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Schletter Inc  
1001 Commerce Center Dr.  
Shelby, North Carolina 28150  
[www.schletter.us](http://www.schletter.us)

**NEWS RELEASE**

**Contact: Amber Burdsall**

Office: (520) 289-8727  
Mobile: (520) 247-4018  
[amber.burdsall@schletter.us](mailto:amber.burdsall@schletter.us)

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## **Clean Energy Manufacturer Celebrated Successful Grand Opening in North Carolina**

*Schletter invited renewable energy stakeholders, partners, and community leaders to celebrate the Grand Opening of the company's second US manufacturing facility*

**November 19, 2013 — Shelby, NC** — [Schletter](http://www.schletter.com)®, a worldwide leader in photovoltaic mounting systems, celebrated the company's new North American headquarters in Shelby, North Carolina with a Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on November 14. The North Carolina facility is currently operational and production of solar mounting systems and custom sheet metal fabrication began this past summer. Expansion of the original structure is complete with 140,000 square feet of highly-automated manufacturing space and administrative offices. In Shelby, the company currently employs a staff of 100 and plans to hire 70 more before the end of the year. Schletter employs over 200 individuals in the United States, while globally the company employs more than 1,600.

Located in Cleveland County, the Shelby, North Carolina facility is the company's third North American manufacturing facility since starting business in the United States in 2007. The company's original facility in Tucson, Arizona will continue to supply products to customers in the western United States while the company's second facility in Ontario, Canada will continue to serve the Canadian market. In addition to the three manufacturing facilities, the company maintains offices in Connecticut and plans to open a new office in Texas in 2014.

"The addition of the Shelby, North Carolina manufacturing facility gives Schletter the largest manufacturing capacity for solar mounting systems in North America – a benefit we have already begun passing on to our customers. Our manufacturing capacity, combined with a high level of automation, is enabling us to drive down costs for our customers and decrease shipping costs, for the east coast in particular," explained Schletter CEO and President Martin Hausner. "Schletter has almost every process in-sourced, enabling us to offer competitive pricing without sacrificing quality. Our focus is our customer and we are committed to our customers' success – through the protection of their investments in the way of product longevity and sound structural calculations, and streamlining design and ordering with services like the new online tool PV Powerhouse."

"The event was a tremendous success with over 150 participants and an excellent lineup of speakers," explained Nicholas Wiebelhaus, Schletter East Coast General Manager. "We extend our gratitude to all those who helped us celebrate this milestone, including our speakers Shelby Mayor Stanhope Anthony, Representative Tim Moore, and NCCEBA Executive Director Kristen Thornburg."

The Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting took place on November 14, followed by a day of celebration and collaboration for vendors and employees on November 15. A video of the event can be found on the company's website: <http://www.schletter.us/press.html>

**About Schletter Inc.**

Schletter ([www.schletter.us](http://www.schletter.us)) has designed, developed, and manufactured solar mounting products in the U.S. since 2008, while backed with more than 20-years of solar mounting experience from Schletter GmbH. Since opening its United States facility in Tucson, Arizona Schletter Inc. has manufactured more than 1 GW of installed PV mounting systems. Schletter Inc. offers products for roof mount and ground mount systems for residential, commercial, and utility scale photovoltaic systems. Schletter Inc. is an independent subsidiary of Schletter GmbH, which operates subsidiaries in fifteen countries with more than 1,600 employees worldwide.

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