

Cost reduction strategies in solar cell production

Dr. Claus Beneking, CEO ErSol Solar Energy AG

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Our energies
today –
your energy
tomorrow



Solar Energy AG

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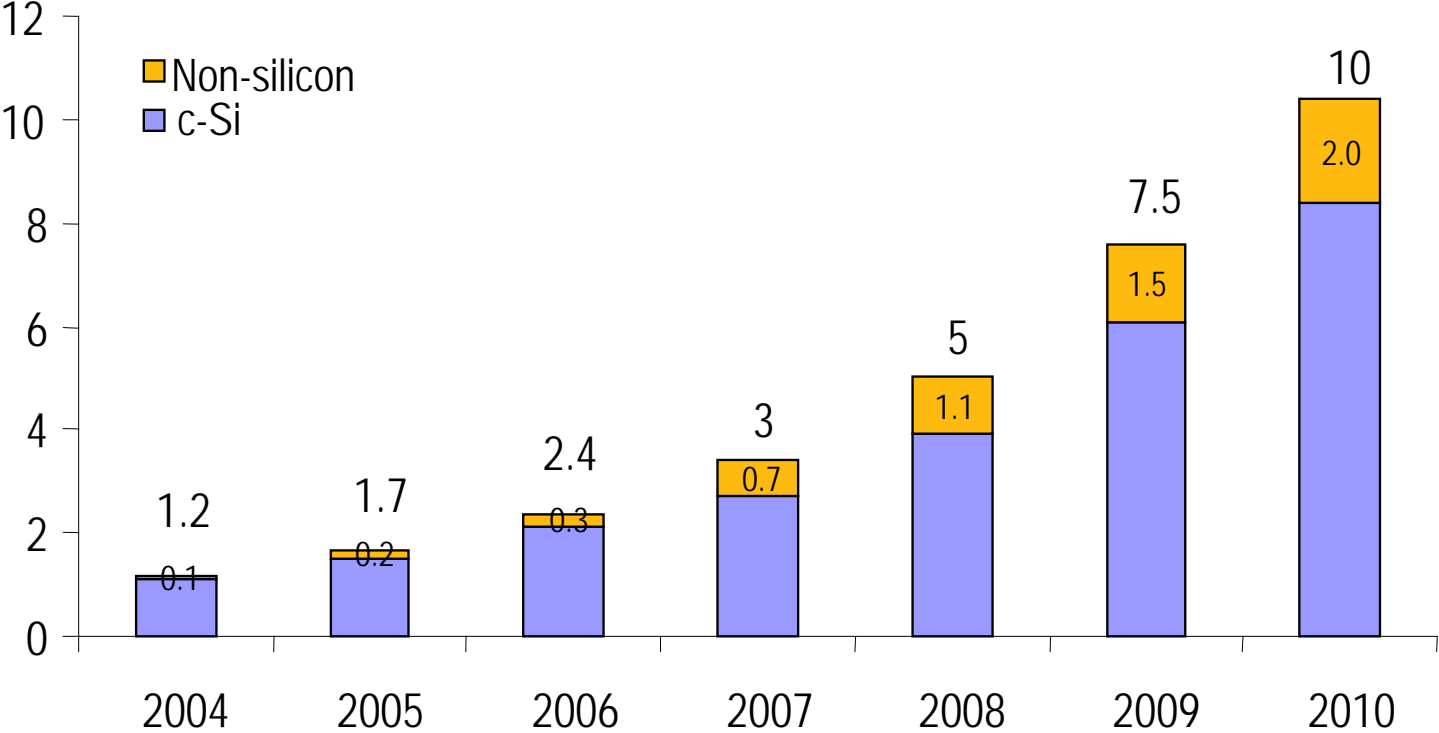


PV market development and characteristics

Development of PV market 2004-2010 (optimistic growth scenario)

