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## Orion Energy Systems Appoints Potts to President, COO Post

### Potts' Experience, Understanding of Business Provides Natural Transition to New Role

MANITOWOC, Wis., Jul 26, 2010 (GlobeNewswire via COMTEX News Network) -- Orion Energy Systems Inc. (NYSE Amex:OESX) announced today that Michael Potts, P.E., has been named the power technology enterprise's president and chief operating officer.

In his new position, Potts will manage the day-to-day operations of Orion. Potts has served most recently as Orion's executive vice president, building on a more than 20-year career in energy management.

"This is a natural transition given Mike's many years of strong leadership and innate understanding of our industry," said Chairman and CEO Neal Verfuert. "His ability to successfully lead and execute key company initiatives has been demonstrated time and again and we look forward to the significant contributions he will make as president and chief operating officer."

Potts is a recognized expert in energy issues, and has often testified before state and federal regulatory bodies regarding energy-related issues. In addition, Potts has been active in many government and civic organizations dealing with energy issues in various capacities.

Potts began his career in energy management with the Kohler Co. in 1988 and was responsible for the company's corporate energy management portfolio. He also served as the general manager for Kohler's natural gas subsidiary, where his duties included energy strategy and management, public affairs, energy efficiency projects and budget management.

Potts joined Orion in 2001 as the company's vice president of technical services. He was later named the vice president of technical services and government affairs, and then executive vice president.

Potts earned his Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from the Milwaukee School of Engineering and a Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration from Lakeland College.

Orion has deployed its energy management systems in 5,612 facilities across North America, including 120 of the Fortune 500 companies. Since 2001, Orion technology has displaced more than 527 megawatts, saving customers more than \$856 million and reducing indirect carbon dioxide emissions by 7.3 million tons.

Orion Energy Systems Inc. (NYSE Amex:OESX) is a leading power technology enterprise that designs, manufactures and deploys energy management systems, consisting primarily of high-performance, energy-efficient lighting platforms, intelligent wireless control systems and direct renewable solar technology for commercial and industrial customers without compromising their operations. For more information, visit [www.oesx.com](http://www.oesx.com). Follow us on Twitter, Facebook or YouTube.

The Orion Energy Systems, Inc. logo is available at <http://www.globenewswire.com/newsroom/prs/?pkgid=4540>

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SOURCE: Orion Energy Systems, Inc.

CONTACT: Orion Energy Systems, Inc.

Media Contact

Linda Diedrich, Vice President Corporate Communications

(920) 482-1988

[ljd@oes1.com](mailto:ljd@oes1.com)

Investor Relations Contact

Scott Jensen, Chief Financial Officer

(920) 892-5454

[sjensen@oriones.com](mailto:sjensen@oriones.com)

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