



## **Petroleum Development Oman Selects GlassPoint to Build First Solar Enhanced Oil Recovery Pilot in Gulf Region**

*GlassPoint consolidates lead in solar EOR*

**FREMONT, Calif. and MUSCAT, Oman** – August 3, 2011 – Building on the launch of its solar enhanced oil recovery (EOR) project with Berry Petroleum earlier this year, [GlassPoint Solar](#) announced today the award of a contract to build a 7 MW solar EOR system for Petroleum Development Oman (PDO), the national oil company of Oman. PDO, the largest producer of oil and gas in the Sultanate, will use the GlassPoint system at an existing thermal EOR project in southern Oman. The goal of solar EOR is to reduce the amount of natural gas burned for thermal EOR, releasing gas for higher value applications, including power generation, desalination, industrial development and export.

“After extensively researching solar EOR solutions, we’ve identified GlassPoint as the most promising technology for this pilot” said Dr Syham Bentouati, PDO Corporate Technology Advisor. “GlassPoint’s solar steam generators have the potential to release valuable natural gas for use in higher-value applications within the Sultanate.”

The solar EOR facility will use concentrated thermal energy from the sun to produce low-cost, emission-free steam that will be fed directly into PDO’s existing steam distribution network. Spanning more than four acres, the GlassPoint system will produce 11 tons of high temperature (312 °C), high pressure (1,450 psi) steam per hour. The completed project will be 27 times larger than the GlassPoint solar EOR system installed at [Berry Petroleum](#)’s 21Z oil field in Kern County, California, USA.

Built specifically to withstand the harsh environmental conditions of the Gulf region, GlassPoint’s unique single transit trough (STT) technology encloses lightweight reflective mirrors inside a glasshouse structure to protect the system from dirt, dust, sand, and humidity. In sunny regions, GlassPoint’s solution can reduce the amount of natural gas used for EOR by up to 80 percent.

“It is an honor to be selected as the solar EOR solution for PDO, the preeminent leader in enhanced oil recovery techniques in the region,” said Rod MacGregor, GlassPoint CEO and President.

“As part of our commitment to maintain a long-term presence in the Sultanate we have established a local company that will hire Omani professionals and help spread knowledge of state-of-the-art solar technology throughout the Sultanate” continued MacGregor.

Steamflooding is a well-proven and effective EOR technique, but it requires massive amounts of natural gas to generate steam. Gas scarcity throughout the Middle East puts the region’s EOR operations in direct competition with industrial development. Oman, specifically, has experienced a surge of economic growth and industrial development in the past two decades, drawing the country’s gas reserves to higher value applications. Using solar instead of gas for EOR would enable other gas dependent industries to continue to flourish.

GlassPoint’s proprietary STT architecture combines proven technologies that are already in high volume production worldwide with lightweight, low-cost components. GlassPoint’s STT systems generate more than five times as much steam per acre than older power tower designs.

In February 2011, PDO’s Dr. Syham Bentouati spoke at the commissioning of GlassPoint’s solar EOR project in Kern County, California, U.S. -- currently the only commercial operating solar EOR project in the world. To view presentations from the event and video footage of GlassPoint’s technology, visit GlassPoint on [YouTube](#).

### **About GlassPoint Solar**

GlassPoint is the leading provider of solar steam generators to the oil and gas industry. When used for Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR) GlassPoint solar steam generators reduce natural gas consumption by up to 80%, releasing large amounts of gas for use in higher value applications. This is only possible because, unlike previous solar designs, GlassPoint steam generators deliver steam at a lower cost than steam produced by burning natural gas. GlassPoint’s steam generators are sealed for protection from sand, dust, dirt and high humidity typical of oilfield environments throughout the world. GlassPoint is headquartered in Fremont, California with offices in Bakersfield, California, Muscat, Oman and Shenzhen, China. For more information, visit [www.glasspoint.com](http://www.glasspoint.com).

### **About Petroleum Development of Oman**

Petroleum Development Oman (PDO) is the major exploration and production company in the Sultanate. It accounts for more than 70% of the country's crude-oil production and nearly all of its natural-gas supply. The Company is owned by the Government of Oman (which has a 60% interest), the Shell Group (which has a 34% interest), Total (which has a 4% interest) and Partex (which has a 2% interest). Gas fields and processing plants are operated by PDO exclusively on behalf of the Government. <http://www.pdo.co.om/pdoweb/>

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