ROUGH ESTIMATE

Total solar sector cell/module production Gigawatts

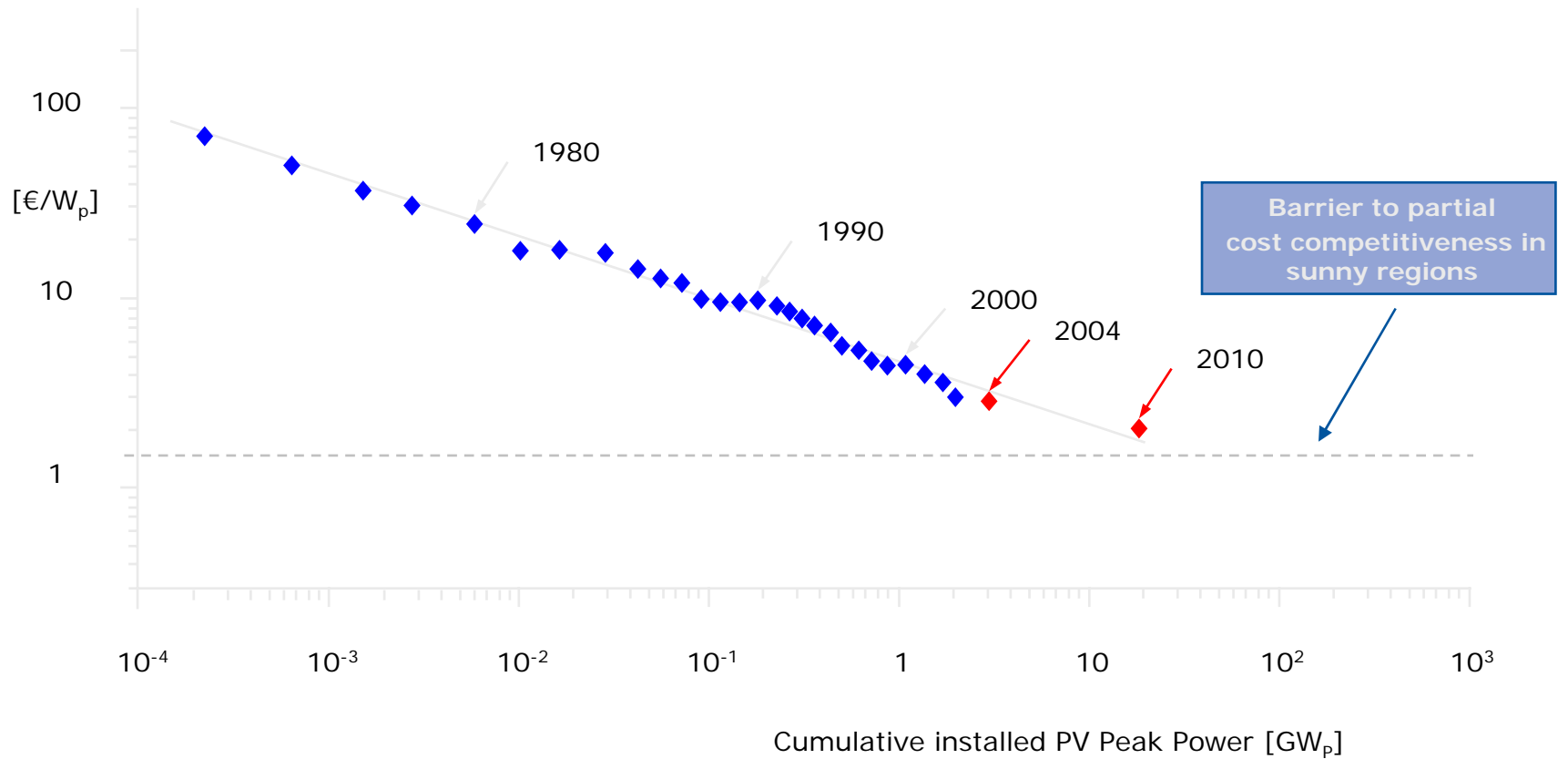


Total 10 GW by 2010



Source: M. Rogol, 3rd Photon Silicon Conference, 3 April 2006 (Munich)

Price experience curve of photovoltaic modules



Sources: Fraunhofer Institut Solare Energiesysteme (ISE), EPIA, ErSol

Conclusions from PV market characteristics

1. **“Grow or die”**
2. **Reduce production cost faster than price depression curve**

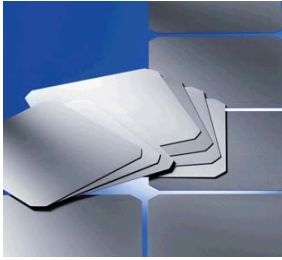
Positioning and strategy of ErSol Solar Energy AG

Value chain of crystalline silicon photovoltaics

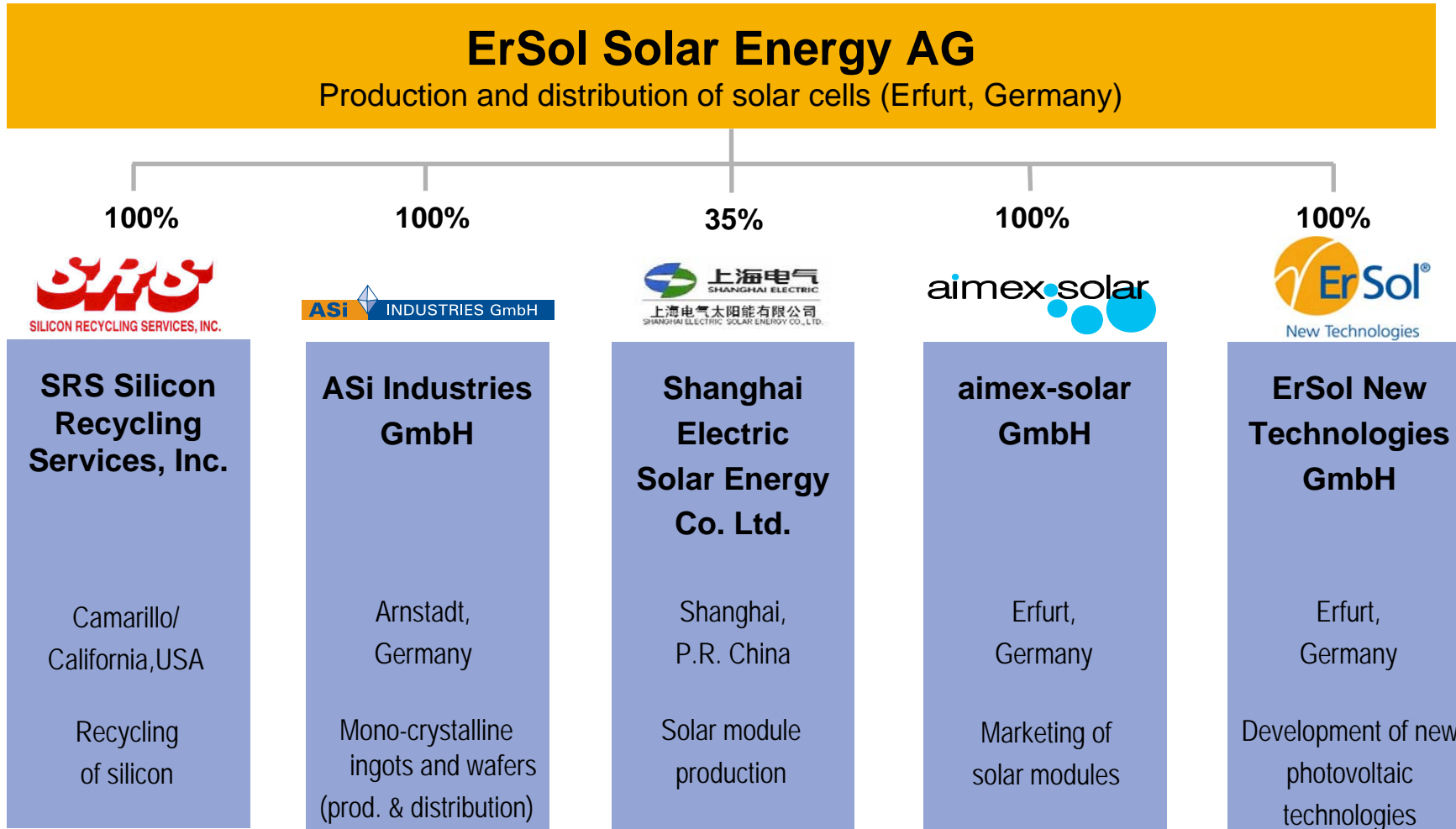
Sun and sand...



