing market reputation for solving the toughest of manufacturing problems by the early identification and management of risk, often cross-fertilising technologies and techniques from a range of industry sectors. All projects from initial feasibility studies through to building production-scale machines are conducted to high specification pharmaceutical industry standards and are designed to comply with GAMP5, FDA and other international standards.

The company was founded in 1990, is based at The Innovation Centre in Witchford, north of Cambridge and was awarded The Queen's Award for Enterprise 2009 to recognise its sustained growth in international markets.

For additional information about GB Innomech please visit or contact:

- www.innomech.co.uk
- Press enquiries to Simon McKay on +44 (0)1353 741075 or email to simonmckay@innomech.co.uk
- All other enquiries to Tim Mead at Innomech on +44 (0)1353 667394

About Solarbase Energy

Solarbase Energy is based in Grantham, Lincolnshire and has advised on and installed hundreds of renewable energy systems throughout the UK and Ireland. In addition to solar electricity (PV) and solar hot water (thermal) systems, the company also supplies a range of other green energy technologies such as air source heat pumps and wood pellet boilers.

The company prides itself on providing all commercial and residential customers with environmentally-friendly and highly cost-effective solar solutions that can dramatically reduce annual energy consumptions and costs, whilst also reducing harmful CO2 emissions. Solarbase Energy is accredited as an installer under the Microgeneration Certification Scheme [for more information see www.microgenerationcertification.org] and offers a full service from initial consultation through to system design, installation and maintenance.

For further information please see www.solarbaseenergy.co.uk or call 0845 519 3622

Photographs

Print quality JPEGs of the images below have been sent attached to the original email or are also available on request from Simon McKay (details above). Additional images are also available:



- 1 Ely-based automation consultancy GB Innomech has had 141 roof-mounted solar panels fitted to deliver around half the company's electricity needs. A series of ground mounted units will provide the balance. Photo credit: alan@acphotographic.com



- 2 Tim Mead, commercial director at GB Innomech is shown above on the left with Peter Base, managing director of Solarbase Energy who are installing a complete solar power system at Innomech. The new system will supply the company's full electricity requirements of 45,000 kWh per year.



- 3 GB Innomech's major investment in solar power will allow the company, which already relies on energy-efficient geothermal heating, ventilation and lighting systems, to be carbon neutral by the end of 2012.

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