

Media Information

Raiffeisen Beteiligungsholding of the RLB OÖ (Raiffeisen State Bank of Upper Austria) joins forces with Energetica Industries

Powerful Austrian partnership paves the way for novel growth opportunities for photovoltaic pioneer

Liebenfels, 12 June 2023

Carinthian photovoltaic module manufacturer, Energetica Industries GmbH, with registered office in Liebenfels, is paving the way for future growth thanks to a novel corporate structure and by bringing on board a powerful partner and sustainably focused investor in the guise of the Raiffeisenlandesbank Oberösterreich (Raiffeisen State Bank of Upper Austria).

Raiffeisen Beteiligungsholding GmbH in conjunction with former shareholder, IRMA Investments GmbH, has founded Peak Power Holding GmbH specifically for this purpose and both hold equal shares. It will act as the new 100 percent shareholder of Energetica Industries in the future.

The involvement of Raiffeisen Beteiligungsholding GmbH is still pending approval by the Bundeswettbewerbsbehörde (Austrian Federal Competition Authority). It has been agreed not to publicly disclose any cost-related information.

Investments in the ongoing modernisation of production facilities

IRMA Investments GmbH devised a brand new business model for photovoltaic module manufacturer, Energetica Industries, following the takeover in early 2022. Armed with its new structure and inevitable increase in capital investment, the company is quickly gaining momentum as it takes the next steps in ensuring its ongoing success. The aim is to further expand production capacity and boost innovation. The company is also investing in the modernisation of production facilities amongst other things.

Energy and environment as promising growth sectors

"For strategic reasons, we want to further develop our existing investment portfolio and significantly expand in certain growth sectors including energy and the environment. It therefore makes sense for us to support a local company generating product-led sustainable energy to expand its capacity," explains Reinhard Schwendtbauer, Executive Board Member and Chief Financial Officer of Raiffeisenlandesbank Oberösterreich. As a stable, resilient proprietor, Raiffeisen

Beteiligungsholding GmbH assists regional companies to secure sites in Austria and Germany. Through long-term partnerships, companies also benefit strategically from the experience, expertise and extensive network available to them.

Austrian collaboration equipping the world market

“This strategic partnership not only enables us to put the financial foundations of a given company on a sustainable solid footing, but also to expand and act in synergy in the interests of all parties. For Energetica Industries, it is vital for the future to work collaboratively through an Austrian partnership with IRMA Investments GmbH and Raiffeisenlandesbank Oberösterreich in order to ensure long-term, sustainable success in the photovoltaic market which is flourishing around the globe. Bernhard Kurschel and Clemens Aigner will subsequently manage Energetica Industries GmbH”, says Martin Kurschel, former CEO of Energetica Industries GmbH and proprietor of IRMA Investments GmbH. Bernhard Kurschel has many years of technical experience in industrial production and was appointed Chief Technology Officer in September 2022. He plays a leading role in the development of novel products and, under his leadership, production output has already reached an all-time high. Clemens Aigner joined Energetica Industries as Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer in January 2023. He has more than 20 years of relevant professional experience. The accounting department has already been restructured under his leadership and processes and the supply chain have been optimised.

A European pioneer for PV innovation

The Liebenfels plant is currently one of Europe’s most powerful production facilities for PV modules with a nominal annual production capacity of 400 megawatts once current investments have been implemented. Production takes place exclusively in Austria. Energetica Industries currently employs a 100-strong workforce. Much of the energy required for production purposes comes from a 2.6 MW PV power plant on the factory site, which is equipped exclusively with Energetica PV modules manufactured on-site. “We will be presenting two novel products at the Intersolar Exhibition in Munich in June, namely a particularly light, high-performance, heavy-duty module (1.5 t load capacity with a dead weight of 22 kg) and a recently patented solar carport, scalable as required, which can essentially be installed on existing parking areas without the need for additional foundations,” adds Martin Kurschel.

Spotlight on Raiffeisen Beteiligungsholding GmbH

Raiffeisen Beteiligungsholding GmbH is responsible for managing over 350 equity investments of Raiffeisenlandesbank Oberösterreich with a volume in excess of four billion euros (assets under management). The portfolio comprises strategic investment in the banking and financial sector, bank-related service providers, the real estate sector, leading industrial companies and the food sector. The vision of Raiffeisen Beteiligungsholding is to shape the future of established and innovative companies as a strategic investment partner. It invests in companies of various sizes in the following areas in a bid to achieve a sustainable return potential and secure long-term growth: energy & environment, technology & innovation, health & care, food & consumption and construction & housing.

Spotlight on IRMA Investments GmbH

IRMA Investments GmbH is an internationally active, proprietor-led corporate network of future-oriented companies in the real estate, finance, technology and industrial sectors, which was created by Martin Kurschel in Vienna in 2016. The qualified mechanical engineer and operating technician has successfully devoted the past twenty years to the real estate industry and investing in forward-looking solutions. As a financing body, IRMA Investments brings all business divisions under one roof in a bid to develop affordable solutions for the major challenges facing the housing, energy, environment, health and nutrition sectors. The areas of activity are clearly geared towards recognising potential, seizing opportunities and implementing innovation.

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