... electricity



New company structure



Products of ErSol: Ingots and wafers

Mono-crystalline silicon ingots / wafers

Product

Key characteristics

Production expertise

Outstanding quality



- Ingots with a diameter of up to 230mm
- 45 MWp wafer production capacity in 2006
- Large wafer size 156x156mm
- More than 30 years of pulling experience ensures high productivity
- Optimised production process results in high silicon conversion rate
- Ongoing reduction of cost structure
- Each wafer is tested in 5,000 measuring points to ensure highest level of quality
- Strict documentation of testing process

Products of ErSol: PV cells

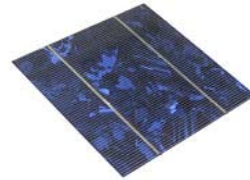
Product

Key characteristics

Production expertise

Outstanding quality

Blue Power



- Multi-crystalline solar cell
- Ca. 50% of ErSol sales in 2006
- High efficiencies of up to 16%
- 60 MWp cell production capacity in 2006
- Extensive experience in cell manufacturing results in high productivity
- Constant introduction of larger and thinner cell sizes
- ErSol's cells offer high degrees of efficiency, especially in dim and diffuse light
- Low breakage rate and high cell stability

Black Power



- Mono-crystalline solar cell
- Ca. 50% of ErSol sales in 2006
- High efficiencies of up to 17%

ErSol enters into thin-film module production

- ErSol plans to develop production capacity of 40 MWp p.a., medium-term annual capacity target of >100 MWp as a second growth option
- Approx. 80 m€ investment (40 m€ in 2006 and 2007 each)
- Less than 1% of silicon consumption compared with conventional wafer technology
- Efficiency of approx. 6% on glass substrate
- Project developed within ENT – ErSol New Technologies
- Thin-film module production to be built in Erfurt, Thuringia
- Approx. 100 new permanent jobs



Characteristics of ErSol's company strategy

1. **“Integrated company” covering the most important segments of the value chain (Silicon, Wafers, Solar cells)**
2. **“Two-product strategy”:** High-end monocrystalline silicon and low-cost thin-film silicon products

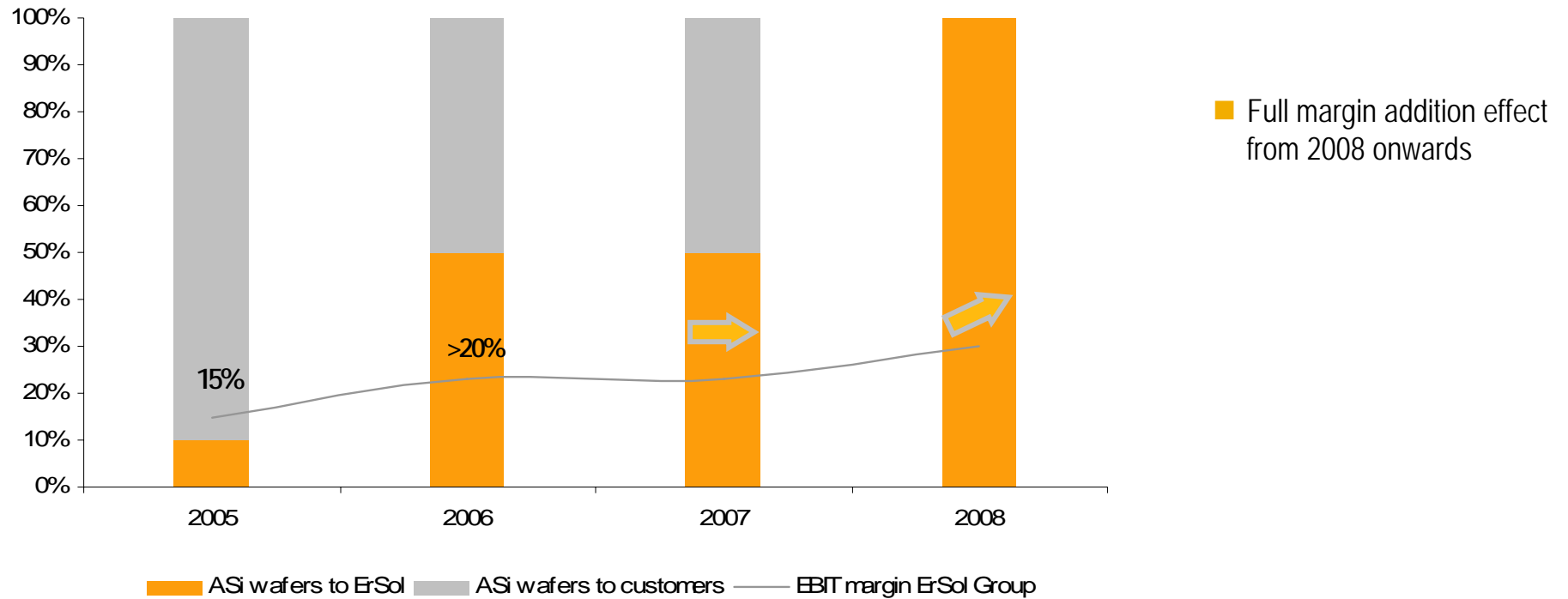
=> Ensuring higher than proportional growth with faster than market cost degression

