Semprius Selected for $3 Million DOE Subcontract to Scale Up Innovative Solar Energy Technology

Durham, NC, January 20, 2010 – Semprius, Inc. announced today that it has been selected by the U.S. Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) to negotiate a $3 million subcontract funded by the DOE to commercialize its promising solar energy technology.

Semprius is one of only four companies selected to participate in NREL's PV Technology Incubator Program, which aims to accelerate commercialization of solar photovoltaic systems.

The DOE will invest up to $12 million in total funding - $10 million from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act – in the four companies to support the development of early stage solar energy technologies and help them advance to full commercial scale. The goal of this effort is to help further expand a clean energy economy and make solar energy more cost-competitive with conventional forms of electricity.

The award recognizes Semprius' proprietary solar technology as a promising and innovative approach to making solar energy economically viable. Based near Research Triangle Park, the North Carolina company is commercializing a semiconductor technology, called micro-transfer printing, used to print high-performance semiconductors onto virtually any surface, including glass and flexible plastic. Micro-transfer printing reduces cost and increases reliability in a wide range of applications by enabling massively parallel processes in manufacturing.

Using this patented technology, Semprius is developing a new generation of photovoltaic (PV) module arrays to produce solar power on a large scale. Micro-transfer printing enables Semprius to use inexpensive optics to concentrate the equivalent of 1,000 suns onto its high-efficiency micro-cells. These micro-cells, which achieve high levels of energy conversion and minimize cost, have the potential to make solar power generation economically viable in clear, sunny climates.

“Semprius will use the subcontract to develop and then demonstrate this solar technology at the pilot plant scale. This is a critical next step on our path to full-scale manufacturing,” said Joe Carr, Semprius President and CEO. “We are honored to be selected from among the many submissions.”

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Carr will give a presentation on the Semprius PV Module Array at the PHOTON 2nd PV Startup Conference, Feb 3, in San Francisco.

About Semprius

Semprius, Inc., is commercializing micro-transfer printing, a novel process for printing high performance semiconductors onto any substrate, including glass, plastic and other materials. Initial applications include solar modules, LCD and OLED displays, and advanced disk drives. For more information, please visit www.semprius.com.

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