December 10, 2012

First Solar Named Military Friendly Employer by G.I. Jobs Magazine

TEMPE, Ariz., Dec. 10, 2012 - First Solar, Inc. (Nasdaq: FSLR) announced today that it has been designated a 2013 Military Friendly Employer by Victory Media, publisher of *G.I. Jobs* magazine. Criteria for the designation included a benchmark score across key programs and policies such as the strength of company military recruiting efforts, the percentage of new hires with prior military service, retention programs and company policies on National Guard and Reserve service.

"Companies earning the prestigious Military Friendly Employers designation are rising stars with strong military recruitment programs and meaningful job opportunities for transitioning service members and spouses seeking civilian employment," said Sean Collins, vice president for Victory Media and director for *G.I. Jobs*.

Approximately 8 percent of First Solar's 1,700 U.S. associates are veterans or have military affiliations. In addition, the contracted workforce that constructs the nearly 3 gigawatts of utility-scale solar power projects that First Solar is developing in North America is estimated at over 4,000, with a focus on veteran and military recruitment.

"Our experience with veterans and military personnel has been outstanding," said Trevor Gelder, First Solar Talent Acquisition Manager. "Whether at our production facility, offices or projects, we find that people with military backgrounds are exemplary team players who know how to focus on the mission and get results. We're honored with the recognition we've received from *G. I. Jobs*."

First Solar works with a number of organizations in its military recruiting efforts, including Orion International, the Lucas Group's military division, the Marine for Life program and numerous veteran career sites. First Solar career opportunities can be found at www.firstsolar.jobs.

About First Solar, Inc.
First Solar is a leading global provider of comprehensive photovoltaic (PV) solar systems which use its advanced thin-film modules. The company's integrated power plant solutions deliver an economically attractive alternative to fossil-fuel electricity generation today. From raw material sourcing through end-of-life module collection and recycling, First Solar's renewable energy systems 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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