Elements of growth strategy

- Increased integration of ASi
- Increased silicon procurement
- Advancements of technology
- Entry into low-silicon-consumption technologies

Increased integration of ASi

Integration of the wafer business into the ErSol Group



More silicon secured through SRS acquisition in February 2006

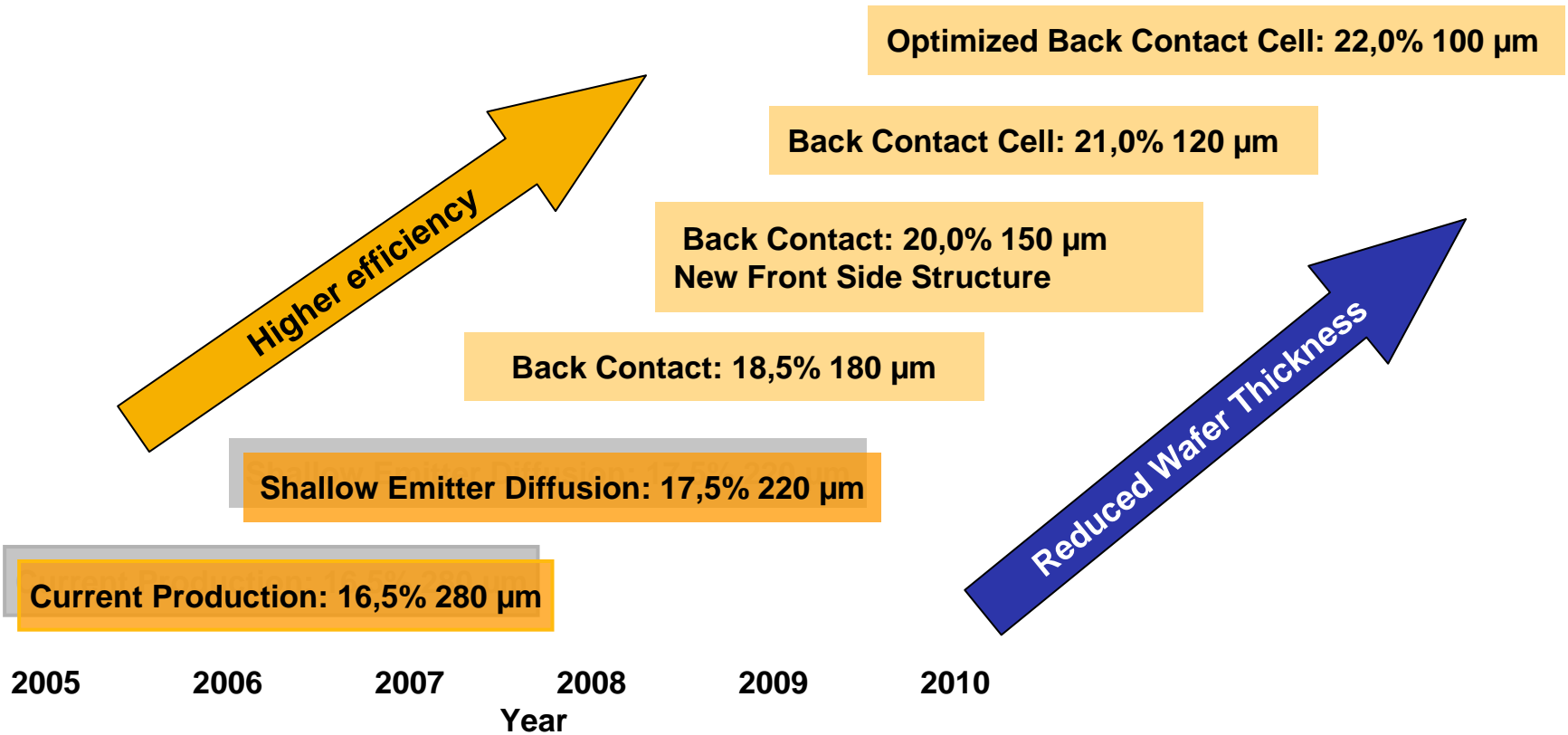
- Important addition to the upstream sector of the value chain
- Additional quantities of approx. 75 tons of scarce solar silicon for production in 2006
- Feedstock material of at least 15 MWp
- Positive impact on margins due to higher utilisation of raw material
- Price of approx. 19 million euros paid from equity



