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## Tipton Solar Project Earns National Recognition

**INDIANAPOLIS** (March 11, 2011) - Abound Solar's plans to open a solar module manufacturing operation in Tipton, Ind. received national recognition yesterday as a winner of *Trade & Industry Development* magazine's 6th annual Corporate Investment and Community Impact Awards (CiCi).

The project was chosen from hundreds of applications as one of the top 15 in the Corporate Investment category for the Colorado-based company's more than \$300 million planned investment and anticipated creation of 850 jobs in the facility previously constructed in partnership with Chrysler for the German transmission maker, Getrag.

"Economic development is exceedingly competitive, especially in a tough economy. The publishers of *Trade & Industry Development* know an award-winning project when they see it and this recognition further underscores the fact that Indiana's business climate can attract the most sought-after investments in the country. We are honored that Abound Solar chose our state for its significant and game-changing community investment," said Mitch Roob, Secretary of Commerce and chief executive officer of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation.

Corporate Investment CiCi Award selections are based on an analysis of dollars invested, size and scope of project and number of jobs anticipated. For a complete list of winners, see *Trade & Industry Development's* March/April issue or visit [www.tradeandindustrydev.com](http://www.tradeandindustrydev.com).

"We are very pleased that the state of Indiana received one of our 2011 CiCi Awards for the Abound Solar project in Tipton," said Gavin T. Petty, managing editor of *Trade & Industry Development*. "The project was included in our Corporate Investment division, and represents a \$300 million investment. It is also quite notable for the 850 jobs that will be created, and for the fact that this project represents a significant footprint in the growing field of alternative energy and economic diversification for Tipton."

Abound Solar's thin-film photovoltaic module manufacturing technology was born out of Colorado State University in the late 1980's. The company expects that when completed, the Tipton site will be the largest solar panel manufacturing facility in the United States, producing millions of panels annually.

"Abound Solar is excited about establishing a manufacturing facility in Tipton, Ind.," said Steve Abely, Abound Solar chief financial officer. "The state was very supportive of our efforts there to extend the company's growth."

The CiCi Award is the latest in a number of honors Indiana has received for its economic development environment in the past year. Most recently, Indiana was ranked the sixth best state for doing business by *Area Development* magazine. *Site Selection* named the Hoosier State's business climate the eighth best in the nation and the Tax Foundation recognized Indiana for having a top-10 business tax environment in the country.

### About *Trade & Industry Development*

*Trade & Industry Development* serves executives within specific vertical industries. Its mission is to help

companies perpetuate success by providing clear and crucial insight into the challenge of site selection and facility planning. By working with thought leaders and experts in various fields, Trade & Industry Development provides actionable content that is both innovative and forward-looking. It is committed to being a valuable and trusted partner for C-suite executives, corporate real estate professionals and site consultants, enabling them to make the best possible decisions - for themselves, their companies and their shareholders. [www.tradeandindustrydev.com](http://www.tradeandindustrydev.com).

#### **About Abound Solar**

Abound Solar is a leading manufacturer of next-generation, cadmium telluride thin-film photovoltaic modules. Built upon 15 years of development at Colorado State University and with support from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Abound Solar is producing solar modules that significantly reduce the cost of generating solar electricity using a robust, commercial-scale, continuous manufacturing process. For additional information, visit <http://www.abound.com>.

#### **About IEDC**

Created by Governor Mitch Daniels in 2005 to replace the former Department of Commerce, the Indiana Economic Development Corporation is governed by a 12-member board chaired by Governor Daniels. Mitch Roob serves as the chief executive officer of the IEDC. For more information about IEDC, visit [www.iedc.in.gov](http://www.iedc.in.gov).

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