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Envision Solar to offer advanced solar structure

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Story by Daily Transcript Staff Writer

Envision Solar International Inc., a provider of solar integrated building systems, announced a comprehensive renewable energy offering combining Envision Solar's LifePort, a solar carport, and GridPoint Connect, an appliance that provides plug-in hybrid electric vehicle "smart charging," clean backup power, online energy management and the ability to easily integrate renewable energy.

GridPoint Connect will optimize the functionality of Envision Solar's LifePort, a solar integrated structure measuring 23-by-23 feet, enabling consumers to automatically manage their energy usage through a Web portal, schedule the charging of PHEVs during cost-effective periods, and protect critical circuits with clean backup power during grid outages. Advanced battery technology within GridPoint Connect is recharged with Envision's solar panels during the day or by the electric grid at night.

As PHEVs enter the market in 2010, utilities across the country will begin providing preferred rates to customers who allow their local utility to manage when a PHEV is charged from the power grid. GridPoint's smart charging capability enables utilities to charge PHEVs during off-peak periods to reduce the need for new power plants to support them. Reducing peak load growth enables customers to enjoy discounted rates for PHEV charging while keeping overall electricity rates low.