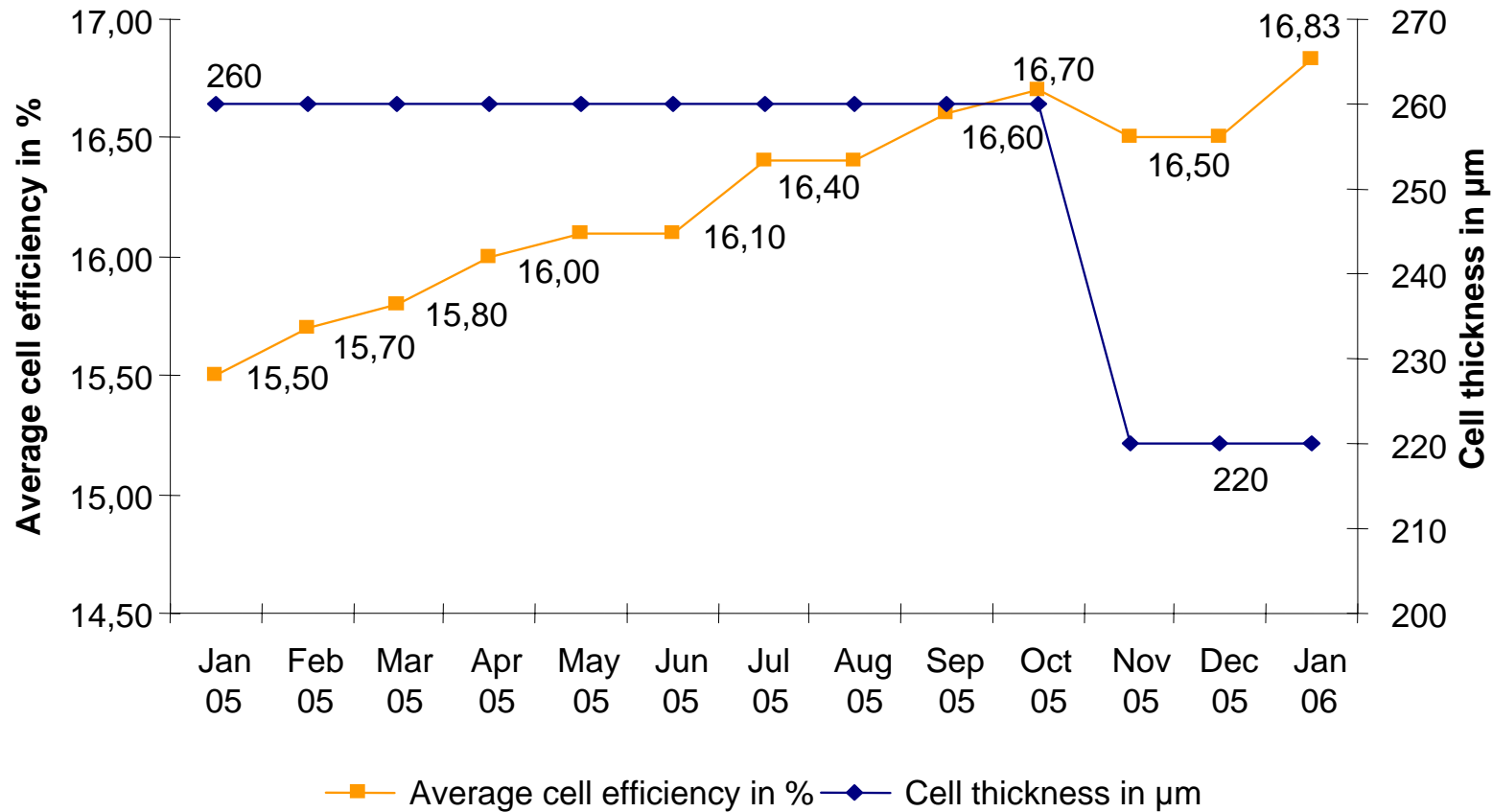
Silicon Recycling Services Inc. (SRS)

Advancements of technology

Instalment of ~8 million € technology program



Development of mono-crystalline cell technology within 2005



✓ We're on track !

