

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

SolaBlock, Inc. Announces Partnership with Mr. Matthew Batey to Develop European Entity

January 15, 2025

Pittsfield, Mass.-- SolaBlock, Inc. of Pittsfield, Massachusetts and Troy, New York and Mr. Matthew Batey, resident of Belgium, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to jointly establish an entity in Europe.

Under this agreement, both parties will develop a strategy to grow SolaBlock's presence in Europe by establishing a legal entity with Batey as lead representative for the creation, supply, distribution and sale of SolaBlock products within the European and UK markets.

According to SolaBlock CEO Eric Planey, "After signing our MOU with Fort Miller, SolaBlock received several unsolicited inbound inquiries from Europe, including one from Matt. After several rounds of dialogue, we recognized that our PVP product line was so well suited for international markets, especially in the European Union. The European market for both BIPV and precast concrete walls is more developed than the market in North America.

Matt Batey enthusiastically agrees about the opportunity within the EU marketplace for SolaBlock, stating, "The EU's new build market is currently dominated by large-scale retail and logistics developments, as well as data centers, working on design-build contracts with fast turnaround. SolaBlock's pre-cast PVP product, designed by builders for builders, enabling easy integration into construction practices and avoiding complex additional design, fits into this approach perfectly."

SolaBlock's product line highlights the complement between BIPV and rooftop arrays, allowing for increased output in winter months when rooftop production declines. This benefit is even more vital in the EU market with its stringent renewable energy regulations and less available land.

"The latest version of the EPBD (Energy Performance in Buildings Directive) regulation requires all EU buildings to integrate renewable energy, which in most cases means solar PV", explains Batey. "However, many urban buildings do not have available roof space, leaving façade integrated PV as the best or only available option. BIPV initially lost out to commoditized panel systems, but integrated solutions like SolaBlock are a much better fit for the next stage of the energy transition."

The two partners will move quickly to establish a legal EU entity to address this demand for BIPV and are excited about the market's potential for SolaBlock. "The fact that we are one of the only companies in the world that focuses on the overlap of precast, BIPV, and architectural design aesthetic means having the EU for our next home is logical "explains Planey. "And having someone of Matt's caliber and experience to lead that effort is truly a gift for SolaBlock."

Mr. Matthew Batey has 25 years' experience in renewable energy and sustainable buildings, starting out in 2000 as a pioneer of the UK BIPV market for startup Solarcentury (now Statkraft). Relocating to Belgium, he broadened out into green building design and renewable energy integration solutions, playing key roles in implementing the EU's Energy Performance in Buildings Directive and bringing BREEAM and LEED certification into the EU mainstream, as part of sustainability advice to major global real estate owners such as URW (Westfield), Goodman, Redevco and Pandox. He is currently running his own consultancy operations in both Belgium and UK

SolaBlock provides Vertical Solar Solutions (VSS) for our customers utilizing our patented Solar Masonry Units (SMUs) and our soon to be developed Photovoltaic Precast Panels (PVPs). SolaBlock's portfolio of products combines premium solar technology with a variety of concrete based products. Founded in Massachusetts, SolaBlock is proud to be assembled in the USA. **To learn more about SolaBlock, click <u>here.</u>**