Inside Phocos

Newsletter- November 2010

Welcome to the Phocos e-mail newsletter. Here you will find the latest technical and application insights and up-to-date information on Phocos and our innovative portfolio of charge controllers, DC-components, and power management solutions.

Products

Pico Lamp

The new Pico Lamp is a multifunctional mobile or stationary lighting device specifically designed for rural households that can be charged by many different energy sources.

The Pico Lamp is a high powered, wide-angle LED light

Thanks to its large charge capacity the Pico light will provide up to 55 h light from one single charge. Choose between three light levels: 55 h of low, 16.5 h of medium or 5.5 h of bright light. The Pico light will accept charging from a solar panel, a 12 V car or solar battery or an AC adaptor.

Forget power cables and plugs: use the Pico light as a flashlight or as a stationary ceiling or stand up lamp. Thanks to its robust sealed housing and no moving parts it is perfectly suited in dusty, humid and even for harsh environments (type of protection: IP65).

An additional special feature is Pico's USB charging station for mobile phones, MP3 players, radios or similar devices. Wherever you are – with the Pico lamp you can be sure that your electronic and communications devices will not run out of power.

PVSEC, Valencia visit of Prof. Muhammad Yunus winner of the Nobel Peace Prize and the founder of Grameen Bank (third from the right)

Events

PVSEC

Nobel Peace Prize winner Professor Muhammad Yunus visited the Phocos booth at the 26th European Photovoltaic Solar Energy Conference and Exhibition in Valencia.

Power solutions from Phocos enable efficient and reliable power generation from solar modules and other renewable energy sources at off-grid locations. This offers major advantages for bringing power to villages and households in developing countries located far from the grid.

At the 26th European Photovoltaic Solar Energy Conference and Exhibition in September, the Bangladeshi economist and 2006 Nobel Peace Prize winner Prof. Muhammad Yunus visited the Phocos booth to find out more about product innovations and how Phocos always improves the power efficiency and reduces system costs for solar systems in rural villages.

Yunus is founder of Grameen Bank, an institution that provides micro credits to help its clients establish creditworthiness and financial self-sufficiency.

The daughter company of the Grameen bank Grameen Shakti, was a joint venture from Phocos Bangladesh. Grameen Shaki installed over 160.000 Solar Home Systems this year for rural electrifications. Even now Phocos is still working together closely with Grameen.

Reliable availability of power and light will support people in achieving these goals: Access to electrical power means a significant improvement to their living conditions and their chances for a better future. With light, the evenings can be used for reading and learning, safety is increased, food can be stored longer thus reducing disease and providing a healthier lifestyle.

Muhammad Yunus had a special interest in Phocos' new autonomous, solar powered Pico LED light and in the range of Phocos off-grid solar power solutions.

Did you know?

Project in Tibet

Reliably supplying power to industrial applications requires intelligent power storage and management. How this can be achieved is demonstrated by a telecommunication system installation in Tibet.

Mobile solar station from Phocos, Tibet, July 2010 with Jeff Wu (Phocos China)

The telecommunication site is located far from the power grid at the end of a very difficult and remote road. Daily energy consumption is in the range of a few kWh to over 10kWh. To enable the self-sufficient, reliable, and cost effective operation of the system over long periods of time it was specifically adapted to the local conditions and requirements. In addition to solar modules, the site also uses wind and diesel generators to guarantee the most power availability. Efficient energy management is provided by an intelligent Modular Power Management system (MPM) designed by Phocos.

Via the Modular Central Unit (MCU) that synchronizes the power devices – e.g. Modular Power Switch (MPS), Modular Maximum Power Point Tracker (MPPT) – the customized system can easily be adapted to many different applications and requirements. The MCU features a data logger, adjustable deep discharge thresholds for easy load management and control and alarm functions through an integrated signal output. The MPM system is an ideal solution for off-grid power scenarios requiring high flexibility and reliability. Convenient remote monitoring by modem and the Phocos MODCOM software enable comfortable and fast configuration, control and surveillance even from the most remote locations. The intelligent energy management concept allows individualized hybrid operation of all three power sources. Any system errors can be analyzed and fixed quickly. Periodical remote monitoring helps avoid potential system failure and saves logistic cost by minimizing the need of having to travel to the location.

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