



CANADIANS ARE INVITED TO CATCH THE SUN

The Home Depot and PowerStream unveil the largest retail solar power installation at Summer kickoff event

TORONTO, ON – June 21, 2007 - The Home Depot Canada today launched *Catch the Sun*, an in-store national event that will help customers learn about the many ways they can work with the sun to take action and be more energy conscious around the home.

To help kick off this event, The Home Depot, in partnership with local power utility PowerStream, unveiled the largest retail solar power installation in Canada at its Woodbridge The Home Depot location. The installation of photovoltaic (PV) panels over the store's Garden Centre area now provides the facility with up to 20kW of clean energy.

"Our customers are asking for environmentally friendly products that will help them be more energy conscious in their homes," said Gino Digioacchino, Vice President of Merchandising, The Home Depot Canada. "We're committed to helping improve the environment both with the products and services we provide, as well as finding ways, like PV installation, to make our stores more sustainable."

The sun - a renewable resource - provides heat and light, a great alternative to using greenhouse gas emitting fossil fuels. By utilizing the latest in solar energy technologies, individual homeowners now have the ability to convert the heat and light from the sun into cost-free energy.

"PowerStream is committed to doing its part in helping to promote renewable energy in Ontario," said Milan Bolkovic, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, PowerStream. "We're proud to partner with The Home Depot Canada in showing how retailers and customers can use the sun to manage their energy consumption."

The Home Depot solar products have been divided into four categories to give customers the opportunity to get the sun working for them, including:

- **Passive Solar** works with, and sometimes avoids, the heat and light of the sun. Using ENERGY STAR®-certified windows, patio doors, skylights or window coverings such as thermal resistant blinds and insulated drapery liners can provide passive solar benefits. In addition, planting deciduous shade trees block the sun in Summer but allow passive solar energy to heat the home in Winter.

- **Micro Solar** systems are reliable and pollution-free electricity producers for lawns and gardens. They use small solar photovoltaic cells which convert sunlight into electricity, storing it in a battery for use at night. These lights are easy-to-install with minimal assembly required.

- **Solar Thermal** systems capture heat from the sun and use it to pre-heat cold water before it is transferred to a hot water tank. This saves a family of four up to 50 per cent on their hot water costs. This system will become the primary source of hot water while the existing electric, natural gas, propane or oil hot water heater functions serve as an auxiliary heating source.
- **Photovoltaic (PV)** systems convert the sun's light directly into electricity. Specifically in Ontario, a government incentive allows those with PV systems to sell electricity produced back to the local power utility company.

On June 23/24 and June 30, representatives will be in select The Home Depot stores across Canada to educate consumers on the benefits and applications of working with the sun. During *Catch the Sun* and at anytime throughout the year, The Home Depot associates can help customers make the right choices when it comes to all their home improvement projects, including choosing from the retailer's wide selection of solar products.

About The Home Depot Canada

Founded in 1978, in Atlanta, Georgia, The Home Depot is the world's largest home improvement retailer currently operating 2,167 stores, including 155 The Home Depot stores across Canada. The Company reported fiscal 2006 sales of US\$90.8 billion and employs approximately 364,000 associates, including more than 27,000 Canadians.

Environmental sustainability is a priority at The Home Depot Canada, and through an active merchandising and marketing strategy, The Home Depot customers are making better choices for their homes and the environment. The Home Depot provides hundreds of products that are the best in class in water and energy efficiency, clean air and sustainable forestry promotion. The Company also provides customers the opportunity to participate in programs that affect their environment, such as Mow Down Pollution and Keep Cool.

About PowerStream Inc.

PowerStream Inc. is one of the largest local electricity distribution companies in Ontario, providing service to more than 230,000 residential and business customers in the municipalities of Aurora, Markham, Richmond Hill and Vaughan. It is an incorporated entity, jointly owned by the City of Vaughan and the Town of Markham.

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