

Italy sees EUR 40M **SATINAL** investment in Solar PV EVA films

As SATINAL continues to prioritize innovation, sustainability and research to meet rising market demands, it plans a €40M investment in a new solar PV EVA films manufacturing plant in Italy's Apulia Region. Here the company's STRATO® SOLAR division will produce EVA, POE and TPO encapsulants for solar panels - aiming for an annual capacity of 10 GW by 2027.

Satinal Spa recently unveiled a EUR 40M plan to open a new manufacturing plant next year - all to expand its STRATO® EVA, STRATO® POE and STRATO® TPO encapsulants production for

the lamination of solar panels. The factory will be located in the region of Apulia in south Italy within the strategic Italian solar valley. Here the production line will be dedicated to STRATO® SOLAR, a new division of



Satinal Group, based on EVA, POE and TPO solar encapsulants.

AN EXPANDING ITALIAN FOOTPRINT

Satinal Group reports that the innovative project consists in a 4-year business growth plan divided into two stages that, by 2027, aims to extend the production site of STRATO® SOLAR to up to 20.000 sqm such that it can host an annual production capaci-

ty of 10 GW. That's equivalent to 100 million square metres of EVA films, which is why the company expects to create up to 100 jobs after the ramp up is complete. At its headquarters in Erba, STRATO® SOLAR already launched the first Carbon Free and ISCC+ certified EVA encapsulant in 2023. Moreover, starting from 2024, three production lines of STRATO® SOLAR PV Encapsulants will start to operate with an annual



production capacity of 2 GW, which corresponds to 20 million sqm of production capacity - all dedicated to EVA, POE and TPO solar encapsulants. The Erba HQ will also remain the reference point for the production of STRATO® safety glass interlayers for architecture and interior design in its 10.000 sqm factory and, upon reaching the above production capacity, is set to hire up to 60 employees. Three production lines for safety glass interlayers will keep on running at Erba, corresponding to a production capacity of 30 million square metres of Italian quality STRATO® EVA films for the whole STRATO® portfolio production, including the STRATO® EVA Carbon free version, in order to continue to meet rising demand from the international markets.

R&D

Satinal's business plan also includes an upgrading of its R&D Lab in continuous cooperation with European leading research centres and universities. Once again, the mission of the company remains that of consistently investing in innovation and research, which is an excellent way of offering the right mix of top-quality, alternative, sustainable and green solutions to clients. Establishing this factory comes as a key milestone. Indeed STRATO® Solar is a leading company and a veritable production hub in Europe of EVA, POE and TPO encapsulating films for the photovoltaic industry. With a hundred percent Italian production, it's synonymous with quality of select natural and first choice materials.

QUALITY CONTROL

Furthermore, the STRATO® SOLAR production line will include the Carbon-free version. The application of the EVA film is a sensitive process that requires precise temperatures and cycle times. Quality controls carried out in-house are meant to ensure the perfect adhesion of the material to the glass surface. The great expertise acquired by Satinal for treating EVA-based materials is essential to mastering all potential applications while thoroughly exploiting the advantages offered. In Satinal's R&D Lab quality controls are commonplace. Here the commitment is to monitor every technical characteristic of the products manufactured on-site. To ensure architects and

glassmakers the best solutions and to meet their requirements, the R&D team works every day in line with the high-quality standards of the industry. In this respect, Satinal's mission remains that of constantly offering a prime quality, green product that's in line with a sensitive vision of the Group while responding to its demanding clientele - ever more attentive to sustainability issues and to a behaviour that can ensure a low environmental impact.

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