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CSE: HEAT OTCQB: HLRTF FRA: 7HIA.F

Hillcrest Signs Five-Year Tech Collaboration Agreement with German Engineering Leader Systematec

Joint Planning Underway with Automotive/EV Industry Solutions Partner to Develop New Tech and IP with Hillcrest Control System Software

VANCOUVER, B.C., April 14, 2021 – <u>Hillcrest Energy Technologies Ltd.</u> (CSE: HEAT) (OTCQB: HLRTF) (FRA: 7HIA.F) ("Hillcrest" or the "Company") has signed a five-year Technology Collaboration Agreement with <u>Systematec GmbH</u>, a German specialist engineering innovator and component designer to Airbus, Audi, BMW, Continental, Volvo Truck Corporation, and other <u>hybrid automobile/EV and electrical equipment manufacturers</u>. Technical teams on both continents will jointly manage engineering activities to leverage Hillcrest's electric machine control software and develop high-value power electronics and electromechanical IP and technology for commercialization. All products and IP developed through this collaboration will be owned by Hillcrest.

The companies will each contribute technologies, IP and global business networks to source, develop and deliver business opportunities. Hillcrest will have dedicated access to Systematec's electronics and mechanical engineering design and prototype manufacturing services. Additionally, Hillcrest is in the process of acquiring additional internal expertise and securing facilitates that will be dedicated to technology development activities.

"Both parties expect this partnership to be an enduring collaboration running beyond the term of the current agreement." said Hillcrest Energy Technologies CEO, Don Currie. "Through Systematec's deep knowledge of the German automotive/EV and electrical equipment industries, Hillcrest gains real time access to emerging power electronics design technologies and related value opportunities, allowing us to effectively anticipate new control system requirements with a first mover advantage. Systematec has extensive industry networks developed over decades that complement our growing tech portfolio. Together we plan to introduce industry-leading control systems with new levels of functionality and unprecedented performance."

Technical planning, focused on sophisticated control systems with next-level energy conversion systems, is already underway. Potential opportunities of focus include electrical inverters for high performance electric drive systems, DC/DC converters to enable widespread application of fuel cells in trucks and heavy machinery, and other emerging requirements that serve growing global market needs.

"Teaming up with Hillcrest opens access to innovation paths and commercialization opportunities not previously available to our company," said Harald Hengstenberger, Systematec CEO. "Working with Hillcrest to combine their proven, control software technology with Systematec's demonstrated expertise in power electronics and electromechanical component design, unlocks potential to innovate, design and produce new, high value products for EV and

other industry customers. We are excited to be working with Hillcrest's team and are eager to deliver potentially disruptive technology to market."

"Systematec is a highly-respected engineering group run by talented industry peers with decades of experience designing, developing and commercializing specialized industrial, automotive and e-mobility applications," said Ari Berger, Hillcrest CTO. "Global e-mobility and electrification are areas of intensely competitive activity worldwide and both companies understand it's a high stakes business. Partnering with an established automotive industry insider like Systematec is key to securing our competitive advantage. This partnership ensures seamless integration between control software and electronic and electro-mechanical components which is essential to the leading-edge functionality we plan to deliver."

Hillcrest's obligations under the five-year agreement with Systematec include approximately 660,000 € per year, for specialized engineering and development expertise along with introductions to a vast European network. To incentivize Systematec and align interests, Hillcrest will issue to Systematec 2,750,000 common shares upon signing and 2,000,000 performance-based warrants priced at \$0.24 per share which will vest when Hillcrest's value from joint development commercialization revenues exceeds funds contributed to the Systematec collaboration to that date.

About Hillcrest Energy Technologies

Hillcrest is a clean tech innovation and development company on the rise. Working to decarbonize and electrify the energy sector, the Company intends to lead by example as it transitions from the production of fossil fuels from its West Hazel asset in Saskatchewan, to clean energy technologies that help unlock efficiencies in electrification and maximize performance of electric systems including electric vehicles, motors and electric generators. From concept to commercialization, Hillcrest is investing in the development of energy solutions that will power the future. Hillcrest is publicly traded on the CSE under the symbol "HEAT", on the OTCQB Venture Market as "HLRTF" and the Frankfurt Stock Exchange as "7HIA.F".

About Systematec GmbH

Systematec is a privately-owned engineering company for development, production, integration and testing of power electronics and electromechanical components for hybrid and electric vehicles. The Systematec team has over 25 years of experience in powertrain component engineering for hybrid and electric vehicles - from discovery and definition phase, through design and manufacturing, to integration, testing and validation. The Company is ISO 9001:2015 certified; additional information can be found on their website at www.systematec.de.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

Donald Currie Chief Executive Officer and Director

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