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**Press RELEASE**

* **An expert in glass-finishing, BBG manufactures integrable photovoltaic modules and design windows for mobility and building applications**
* **Customized solar power components for ships, vehicles and structures**

*Mindelheim/Germany, 5. May 2021.* The polyurethane specialist BBG now manufactures customized photovoltaic modules and design windows for ships, vehicles and for integration into buildings. The company offers the small-batch production of special sizes and shapes for which there is growing demand as a result of the increasing use of solar power in mobility.

The mold, machine and plant manufacturer and expert in glass finishing supports their customers from component design to small-series production. They develop and manufacture the required molds, providing the products desired in the form of samples, prototypes and in small series.

**Extended range: integrated photovoltaics for ships and vehicles**

With their product range, BBG responds above all to the trend of “Vehicle Integrated Photovoltaic” (VIPV). In this emerging field of application, power-generating modules are installed in cars. The energy generated can be used, among other things, to extend the range of electric drives. Pioneering applications of vehicle-integrated photovoltaics include solar-powered boats and ferries in commercial shipping and private yacht building.

**Multifunctional: building-integrated photovoltaics**

In the context of building-integrated photovoltaics, power-generating building elements serve as thermal insulation, for wind and weather protection, and for design purposes, all at the same time. In buildings and extensions such as carports and conservatories, photovoltaic modules are integrated into roofs and used for facade, window and shading solutions. In addition, they can be installed as proper roofing.

**Design glass for extraordinary designs in vehicles and ships**

Heavy-duty glass with sophisticated design is also used in automotive engineering and marine applications for design reasons and for the space-saving integration into surfaces. In particular, they are used in all-wheel-drive recreational vehicles, off-road and expedition vehicles, as well as yachts that are manufactured in small series.

**Consulting and manufacturing in Europe, USA and China**

Bespoke photovoltaic modules and design windows are offered by the companies of the BBG Group at their locations in Oxford/Michigan in the USA, Changchun/China and Mindelheim/Germany. BBG North America and BBG Asia, as well as the parent company in Germany can each rely on their own technical center, where parts can be manufactured.

The molds required for this process are also manufactured on site. These are used to encapsulate the components in a frame made of polyurethane (PUR). The necessary fastening elements are integrated in the same work process. The frame is required for the installation of the elements.

In the production process, BBG uses the “PUR Flush” technology developed by their in-house specialists to ensure that the frame is flush with the surface of the elements. During subsequent installation, the components then can be inserted seamlessly into their respective surroundings.

**BBG’s customers are active the world over**

BBG GmbH & Co. KG, a manufacturer of molds, machinery and plants, is a renowned specialist for the plastics-processing industry. In addition to end-to-end production lines, BBG designs, develops and manufactures molds for processing polyurethane (PUR), PVC, TPE and other elastomers, as well as a wide range of composite materials. This includes production processes such as PUR-CSM (PUR Composite Spray Molding), LFI (Long Fiber Injection), RTM (Resin Transfer Molding), SMC (Sheet Molding Compound) or GMT (Glass Mat reinforced Thermoplastics), which are selected depending on the desired qualities of the finished products. The portfolio also includes press dies as well as tools for thermoforming and deep drawing.

Moreover, the company focuses on solutions for lightweight construction, the processing of composites and the production of fiber composite components in a large number of industries. Since 2020, the company has also developed and built packaging machines for pharmaceutical products and food supplements.

BBG, the family-owned business, which is run by Hans Brandner and is located in Mindelheim/Allgäu, supply their products to their customers all over the world, with the Asian market playing an important role in addition to the markets in Europe and North America. With a headcount of around 170, BBG generated worldwide sales to the tune of 17 million euros in 2020.

**Photos:**

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Photo 1:

Zero-emission solar electric passenger ferry with photovoltaic modules (Photo: © Neptun Ship Design GmbH).

Ein Bild, das Wasser, Boot enthält.

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Photo 2:

The solar-powered yachts from Silent Yachts are exemplary and have won numerous awards: the company from Austria develops and builds luxurious catamaran yachts that generate their energy exclusively from the onboard photovoltaic modules. The picture shows the flagship "Silent 80" (Photo: Silent Yachts Trading GmbH).

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Photo 3:

Innovative pioneer "Lightyear One" with five square meters of solar cells. The robust solar roof and hood consist of solar cells enclosed in safety glass. With a fully charged battery, the range of the Lightyear One is 725 km in the WLTP driving cycle (Photo: Lightyear one).



Photo 4:

Space-saving, heavy-duty, area-integrated automotive glass is needed for four-wheel-drive recreational vehicles, off-road and expedition vehicles, among others (Photo: Darc Mono).

Ein Bild, das Gras, Solarzelle, Dach enthält.

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Photo 5:

Customized photovoltaic modules can be used as proper roofing for conservatories, bicycle garages, carports and terraces (photo BBG).

**Please visit for a download of the press release (Word documents) and print-quality photos:**

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