



The LabCo at CSEM Brasil has been tailored to the production of OPV components

A boost for OPV in Brazil

KROENERT and CSEM Brasil have celebrated the inauguration of a state-of-the-art production line for organic photovoltaics

The German coating, printing and laminating machinery experts from KROENERT have recently completed their largest project for the organic and printed electronics sector yet: At the end of last year, the company from Hamburg commissioned the biggest production line for organic photovoltaics (OPV) and printed electronics. The customer behind this project is CSEM Brasil, a R&D institute founded in Brazil by FIR Capital, a Brazilian investment management company in partnership with CSEM Switzerland, that operates in a similar model to its sister company in Switzerland. CSEM Brasil wants to strengthen its position as one of the leading organic and printed electronics suppliers.

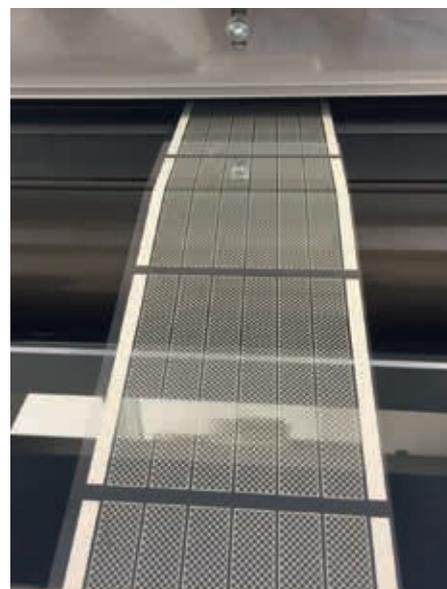
The new line has been supplied to Belo Horizonte in Brazil and will be used for manufacturing organic photovoltaic components. In contrast to conventional solar cells made from silicon, organic solar cells consisting of polymers and plastics are light, flexible and transparent. They generate clean energy and can be mounted on transparent structures, facades and windows. The energy gained with OPV modules can be used to run mobile phones, computers and car electronics. Moreover, OPVs are especially suited for

off-grid applications such as lighting, ventilation and water purification.

Immense prospects

Among the 150 participants to witness the inauguration ceremony were official representatives from the government of the state of Minas Gerais, investors, supporters, suppliers of machinery and raw materials, as well as representatives of Brazilian research institutes and its industry. Tiago Alves, CEO of CSEM Brasil emphasised the immense prospects of the OPV technology especially in Brazil. In order to quickly push the production of OPV to an industrial scale, the spin-off SUNEW was recently founded. SUNEW is counting on investors from the energy sector as well as the Brazilian development bank.

The LabCo commissioned at CSEM Brasil offers a working width of up to 500mm and boasts five coating stations overall. With its modular design, the LabCo is ideally suited for individual application: it allows a variety of configurations, tailored to the respective requirements of the customer. "We are proud to contribute to the development of this cutting-edge technology by supplying the roll-to-roll system and we wish the CSEM team ongoing success in transforming



OPV technology is lightweight, highly flexible and transparent

this technology in truly innovative products and applications", said Tarik Vardag, CEO of KROENERT, who participated in the inauguration. "This was also a great opportunity to meet different executives of companies that use this novel technology and to feel the innovative spirit of this network."