



PRESS RELEASE

See attached graphic.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Hardy Diagnostics Completes Largest Solar Panel Project in Santa Maria

Massive green power installation will power three industrial buildings.



Hardy Diagnostics' solar panel project. Photo by Ryan Burks

SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA, January 11 – Hardy Diagnostics recently completed the largest solar project in Santa Maria. More than 700 solar panels were installed on the roof of one of the five Hardy Diagnostics buildings on West McCoy Lane, directly across from the Moxie Cafe.

The panels cover the entire roof of the 40,000 square foot building and are capable of generating 250 kilowatts of power. The project was completed by Bright Future Solar Energy located in San Luis Obispo.

Ryan Burks, Director of Logistics and Customer Service at Hardy Diagnostics, oversaw the project. "As a certified green business, we see this solar panel project as another example of our concern and care for the environment. The scope of this project will allow us to meet all of the energy needs of this building, including a very large cooler that is used to store Hardy's culture media products. In fact, we were able to tie in an adjacent building of ours and help replace some of its energy consumption. We also are hoping to be able to put some of the produced energy back into the grid, even after replenishing the power used by these two commercial buildings," said Burks.

Jay Hardy, President of Hardy Diagnostics, said, "As a 100% Employee-owned business this project made sense from the beginning. We expect to break even in less than five years."

Hardy Diagnostics is 100% employee-owned. Through the Employee Stock Ownership Plan, or ESOP, employees are granted stock in their company every year at no cost to them.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT HARDY DIAGNOSTICS - Hardy Diagnostics is an FDA licensed and ISO 13485 certified manufacturer of medical devices for microbiological procedures in both clinical and industrial laboratories. Hardy Diagnostics was founded in 1980 in Santa Barbara by Jay Hardy and Robert Shibata after they completed their Medical Technology training in the laboratory at Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital.

Hardy Diagnostics manufactures over 2,700 different products for the culture and identification of bacteria and fungi. Among its offerings are products used to culture and detect pathogens commonly reported in the news, such as *E. coli*, *Salmonella*, *Streptococcus*, *Staphylococcus*, *Listeria*, MRSA, and Influenza. In addition, the company manufactures reagents and media for use by molecular biology researchers. Over 9,000 laboratories throughout the nation rely on Hardy Diagnostics for their supplies.

Today, Hardy Diagnostics employs 400 workers and maintains nine distribution centers throughout the U.S. Manufacturing takes place both at its headquarters in Santa Maria, California and at a facility in Springboro, Ohio. The company also exports products through over 65 foreign distributors. The company's mission is to "partner with its laboratory customers to prevent and diagnose disease." For more information, visit www.HardyDiagnostics.com.

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