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PACIFIC BUSINESS NEWS

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Hoku Scientific signs \$227M deal with Chinese energy firm

Pacific Business News (Honolulu) - by Nanea Kalani

Hoku Materials has signed a second multi-million dollar contract to sell polysilicon to an energy company in China.

The \$227-million deal with Tianwei New Energy Wafer Co., a manufacturer of silicon wafers and photovoltaic cells, calls for the sale and delivery of polysilicon to Tianwei over a 10-year period beginning in mid-2010.

The contract adds to an existing \$284-million supply contract signed in August, bringing Tianwei's total orders to \$511 million over the next decade.

The newest contract requires an initial \$10 million deposit this month to Hoku Materials, a subsidiary of **Hoku Scientific Inc.**, which is based in Kapolei (Nasdaq: HOKU).

Hoku to date has received \$306 million in prepayment commitments from customers. The company expects to make its first commercial shipment of polysilicon in the first half of 2009 and be at full operating capacity by the first half of 2010.

Hoku said the plant in Pocatello, Idaho, will produce up to 4,000 metric tons annually of polysilicon, which is used in solar panels.

Shares of Hoku closed at \$5.02 Tuesday, off 34 cents for the day.

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