

## **CENTROSOLAR AMERICA LAUNCHES CENTROLEASE™ – A NEW SOLAR FINANCING SOLUTION FOR RESIDENTIAL INSTALLERS**

*~Top Centrosolar Installers In Select States Offered OEM Leasing Program For Their Residential Customers ~*

Scottsdale, AZ— April 4, 2011— With a rapidly growing customer and installer network across the country, Centrosolar America, the U.S. subsidiary of CENTROSOLAR Group AG in Munich Germany, announces the launch of the new CentroLease™ residential leasing program, developed in collaboration with BrightGrid, a leading renewable energy finance company. Available first to installers in select states including Arizona, California and New Jersey, CentroLease is a leasing program designed to support the installation of Centrosolar's proprietary, German-engineered 'solar-in-a-box' system – the CentroPack®, which comes standard with best-in-class components, an industry-leading warranty, and a national service and logistics support network maintained by Centrosolar across the United States.

“Our financing platforms are customized to meet specific business needs and processes and are a great fit for Centrosolar, because they work seamlessly with their installer network,” said BrightGrid CEO Stephen Crawford. “Installers get to offer a complete solution, with an easy financing option, for all residential solar projects.”

“Our residential solar installers are rapidly scaling up their businesses and face an increasing demand from their end-customers — the homeowner — for financing their solar projects,” said Centrosolar America Chief Sales Officer Steve Daniel. “Most homeowners are now choosing the lease option, over an upfront cash investment as a way to lower their energy costs right away with no money down.”

With solar representing a major investment for most homeowners, leasing options have traditionally been available only through private financing or from installing firms that are product-agnostic. With the CentroLease program homeowners now have an OEM leasing option backed by a leading global solar manufacturer. “Solar is a high-value purchase – like a car,” added Daniel, “And homeowners are more inclined to choose a financing option like the CentroLease program where the performance of their rooftop solution is backed by the OEM directly”.

The CentroLease program is a multi-year lease-financing product that includes:

- On-line tools that generate a customized lease proposal for homeowners
- Straightforward application and convenience associated with point-of-sale financing
- Training and support for installers during the sales process
- Standard CentroPack product platform including long-term monitoring solution
- On-time delivery to installers from Centrosolar's nationwide distribution network

“The CentroLease program adds tremendous value to what our Gold-level installers can now offer. It's a seamless extension of their existing sales and marketing capabilities and doesn't require significant change in how they already do business,” added Louis Lalonde, Director of Business Development at Centrosolar America.

**About Centrosolar America, Inc.**

CENTROSOLAR Group AG is one of the leading publicly traded solar companies in Europe, with revenues of EUR 403mn (\$540mn) in 2010 and over 1000 employees in 21 locations. CENTROSOLAR has production facilities in Germany for its PV modules and components like solar glass. Centrosolar America, Inc. has a strong offering in the US market with complete CentroPack PV kits – along with branded PV modules, PV rooftop racking solutions and other balance-of system components like switchgear and inverters. Centrosolar America has full-scale distribution facilities in Arizona, California and New Jersey and serves a national value-added integrator network for the residential and commercial channel. More information at [www.centrosolaramerica.com](http://www.centrosolaramerica.com)

### **About BrightGrid**

BrightGrid is a financial services company that makes switching to solar energy easy and affordable for homeowners who choose to lease, rather than buy, their solar systems. The company partners with leading solar equipment manufacturers to deliver residential leasing programs through their own integrator networks. BrightGrid's mission is to facilitate widespread use of renewable energy among homeowners nationwide and lead real environmental change with clean energy. BrightGrid was founded in 2009 and is based in New York City. More information is available at [www.brightgrid.com](http://www.brightgrid.com)

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