

Made in the Mid-Willamette Valley: Sanyo

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Company name: SANYO Solar of Oregon LLC

Contact: Ron Craig

Address: 5475 Gaffin Road SE, Salem, OR 97317

Phone number: (503) 365-6800

Website: sanyo.com

Business description: Manufacturer of silicon ingots and wafers for solar panels.

Number of employees: 210

Business specialties: High purity mono-crystalline silicon wafers.

Business history: Incorporated in August 2008, broke ground in October 2008, began production in November 2009, hired 200th employee in March 2011.

What is biggest advantage of doing business in the Mid-Willamette Valley: Our location has easy access to industry suppliers, a good transportation network, low land and power costs and an excellent work force.

Essential business philosophy: Produce the highest quality wafers at the lowest possible cost through innovation and continuous process improvement.

Best way to stay competitive: Adapt new technologies quickly and cost effectively.

What is most challenging in work: Maintaining consistent manufacturing processes against very high quality standards.

Best business decision: Locating in Salem.

Toughest business decision: Timing of capital investment/expansion.

What trends do you see happening in your industry: There are many minor players in the solar market, and we are nearing a period of consolidation.

Company affiliations: Ferro Tech, Inspec International, Tucom, Meyer Berger Technologies, Tokai Carbon, Heraeus Quartz America, Micro Mech, Toyo Tanso, Tokusen, G&S Machining, Cherry City Electric, Electric Motors and Machine, Air Filters Northwest, Norlift and Pacific Office Furniture.

Major clients: Too numerous to list, most recent Salem Conference Center, OMSI and Oregon Sustainability Center.

SEDCOR, the lead economic development agency for Marion and Polk counties, is pleased to offer you a glimpse of the multitude of products and services being manufactured and provided by local area companies. SEDCOR's membership is composed of more than 500 business and community leaders who support our mission to enhance and diversify the economy of the Mid-Willamette Valley.

For additional information, contact SEDCOR at 503-584-7303 or email sappleby@sedcor.com.