

Mass Producing Solar Cells Improves Quality Reduces Cost



(NAPSA)—A PLACE IN THE SUN: Technicians inspect a roll of photovoltaic material production on the new, huge roll-to-roll solar cell manufacturing equipment at the new Bekaert ECD Solar Systems plant north of Detroit. The football-field long machine is capable of producing nine miles of thin-film solar material in three days, reducing costs while improving quality of the solar material. Six rolls of stainless steel move simultaneously through the multi-chamber machine where solar material is deposited. Solar products produced by the machine include building-integrated roofing shingles, battery chargers for marine and RV use and solar modules for homes or remote locations. Production at the Michigan facility—which can produce more than 25 megawatts of photovoltaic material annually began in June 2002.