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Background Document

SolSource Inc. Provides Solar Renewable Energy to Four Blue Mountain Arts
Buildings for Boulder County's Largest Private Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Systems

PV Systems Provide 186,000 (kWh) of electricity annually –
preventing 376,351 pounds of CO2 from entering the atmosphere

BOULDER, CO; July 3, 2009; At the beginning of 2008, Blue Mountain Arts (BMA) of Boulder, Colorado, a leading card and book publisher, made a commitment to go green and reduce the company's CO2 output. BMA selected SolSource Inc., (www.SolSourceInc.com) a Denver, solar engineering company with extensive experience in commercial, municipal and residential solar PV systems, to design and install four solar PV arrays on four different BMA buildings in Boulder.

In total, the four systems can produce 186,000 kilowatt hours (kWh) of electricity annually, making the installation the largest privately-owned PV solar array in Boulder County. According to BMA's Laura Watkins, the four systems can provide approximately 32% of the company's electricity. Brian Stern, SolSource Director of Commercial and Government Projects, says the four BMA solar arrays can save an estimated 376,351 pounds of CO2 per year from entering the atmosphere, equal to avoiding 418,169 miles in average passenger car driving per year.

The PV solar systems consist of a 98.2 kW system at a BMA warehouse in Boulder which can produce 139,000 kWh per year – the largest of the four systems; a 19.6 kW system in the Boulder Democratic Building; a 12.6 kW system at BMA's Corporate Headquarters in Gunbarrel; and an 8.4 kW system at a BMA office building in downtown Boulder. For all four installations, SolSource used SolarWorld USA modules, which are 100 percent made and assembled in the United States.

For the PV system on BMA's office building, SolSource mounted the solar panels on an existing sloping steel structure. For the other three installations, SolSource used a non-penetrating roof mounting system for the solar arrays that kept the roof surface intact and maintained its integrity.

In addition to the four renewable energy systems, Blue Mountain Arts also upgraded its building lighting system. The company replaced its lighting in the four buildings with energy efficient ballasts and Full Spectrum CFL lamps which provide better quality lighting for the workplace and their employees. The new lighting saves 54,000 KWh, equivalent to removing 153,070 pounds of CO2 from the Earth's atmosphere. Additional BMA environmental measures include using recycled materials in their products and recycling an average of 117,000 pounds of shipping, packing and paper materials per year.

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