

# **OES News Spring 2013**

## **First Commercial TCS Ground Mount Weathers the Seasons Well**

Within 3 weeks of the June 2012 installation of a 2.7 KW solar electric system, mounted with the G1 TCS, a strong windstorm hit the Findlay Ohio area, accompanied by tornadoes, downing trees and taking off rooftops. The G1 withstood. In fact, absolutely no adjustments, even for tensioning, were done until OES inspected the system in March 2013. OES only did them because the procedure calls for a post installation tensioning to account for expected settling. The G1 suspends PV panels on tensioned cables.

## **US Patent Office Approves the G1 Ground Mount System**

In March 2013 the US Patent Office accepted the G1 application, originally submitted in March 2011 as a provisional and March 2012 as a full application. The R1 Roof Mount System application was Continued In Part, to allow for removal of non-commercialized versions and focus on the (cable) Hold Down concept.

## **Annual Meeting on April 27, 2013**

The OES Annual Corporate Meeting will establish the Go Forward Plan for producing and commercializing the R1 and G1 solar panel mounting systems. A Prospectus is available to those seriously interested in investing. The design is proven and fabrication straightforward and outsourceable.

## **H1, T1, and P1 versions of the TCS are under development**

Sharing the same principles, and perhaps same components, the Hybrid, Tilt, and Post versions of the TCS are under research and development. The Hybrid and Post versions cover non-typical roofs and rugged terrain, respectively. The Tilt version is intended for custom or off-grid systems.

## **OES head to present a paper at the Renewable Energy World Conference this fall**

Jonathan Clemens plans to present a paper on the Design Science of Tensioned Cables at the RE World Conference in November 2013 in Orlando, FL. The paper is reminiscent of a paper published in the proceedings of the Solar World Conference in Orlando in 2005, a paper discussing the Renewable energy Cost Model (RCM) developed by Olympic Energy Systems.

## **Small and Simple Solar programs in 2012 introduced Micro-Inverters to OES mix**

Olympic Energy Systems, always looking to provide affordable solar energy systems, helped develop a number of small solar electric grid tied systems in 2012. With owner assisted installation, the price per watt installed fell below \$4 per watt, and all systems are expandable in the future.

## **Olympic Energy Systems sought a Midwest Clean Energy Challenge Grant**

It was a long shot, to compete for the Early Round prize, and the ultimate prize, for a project involving solar energy, out of a half dozen clean energy categories in eight Midwest states. We did not get the grant, but we got a lot of good expert advice on the business side of our TCS development.

## **Olympic Energy Systems expands into the Midwest USA**

The Ohio office has applied for a listing as a Solar Supply Chain operation. Solar project proposals are now under development in Missouri.

**E-mail Distribution List** As we added new addressees, we resubmit our Summer 2012 newsletter:

# OES News Summer 2012

## First Commercial TCS Ground Mount Installed



June 6<sup>th</sup> saw an Olympic Energy Systems-developed ground mount solar electric system send electricity to the utility grid in Findlay, Ohio. The University of Findlay installed a two row Tensioned Cable System, the G1, supporting a **2.7 KW** output solar array. The system uses the first production G1.

The system lies adjacent to a Skystream 3.7 wind turbine (rated at 1.9 KW) on a 45 foot pole, tied to the grid as well. The two systems are tied to two different residences (dorms for the school), setting up a competition for energy production, a *Solar v. Wind* challenge. Both systems were financed in large part by grants from the Dominion Foundation and BP.

Take a short walking tour at <http://youtu.be/spgoDjkSqaU>

The financial incentives in Washington State (and at the federal level) allow for a cost effective solar electric system, especially with the low cost TCS G1 or R1 mounting systems, which significantly reduce installation labor costs. OES has both roof and ground TCS mounting systems in service.



### Tensioned Cable System

Our development is focusing on production of our baseline TCS kits – the R1 and G1, quality assurance, two-tier mounting ground units (TCS G2) and KW scale Solar Farms. Small farms qualify for USDA grants, as well as the 30% Federal Tax Credit and production incentive payments (in Washington State). Oregon has significant incentives, including a buy-down, worth \$1.25 to \$1.75 per watt, a renewable energy systems property tax exemption, and even a performance-based initiative (through 2015). Available incentives by state are summarized at [www.dsireusa.org](http://www.dsireusa.org).

Our President, Jonathan Clemens, is still doing free initial consultations and further (fee based) site assessments, designs, and development of systems, both on-grid and off-grid, though the company is pursuing product development of its Tensioned Cable System for mounting solar panels on roofs and the ground without penetrations or foundations.

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