

PRESS RELEASE

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REC Solar and the Solar Energy Research Institute of Singapore (NUS-SERIS) celebrate National Day 2024 with a Special Edition “Singapore Flag made of Solar Panels” – displayed at NDP 2024 Heartland Exhibition at Bishan

Singapore, 9 August 2024 — To celebrate Singapore's 59th Birthday and to showcase innovations in solar energy research, the Solar Energy Research Institute of Singapore (SERIS) at NUS and Singapore-based pioneer REC Solar Pte Ltd jointly present a Special Edition of the “Singapore Flag made of Solar Panels” at this year's National Day Parade (NDP 2024). The flag will be displayed at the “NDP Heartland Exhibition” at Bishan on Saturday, 10 August 2024, 4-9pm.

While typical solar panels are black or dark blue in colour (to best absorb the sunlight), SERIS has developed a patented technology that allows to make colourful solar panels in any design without losing much conversion efficiency. This new panel technology is demonstrated here in combination with locally produced high-efficiency solar cells from REC Solar.

This Special Edition of the Singapore Flag measures 3100 mm x 1857 mm and is made with 396 half-cut bifacial mono-crystalline heterojunction solar cells using gap-less technology, same advanced cell technology as in REC's award-winning Alpha panels. The frameless solar panels were assembled at REC Solar's manufacturing plant at Tuas Singapore, with the solar cells provided by REC and SERIS' patented glass colouring technology applied to the glass lamination on top of the solar cells to produce the seamless appearance of the Singapore Flag. A small stripe of solar cells at the very left is kept uncovered to show that there are indeed solar cells underneath the flag. The onsite assembly and support structure was kindly provided by Alpina Energy Pte Ltd.

SERIS and REC Solar have a long-standing R&D collaboration and are currently developing next-generation solar technologies in the REC@NUS Corporate Laboratory, which was launched in June 2023. As climate change risks continue to rise and governments worldwide tighten sustainability regulations, REC and SERIS recognise that innovative and high-efficiency solar PV technology is key.

This Singapore flag made from solar panels was developed, designed and produced in Singapore, and demonstrates the sheer endless opportunities for Building-integrated photovoltaics (BIPV) in Singapore as part of the SG Green Plan 2030.

Dr Thomas Reindl, Deputy CEO of SERIS at NUS, said, *“Singapore has ample façade areas that could be used for solar power generation. Standard solar panels, however, are sometimes not considered aesthetically pleasing enough and hence we developed a technology that allows to make solar panels in any colour or pattern. Joining forces with our long-standing*

partner, REC Solar, we are very proud to demonstrate the new technology with this Singapore Flag made from Solar Panels as part of the celebrations for NDP 2024, but also to open up new opportunities for solar power as part of the SG Green Plan 2030.”

“REC has been pushing the boundaries of solar energy technology since its founding almost 30 years ago, and is committed to continuously improving efficiencies and costs, creating novel products and driving global transitions. With our in-depth expertise and cutting-edge technology, REC is known for its many ‘world’s first’ achievements and therefore it is REC’s great honour of having delivered the high-efficiency solar cells and made the modules locally for this Special Edition Singapore Flag,” added Dr Shankar G. Sridhara, Chief Technology Officer of REC.



Caption of photo:

The “Singapore Flag made of Solar Panels” created by the Solar Energy Research Institute of Singapore (SERIS) at NUS and Singapore-based REC Solar Pte Ltd, will be on display at NDP 2024 Heartland Exhibition at Bishan on 10 August 2024, 4-9pm.

Credit: SERIS

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About the Solar Energy Research Institute of Singapore (SERIS) at NUS

The Solar Energy Research Institute of Singapore (SERIS) at the National University of Singapore (NUS) is the city-state's national institute for applied solar energy research. Since its inception in 2008, the institute has emerged as one of the leading solar energy laboratories in the world. SERIS is supported by NUS, the National Research Foundation Singapore (NRF), the Energy Market Authority of Singapore (EMA) and the Singapore Economic Development Board (EDB).

SERIS conducts research, development, deployment, testing and consulting on solar energy technologies and their integration into urban infrastructures, buildings, and power systems. The institute's R&D spectrum covers industrially relevant materials, components, processes, systems and services, with an emphasis on solar photovoltaic (PV) cells, modules and systems. This serves the nation's need for solar adoption and industry development, and also supports the government's pledge to reduce the nation's carbon emissions. SERIS is globally active but focuses on technologies and services for tropical regions, in particular for Singapore and South-East Asia. SERIS collaborates closely with universities, research organisations, government agencies and industry, both locally and globally.

For more information on SERIS, please visit www.seris.nus.edu.sg.

About REC Solar (REC)

REC Group is an international pioneering solar energy company dedicated to empowering consumers with clean, affordable solar power through high-quality solar panels with a leading power density. As Solar's Most Trusted, REC is known for its patented innovations and multiple award-winning products with reliable long-term performance. The cornerstone for REC's strong reliability is advanced and highly efficient manufacturing using Industry 4.0 practices. Founded in 1996 in Norway, REC has always been committed to a low carbon footprint in its solar materials and panels. REC is headquartered in Norway with operational headquarters in Singapore and regional hubs in North America, Europe, and Asia-Pacific. As of December 2021, REC is part of Reliance Industries Limited, India's largest private sector company with revenues of USD 118.6 billion.

For more information, please visit www.recgroup.com