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## Silicon Genesis Bridges the Gap with 20um “Kerf-free” PV Foil

*SiGen sets a new wafer thickness record with 20um mono c-Si PV foil*

**San Jose, CA – March 4, 2009** – Silicon Genesis, a leader in process and technology for engineered substrates announced today that it has produced the first ever 20um thickness solar-cell foils. The 125 mm square monocrystalline silicon (mono c-Si) foils were found to be robust and highly flexible. Neither a thin-film nor a wafer, the new form-factor was named a “foil” to better describe its unique physical characteristics as a thin, flexible yet free-standing material. This achievement represents an important milestone in the development of SiGen’s PolyMax™ kerf-free wafering technology.

The 20um solar-cell foil combines the advantages of the low poly utilization of thin-film PV with the high efficiency potential of mono c-Si PV. This sets the stage for dramatic reductions in overall production costs, leading to reduced \$/W. It is anticipated that the 20um foil will extend the reach of conventional silicon PV absorber technology well into the future. This mono c-Si foil is the result of continuous development of recently demonstrated pilot line production of full size wafers with thicknesses of 150um and 50um. These pilot capabilities are now being used for development of high volume manufacturing equipment.

The availability of 20um mono c-Si foils will allow PV cell manufacturers to explore new applications and formats with cost effective production. The *kerf-free* nature of the PolyMax system enables savings of material and the development of a new category using thinner mono c-Si wafers and foils.

“The high efficiency potential of our 20um c-Si foil technology creates new opportunities for the Solar PV industry. The flexibility of the 20um foils allows for development of diverse applications such as BIPV and flexible PV. This strengthens my belief that thin-film technology adoption will be limited by the cost and performance advantages of ultra-thin PolyMax technology”, said Francois Henley, CEO of SiGen.

The PolyMax system concept and 20um substrate results were presented at PHOTON’s 4<sup>th</sup> Photovoltaic Technology Show recently held in Munich Germany.

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## About SiGen

Silicon Genesis Corporation (SiGen) is a leading provider of engineered substrate process technology for the semiconductor, display, optoelectronics, and solar markets. SiGen's technology is used for production of Silicon-On-Insulator (SOI) semiconductor wafers for high performance applications. SiGen develops innovative substrates through thin-film engineering, enabling new applications and markets for its customers. SiGen's customers and partners include top players from substrate and device suppliers throughout the world. Founded in 1997, SiGen is headquartered in San Jose, California. For more information on Silicon Genesis, visit <http://www.sigen.com>



**125mm x 125mm – First ever *kerf-free* 20um Mono c-Si Solar PV Foil**



**20um Mono c-Si Solar PV Foil**

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