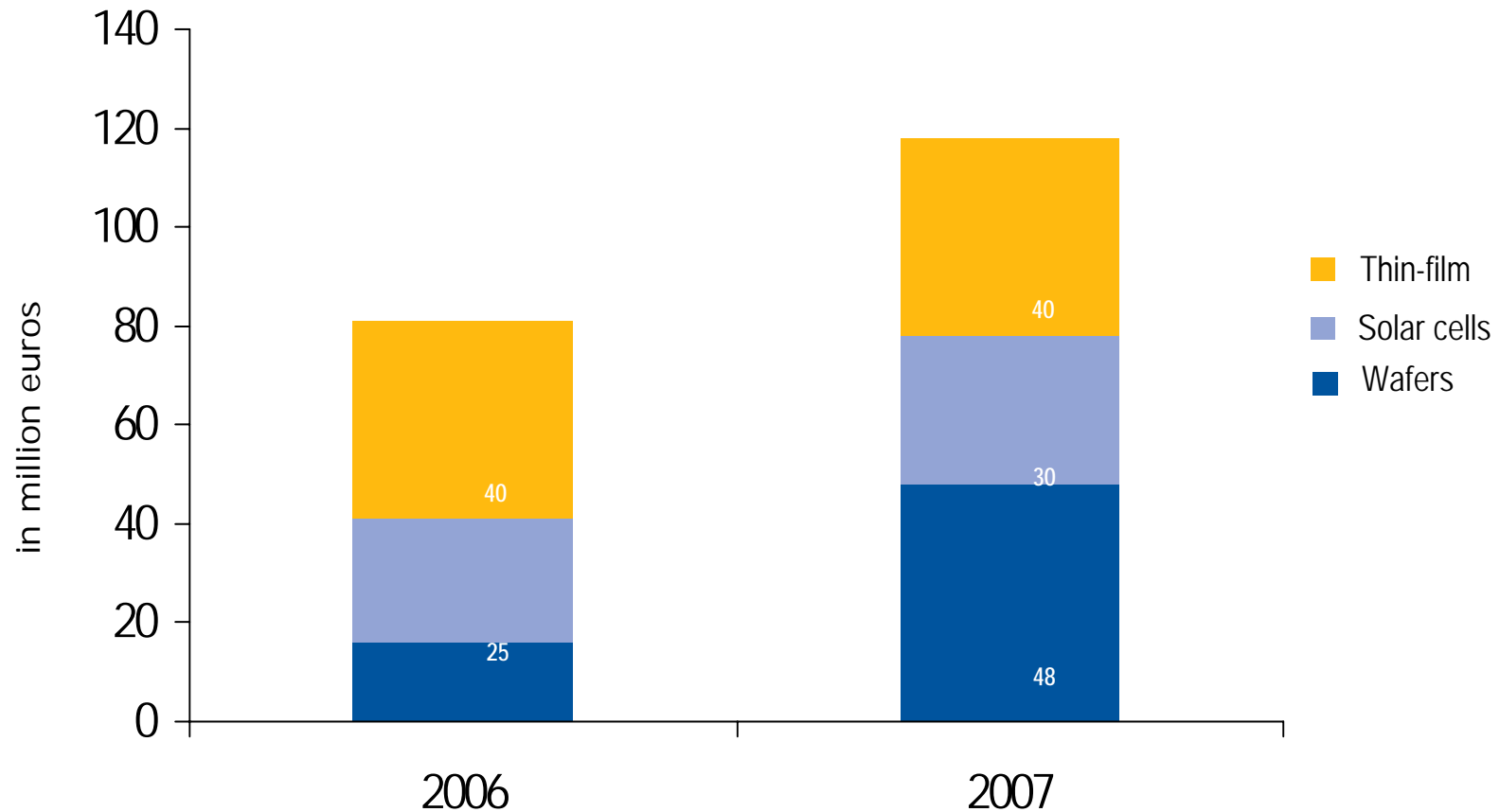
Expected breakthrough in cost reduction for high-end mono c-Si

- Integrated production of ingots-wafers-solar cells
- Technological advancements (silicon yield, wafer thickness, cell efficiencies ...)
- Economy of scale on the >100 MWp level
 - ✓ Accelerated achievement of cost reduction targets
 - ✓ New dimension of PV production cost
 - ✓ Grid equality in important key markets expected achievable on 2008 time scale
 - ✓ Higher margins at given price levels

ErSol sets new growth targets for 2008

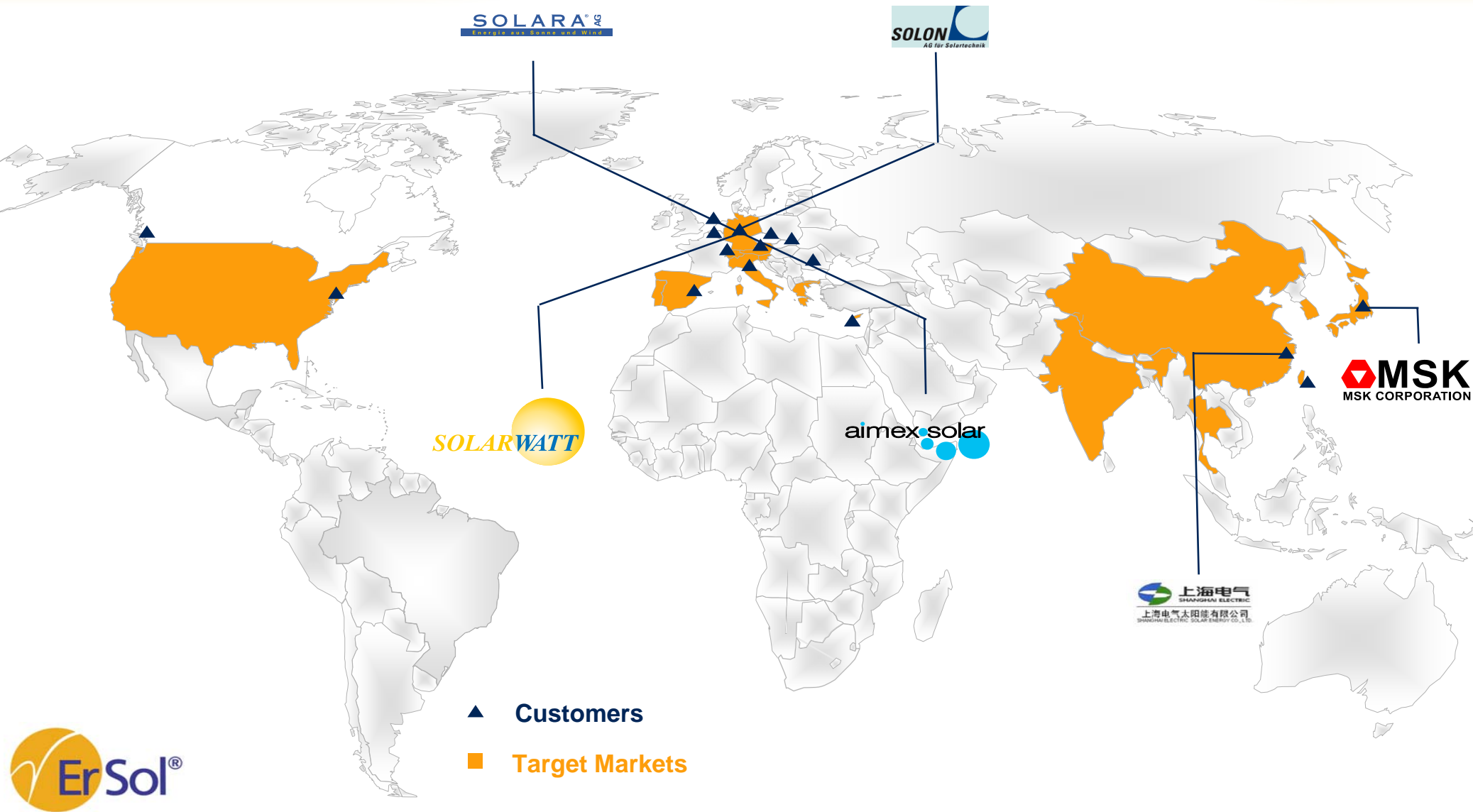
- Wafer production capacity quadrupled to 100 MWp by end 2007
- Crystalline cell production capacity tripled to 180 MWp by end 2007
- Additional growth through new and increasing thin-film cell technology contribution
- **220 MWp total cell capacity by 2008**

