

Aperam receives ISSF Sustainability Award for its SolarStyl solution

Luxembourg, 22 May 2012 - The International Stainless Steel Forum (ISSF) has granted its 2012 Sustainability Award to Aperam for SolarStyl®, its pioneering solar panel technology. The prize was announced at the ISSF's annual meeting in Beijing on 17 May.

The ISSF praised Aperam's SolarStyl® system as "promoting the use of photovoltaic energy and contributing to the development of renewable energy". SolarStyl® is a building integrated photovoltaic (BIPV) system using stainless steel products for BIPV installations which decreases the cost of photovoltaic modules systems and increases their performance.

Receiving the award, Philippe Darmayan, CEO for Aperam, stated: "We feel this award is a recognition of Aperam's efforts to innovate in stainless. Solarstyl is a perfect illustration of our strategy to create value".

The SolarStyl® system, which is marketed by Aperam's Alloys and Specialties division, combines stainless steel parts, plastic parts and electrical connectors with different types of photovoltaic modules. Its purpose is to simplify and thus reduce the cost of photovoltaic roof and facade design while at the same time ensuring water and air tightness. In addition, the solution offers high mechanical resistance as well as a wide range of colors and finishes for the frame and the fittings. 2,500 SolarStyl® PV modules have been installed in France to date.

About Aperam

Aperam is a global player in stainless, electrical and specialty steel, with operations in more than 30 countries. The business is organized in three divisions: Stainless & Electrical Steel, Services & Solutions and Alloys & Specialties. Aperam has 2.5 million tonnes of flat stainless steel capacity in Brazil and Europe and is a leader in high value added niches - alloys and specialties. Aperam has a highly integrated distribution, processing and services network and a unique capability to produce stainless and specialty from low cost biomass (charcoal). Its industrial network is concentrated in six main plants located in Brazil, Belgium and France. Aperam has about 10,400 employees. Aperam commits to operate in a responsible way with respect to health, safety and the well-being of its employees, contractors and the communities in which it operates. It is also committed to the sustainable management of the environment and of finite resources. In 2011, Aperam had revenues of USD 6.3 billion and shipments of 1.75 million tonnes. For further information, please refer to our website at www.aperam.com

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