



## Covalent Solar: Revolutionizing Solar Energy

**A long-time interest in energy and a desire to “use science that pushes the envelope to help solve one of society’s major issues” brought MIT doctoral candidate Jon Mapel to the 2007 Green Technology Entrepreneurship Academy. His venture: a high efficiency, low-cost solar electrical concentrator that uses emissive dyes to redirect light into simple slab waveguides.**

The concentrator can focus light without tracking or cooling in a flat-plate geometry, using 300 times fewer solar cells than conventional methods. The end module is visually identical to the industry standard solar panel and has similar technical specifications, minimizing market barriers to entry.

Mapel and his two partners started Covalent Solar in Summer 2008 to commercialize the new technology. “I met a number of venture capitalists and angel investors at GTEA, and Cambridge, Mass. [home of MIT] is a very generous and supportive environment for this kind of venture,” he says. They initially plan to target large commercial and utility installers in the U.S.—especially California— and Germany.

### **Contact Information:**

<http://www.covalentsolar.com>

email: [investment@covalentsolar.com](mailto:investment@covalentsolar.com)