



## **MWS to Invest in Alternative Energy**

Keeping with a tradition of environmentally conscious business practices, MWS Wire Industries of Westlake Village announced it will be installing a grid-tied solar powered electrical system in early 2007. At peak production the roof mounted solar modules will collect 150 kW of direct current (DC) energy which will be converted to 118 kW AC power at the electrical service panel. MWS has contracted with industry veteran California Green Designs, Inc. to install the equipment that will produce more than 40% of the company's annual consumption. When the business is closed on weekends and holidays the system will send electricity back into the Southern California Edison power grid to serve other consumers.

The technology associated with photovoltaic solar power is the same used on the solar arrays of spacecraft. The scope of the project is significant considering the average household uses approximately 29 kW/h (kilowatt hours) per day<sup>1</sup> and during the sunny summer months MWS Wire's rooftop power plant will produce almost thirty times that much electrical power. In addition to supplying energy for their business this source of renewable energy will significantly reduce the amount of fossil fuels used by Southern California Edison to generate power. The estimated annual reduction of carbon dioxide emissions from power plant fuel combustion exceeds 400,000 pounds.

This step comes in succession to ongoing efforts by MWS to utilize environmentally sustainable business practices. The company reuses or recycles nearly 100% of the packaging received from suppliers and utilizes recyclable or biodegradable packaging materials for shipments to their customers. With the addition of a solar power generating system MWS will strengthen its ability to contribute to the continued success of its customers, employees, and community.



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<sup>1</sup> Michael Bluejay Inc.. <http://michaelbluejay.com/electricity/cost.html#kilowatt>. The average U.S. household used 10,654 kWh a year in 2001, or 888 kWh/mo. ([Dept. of Energy](#)) The U.S. as a whole used 3,883 billion kWh in 2003, or 13,868 kWh per person based on a population of 280 million. ([Dept. of Energy](#)).