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**Press Release**

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## **Leclanché and Talesun Solar to enter collaboration to provide a combined solution for solar power generation and energy storage**

- **Swiss based Lithium Ion cell manufacturer to cooperate with leading Chinese solar panels manufacturer**
- **Combination of power generation and storage to provide efficient solutions for end customers based on state-of-the-art technologies**
- **First project planned in Southern Europe, expansion planned in Asia**

**Yverdon-les-Bains, 23 December 2011** - Leclanché S.A. (SIX Swiss Exchange : LECN), specialized in the production of large-format lithium ion cells and energy storage solutions, today announced its intention to collaborate with Talesun Solar, a leading Chinese manufacturer of high quality solar cells and modules to jointly provide a combined solution for the efficient generation and storage of solar energy. A first project has been identified in Southern Europe for 2012 while market opportunities shall also be developed in China and Asia.

*“After having recently installed a state of the art one GW (2 GW by end 2012) plant for the production of solar panels we noticed an increased demand for storage solutions as well. A competitive price of solar cells combined with energy storage will enables our customers to increase their self-consumption at a competitive price. The demand for such solutions is growing not only in Europe but also in Asia,”* commented Arthur Chien, CEO of Talesun Solar.

*“An efficient use of volatile solar energy requires an adequate storage solution. The intended cooperation with Talesun Solar, a recognized Chinese producer of solar panels, enables us to serve the growing market for renewable energies with a comprehensive solution in a number of markets but in particular in Asia and China, Talesun’s home market,”* said Dr. Ulrich Ehmes, CEO of Leclanché.

The company plans, as decided at its Extraordinary shareholders meeting of November 8, 2011, to raise new capital, early 2012.

### **About Talesun**

Talesun Solar, with an initial investment of USD 730 million, is a new, well-financed solar cell and module producer with a current annual capacity of 720 MW (megawatt) of cell production and 1 GW (gigawatt) of (fully automated) module production. By the end of 2012, its production capacity will reach 2 GW of both cell and module. Talesun uses state-of-the-art technology to provide high quality solar products at a very attractive price.

## **About Leclanché**

Leclanché specializes in the production of tailor-made energy storage solutions and is a leading manufacturer of large-format lithium ion cells in Europe. Through a unique, licensed separator technology, the core element of lithium ion cells, Leclanché is capable of manufacturing cells with above-average safety features and a significantly increased life in an automated production process. The company's core markets are industries which have highest demands on energy storage systems. They include energy storage solutions, which allow better utilization of the power supply system, large hybrid diesel engines and electric vehicles.

Leclanché currently operates a fully automated pilot production line for large format lithium-ion cells with a theoretical annual maximum capacity of up to 4 MWh. To prepare for an increase in demand, Leclanché is currently in the process of expanding its production capacity by setting up a new production line for large format lithium-ion cells with a theoretical annual maximum capacity of up to 76 MWh

Leclanché was founded in 1909 in Yverdon-les-Bains. Through the integration of a spin-off from the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft in 2006, the company developed from being a traditional battery manufacturer to becoming a leading developer and manufacturer of lithium ion cells in Europe. Leclanché currently employs 110 staff and recorded revenues of CHF 15.05 million in 2010. The company has its headquarters in Yverdon-les-Bains (Switzerland) and has production facilities in Willstätt (Germany). Leclanché is listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange (LECN).

Leclanche has been advised in this project by Gracia Partners and Augus Partners.

## **Media contact:**

Christophe Lamps, Dynamics Group S.A.: Telephone: +41 79 476 26 87, [cla@dynamicsgroup.ch](mailto:cla@dynamicsgroup.ch)

## **Contact for German media:**

Markus Wieser, CNC AG: Telephone: +49 89 599 458 114, [markus.wieser@cnc-communications.com](mailto:markus.wieser@cnc-communications.com)

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