

## Eoluz and Sunthing join forces in rebounding PV market

Synergy must realise growth in the maintenance market of solar power installations

Kapellen, 9 October 2015 - Eoluz NV, specialist in renewable energy systems, announces an extensive collaboration with sector partner Sunthing BVBA from Overijse. The operational activities of the two companies are merged under the brand name Eoluz. Together with CEO Bart Van Vooren, the three employees of Sunthing will transfer to the new integrated entity in order to achieve its objectives. This move is part of an ambitious growth plan built on consolidation and anchoring. The aim is to take up a leading position in the Belgian PV market, which shows signs of recovery after four difficult years. The new Eoluz has 70 MWp of maintenance contracts in its portfolio, including the 37,000 m<sup>2</sup> PV system of the Audi plant in Vorst.



(from left to right : Bart Van den Branden, Bart Van Vooren, Jan Brouckaert)

### Consolidation

Eoluz and Sunthing have both been active in the development, construction, operation and maintenance of industrial PV systems for years. The integration of the two teams will create a stronger company which will be able to deliver even better quality and technical expertise to its customers. Bart Van Vooren, CEO Sunthing, commented: *"The scale we achieve with this integration will first and foremost benefit our existing customers. We strengthen the operational framework and customers can now enjoy the experience of two specialists in renewable energy."*

*"Both companies share the same basic values of providing quality and knowledge and are in many ways complementary to a joint customer portfolio spread across Belgium and the Netherlands,"* says CEO Bart Van den Branden on why both companies consolidated their operations. The new Eoluz will not only have an enhanced project division, but will also provide a wider range of services for monitoring and maintenance. This ranges from audits to pragmatic solutions for moves and incidents, as well as optimization of underperforming systems.

### **Anchoring**

During the past decade billions of euros have been invested in solar energy in Flanders, both by private customers, businesses as well as the government with its subsidy policy. The positive result is that a lot of expertise was built up in a short time in this sector. Eoluz wants to anchor this knowledge in Belgium and maximise the investments that were made through the provision of professional and proactive maintenance. Such maintenance is of vital importance in order to make sure the installations, which have a lifespan of at least 30 years, perform most effectively. *"An estimated one in two PV installations in Belgium receives no or little maintenance. However, an installation, provided it receives the proper optimisation and follow-up, can yield 20% more, and what's more, potential future problems can be limited,"* according to Bart Van den Branden.

### **Benelux PV market**

Incidentally the integration of the activities of Sunthing into Eoluz is not a first for the company. Recently, assets were acquired from the bankrupt Oskomera Solar Power Solutions, a Dutch pioneer. *"Our presence on the Dutch PV market is a logical and exciting step in our growth story. We will, thanks to our years of experience and expertise, be able to contribute to the realisation of the larger solar installations,"* said Jan Brouckaert, co-founder of Eoluz.

While the PV market is booming in the Netherlands, it also shows signs of a slight recovery in Flanders. Especially since new strict rules were imposed for new builds to install renewable energy. Even without subsidies, solar energy is today the most profitable way to produce green energy which is still cheaper than conventional electricity.

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### **About EOLUZ**

Since 2007, Eoluz has specialised in renewable energy systems. Eoluz develops and installs a.o. industrial photovoltaic systems. In addition, the company analyses and optimises existing PV installations where they perform monitoring and maintenance, even if the initial installation was not done by Eoluz. Eoluz has more than 45 MWp of monitoring and maintenance contracts in its portfolio. The company also realises new energy solutions such as energy storage and local networking for industry, SME, agriculture and public administration. For more information go to [www.eoluz.be](http://www.eoluz.be).

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### **About SUNTHING**

Sunthing was founded in 2008, and built approximately 35 MWp or more than 100 industrial PV installations in Flanders, Brussels and Wallonia. The company manages 25 MWp of PV installations through dedicated service and maintenance plans. Sunthing built projects including the Port of Brussels, TOTAL, DB Schenker, Schneider Electric, Delhaize and De Lijn.

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