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Premier launches Smart State success story in California

LOS ANGELES: Queensland Premier Anna Bligh today officially announced the entry of XeroCoat Limited into the solar energy market.

A pioneering high-tech start-up formed by two University of Queensland researchers, XeroCoat designs and manufactures high-performance anti-reflective coating for solar energy systems.

XeroCoat is headquartered in Redwood City, California, and maintains its research and development base in Brisbane.

Targeting the solar thermal and solar photovoltaic markets, XeroCoat's innovative coating technology can significantly increase conversion efficiency and, consequently, power output of these systems with very little change to the cell or module manufacturing process.

Premier Bligh today met with President and CEO of XeroCoat, Mr Tom Hood in Los Angeles to announce the signing of a contract between XeroCoat and a leading US-based solar energy leader to provide anti-reflective glass for major solar thermal energy projects in the United States.

"XeroCoat is to be congratulated on this significant milestone," Ms Bligh said.

"This is yet another Queensland Smart State success story competing favourably in California, one of the most competitive high-tech renewable energy markets in the world.

"XeroCoat's early success in the US solar energy market reflects strongly on the global competitiveness of Queensland's renewable energy and knowledge intensive industry credentials," Ms Bligh said.

XeroCoat was founded by Dr Michael Harvey and Associate Professor Paul Meredith, a Smart State Senior Fellow from the University of Queensland.

During the start-up phase, the company was strongly supported by the Queensland Government as recipients of funding under the Queensland Sustainable Energy Innovation Fund and Innovation Start-Up schemes.

"We are very pleased with the Queensland Government's support," said Tom Hood, President and Chief Executive Officer at XeroCoat.

"With its strong Australian links, XeroCoat is very committed to continuous technology innovation and partnering with our customers to make solar energy a sustainable and affordable energy alternative now and into the future.

"This important contract validates XeroCoat's performance for the solar energy industry and is a great success story for Queensland's renewable energy program."

About XeroCoat

XeroCoat is a pioneering start-up company that designs and manufactures high-performance anti-reflective coating for solar energy systems.

XeroCoat's innovative technology delivers greater solar energy affordability by decreasing manufacturing costs for solar module makers and increasing energy returns for solar system owners.

Founded in Queensland, Australia and headquartered in Redwood City, California,

XeroCoat has an international team of world-class optical materials and solar energy scientists and engineers who are focused on continuous innovation of coating for the solar energy industry.

For more information, visit www.xerocoat.com.