

REC Group confirms patent infringement lawsuit against Hanwha Q Cells

Tuas, Singapore, May 14, 2020 – <u>REC Group</u>, an international pioneering solar energy company with Scandinavian heritage, confirms rumors that a patent infringement lawsuit was filed against Hanwha Q Cells (Qidong) Co., Ltd. (part of Hanwha Q Cells) in the People's Republic of China on February 18, 2020. The case was accepted by the Suzhou IP Tribunal on April 8, 2020 and served on Hanwha Q Cells (Qidong) on April 20, 2020.

The patent in suit, granted in China in July 2019, relates to REC's leapfrog and award-winning split cell and junction box technology, which was developed in-house. REC Group products incorporating this technology have been manufactured for more than half a decade in REC's state-of-the-art production site in Singapore. This specific technology is a key feature of REC Group's advanced solar panels.

"REC Group's R&D resources, time and investments have significantly contributed to set new industry standards," says Dr. Shankar G. Sridhara, Chief Technology Officer of REC Group. "REC Group filed this action to protect its intellectual property, investments and reputation, as well as to encourage more innovation in the industry. The more solar companies invest in developing groundbreaking innovation, the more improvement we will see in efficiencies and costs per kWh and achieving full access to renewable energy generation and consumption for communities. As a global, pioneering solar energy company, we champion intellectual property rights and fair competition. This also means that we will rigorously defend our rights when they are being violated."

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About REC Group:

REC Group is an international pioneering solar energy company dedicated to empowering consumers with clean, affordable solar power in order to facilitate global energy transitions. Committed to quality and innovation, REC offers photovoltaic modules with leading high quality, backed by an exceptional low warranty claims rate of less than 100ppm. Founded in Norway in 1996, REC employs 2,000 people and has an annual solar panel capacity of 1.8 GW. With over 10 GW installed worldwide, REC is empowering more than 16 million people with clean solar energy. REC Group is a Bluestar Elkem company with headquarters in Norway, operational headquarters in Singapore, and regional bases in North America, Europe, and Asia-Pacific.

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