



Press release

## **Purchase of an equity stake in Energie Solaire SA to encourage innovative solar solutions**

**Romande Energie, through its subsidiary Romande Energie Renouvelable, is buying a 34% holding in Energie Solaire SA, based in Sierre. Romande Energie is convinced of the potential of thermal solar in tandem with heat pumps and as a means to produce hot domestic supply water. This investment confirms the company's determination to participate in the development of optimal ecological solutions.**

Morges, 6 July 2009 – Romande Energie is reinforcing its industrial alliance with the Granit Group by purchasing a 34% stake in one of its affiliates, Energie Solaire SA, based in Sierre.

Energie Solaire SA, created in 1973, possesses leading-edge technology as a designer and producer of systems for exploiting thermal solar energy. It mainly operates in fast-growing segments that include non-glassed solar panels incorporated in roofs and facades and used to produce hot water, as well as radiator ceilings that produce heat or cold without any air movement.

Romande Energie intends to use this holding to promote the development of thermal solar energy and to include Energie Solaire's products in the turnkey solutions that it offers to customers. These solutions combine heat pumps and solar panels to produce heat and hot domestic supply water.

Romande Energie is committed to developing, promoting and providing innovative technologies that use locally available resources (water, wind, sun, biomass) to generate green energy and to encourage energy efficiency.

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### **Note to the editor**

Under the rules on corporate communication in the Listing Regulations of SIX Swiss Exchange, this communiqué is sent outside of trading hours on said exchange.

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