Expected capital expenditure per business segment



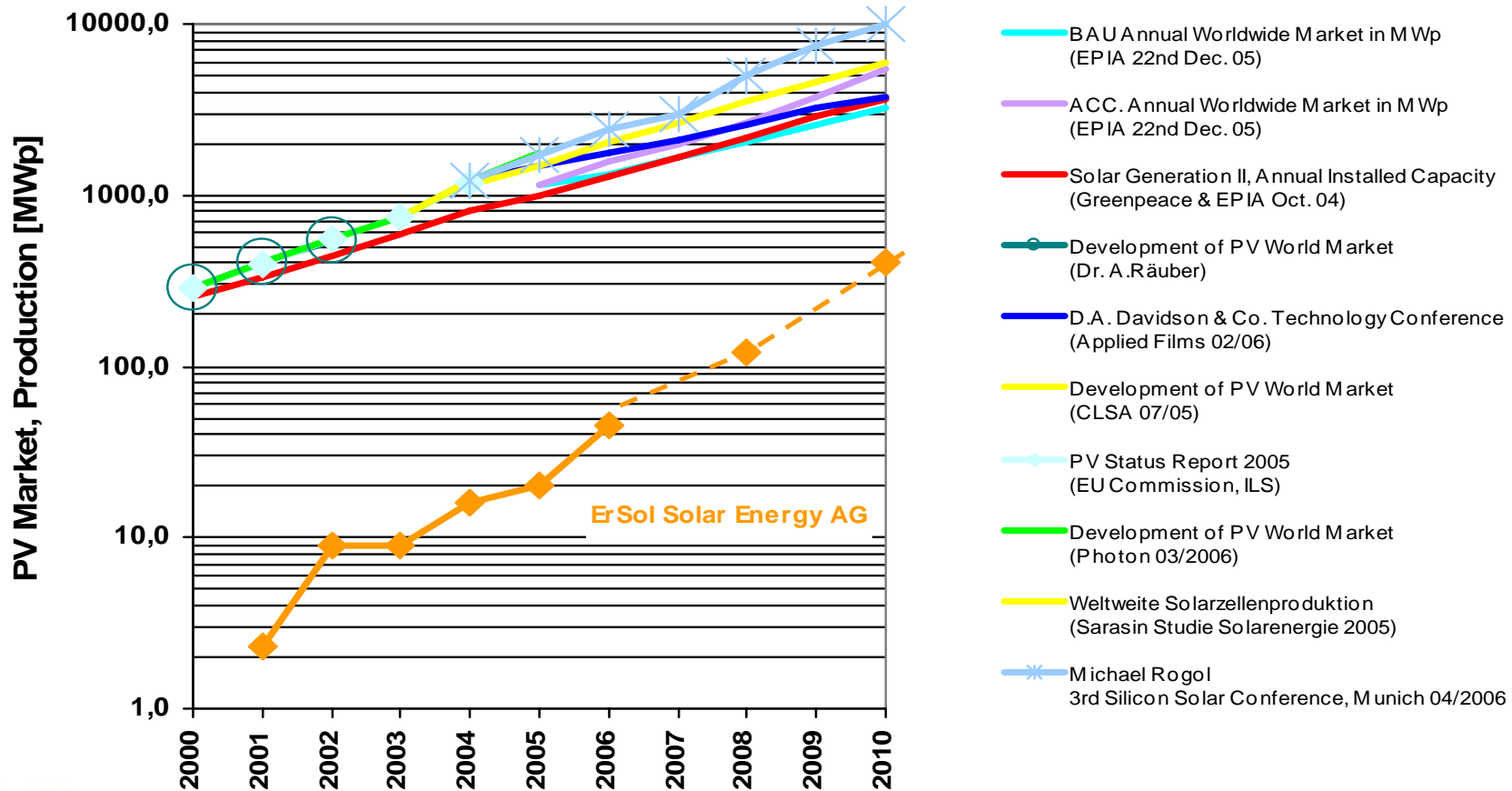
Expected total investment >190 million euros within 2006-2007 ...
... and several 100 new jobs in Thuringia !

