December 20, 2011

First Solar Recognizes Top Suppliers with Achievement Awards

TEMPE, Ariz., Dec. 20, 2011 - First Solar, Inc. (NASDAQ: FSLR) recently honored its premier suppliers at the company's first Supplier Recognition Day, held on Dec. 8 in Phoenix, Ariz. Approximately 60 of First Solar's top-spend suppliers attended the event, three of which were honored with the company's NOVA award for outstanding performance in 2011.

First Solar created the NOVA award to recognize suppliers who significantly support the company's mission.



"Our suppliers play an essential role in achieving our mission to create enduring value by enabling a world powered by clean, affordable solar electricity," said Doug Duval, Vice President, Global Supply Chain. "We appreciate the exceptional efforts of these NOVA award recipients and value they provide through the highest standards of quality, cost and performance."

The companies honored with the NOVA award include STR Holdings, Inc., a leader in solar panel encapsulation; Grenzebach, a material handling solutions company; and Master Pack, a specialty packing and shipping company.

Collaboration with STR Holdings, Inc., significantly contributed to First Solar's cost-per-watt roadmap, quality performance and supply risk reduction. Grenzebach's flexible partnering approach enabled on-time execution of key technical initiatives, and Master Pack's support significantly contributed to First Solar's cost-per-watt roadmap in Malaysia.

About First Solar, Inc.
First Solar manufactures solar modules with an advanced semiconductor technology, and is a premier provider of comprehensive photovoltaic (PV) system solutions. The company is delivering an economically viable alternative to fossil-fuel generation today. From raw material sourcing through end-of-life collection and recycling, First Solar is focused on creating value-driven renewable energy solutions that protect and enhance the environment. For more information about First Solar, please visit www.firstsolar.com.

For First Solar Investors
This release contains forward-looking statements which are made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. The forward-looking statements in this release do not constitute guarantees of future performance. Those statements involve a number of factors that could cause actual results to differ materially, including risks associated with the company's business involving the company's products, their development and distribution, economic and competitive factors and the company's key strategic relationships and other risks detailed in the company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. First Solar assumes no obligation to update any forward-looking information contained in this press release or with respect to the announcements described herein.

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