



# SOLAR TRUST OF AMERICA

News From Solar Trust of America, LLC

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **SOLAR TRUST OF AMERICA RECEIVES INDUSTRY INNOVATION AWARD FOR NEW PARABOLIC TROUGH COLLECTOR**

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**Sister Company's HelioTrough Collector Cited For Performance, Efficiency Boosts by  
*CSP Today* at 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Concentrated Solar Power Summit USA**

**San Francisco, Calif. – July 1, 2010** – Solar Trust of America, LLC, an integrated industrial solar solutions company, today announced that the new HelioTrough parabolic trough collector developed by its sister company, Flagsol GmbH, received the CSP Innovation Award at the just concluded 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Concentrated Solar Power (CSP) Summit in San Francisco.

The next-generation collector was recognized by conference attendees who voted for the award for its innovative design, increased thermal output efficiency and reduced component costs.

The HelioTrough collector is one third larger than its predecessor, Skal-Et, and requires fewer collectors to produce the same amount of energy. Combined with an optimized structure geometry the HelioTrough reduces the investments cost by nearly 20 percent in comparison to current collector designs. In addition, the efficiency level of the parabolic trough mirrors was increased by nearly 10 percent.

Uwe T. Schmidt, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Solar Trust of America, said the industry recognition for HelioTrough validates the combined efforts of joint venture partners Solar Millennium Group and Ferrostaal Group to develop the next generation of highly efficient and reliable parabolic trough solar thermal power plants.

“HelioTrough represents the future for parabolic trough technology and we expect it to be the cornerstone of our proposed solar thermal power plants in the southwestern United States,” said Schmidt. “Thanks to the exceptional development and testing work by our colleagues at Flagsol, we are one step closer to providing performance and cost efficiencies not seen on the commercial market today.”

Dr. Wolfgang Knothe, Chief Executive Officer of Flagsol GmbH, said, "Although final statements on the collectors' efficiency will be made at the end of the year once performance measurements are completed, the HelioTrough met all our expectations during the first months of testing. With HelioTrough we will have the most efficient collector on the market and will further expand our technology leadership while reaching our goal of achieving competitiveness with fossil-fuel power plants.”

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## Solar Trust Receives Industry Award/2

The HelioTrough collector was developed along with partners by Flagsol GmbH Cologne, a technology subsidiary of Solar Millennium and Ferrostaal. Prior to installing a 2,624-foot demonstration loop at a solar thermal power plant in the U.S., the new collector was first tested in a factory hall in Germany to test the innovative assembly concept and verify the geometric precision. The early phases of the research and development project were promoted by the German Federal Environment Ministry, whereas the demonstration project in California is supported by the U.S. Department of Energy.

### **About Solar Trust of America**

Together with its wholly owned U.S. development subsidiary, Berkeley, California-based Solar Millennium, LLC, and joint venture partners Solar Millennium Group and the Ferrostaal Group, Solar Trust of America is actively pursuing the construction and development of solar thermal power plants across the southwestern U.S. The company currently has nine solar thermal energy power plants in advanced stages of development in Ridgecrest, Blythe and Palen, California, as well as in the Amargosa Valley near Las Vegas.

Solar Trust of America, LLC is an integrated industrial solar solutions company strategically positioned to support the critical need for renewable energy generation in the United States. The company's Project Development, Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC), financial resources and operational management expertise ensures the delivery of a fully integrated concentrated solar power solution using commercially viable and proven parabolic trough solar thermal energy technology. For more information about the company visit [www.SolarTrustOfAmerica.com](http://www.SolarTrustOfAmerica.com).

### **About Flagsol GmbH**

Flagsol GmbH is a joint venture between Solar Millennium AG and Ferrostaal AG. Flagsol combines the skills of both parent companies. As a project developer and technology provider, Solar Millennium offers the commercially proven and reliable parabolic trough technology. Solar Millennium has decades of experience in the development and realization of solar thermal power plants. Ferrostaal is a plant constructor and general contractor with extensive financial competence, and is in a position to realize international projects in different areas of large-scale plant construction worldwide. Ferrostaal has expertise in project development and management in the solar energy, power, oil and gas industries, as well as in air technology and petrochemicals.

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