Customers and Target Markets 2006 – from Erfurt to the world !

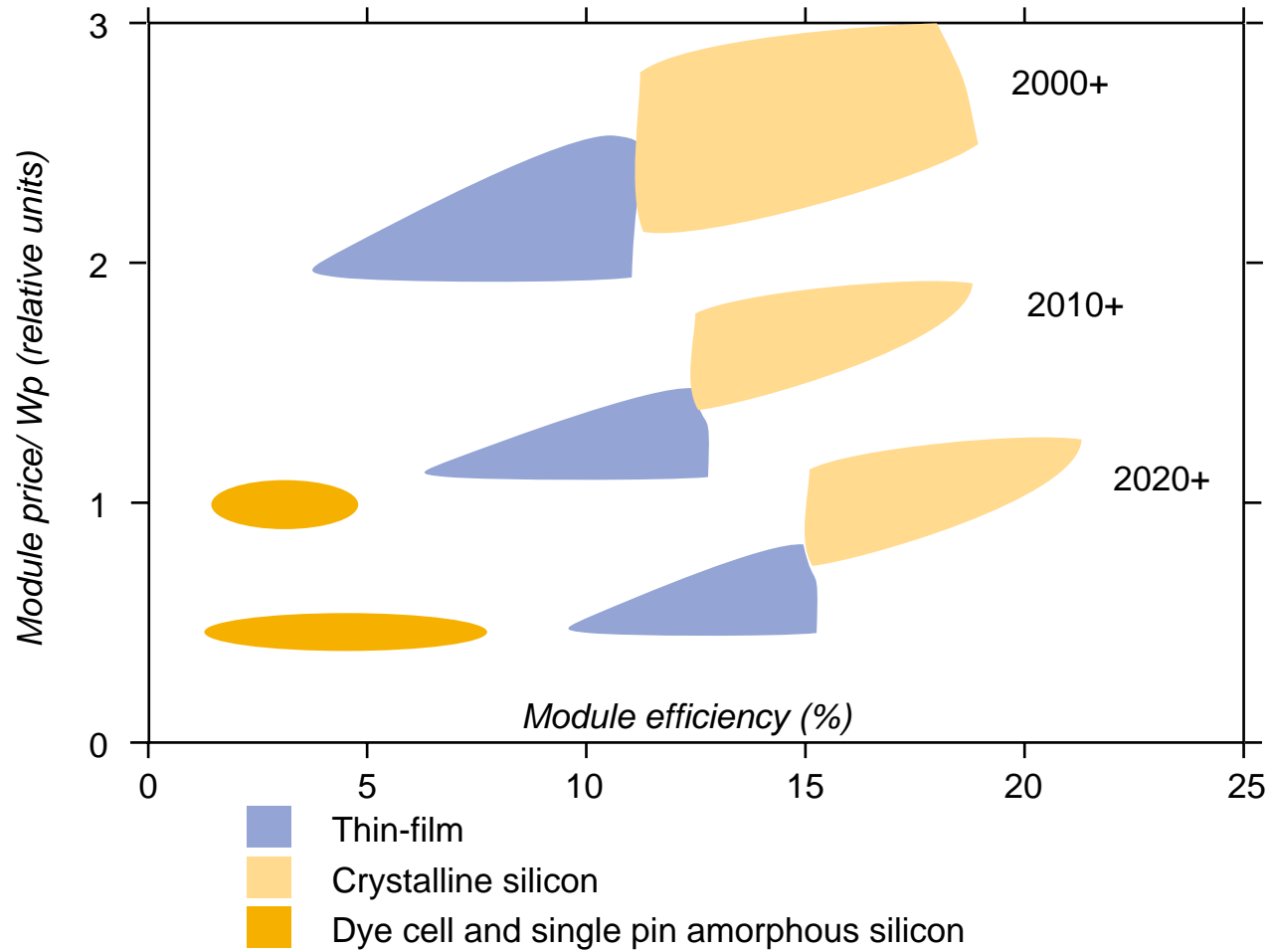


Overview of ErSol's expected positioning in the global PV market 2001-2010

World PV Cell/Module Production from 2001-2010



Cost reduction potential for different technologies



Source: Renewable Energy World May/June 2005

Summary on cost reduction strategies

- Cost reduction in silicon wafer-based technology through
 - efficiency increase of monocrystalline silicon solar cell
 - higher wafer yield from silicon through decreasing wafer thickness
 - integrated production from wafer to solar cell
 - economy of scale at >100 MWp/a production volume level
- Additional growth option and cost reduction potential through new thin-film cell technology

=> Competitiveness with both crystalline and thin film PV !!

Thank you for your attention!

For further information
please contact

- **Sonja Teurezbacher**
Investor Relations Manager
phone: +49-361-2195-130
fax: +49-361-2195-133
e-mail: sonja.teurezbacher@ersol.de

