SOLAR
SUPERHEROES
VOL. 1, 2

SOLAR TECHNOLOGY COMES TO LIFE!

WE ALL KNOW HOW AWESOME PV TECHNOLOGY IS. FOR THOSE OF US WHO LIVE AND BREATHE THE DEVELOPMENT AND PROGRESS OF PV EVERY WEEK, WE KNOW HOW TRANSFORMATIVE SOLAR WILL BE ON OUR ENERGY SYSTEM, CLIMATE AND SOCIETY. BUT HOW DO YOU MAKE IT COME TO LIFE?

THAT WAS ONE OF THE GOALS IN CREATING THE SOLAR SUPERHEROES: TO GIVE FLESH AND BONE, OR IN ONE CASE LIQUID METAL, TO THE AMAZING INNOVATIONS THAT ARE DRIVING PV FORWARD AND INCREASING ITS UNSTOPPABLE ADVANCE INTO THE MAINSTREAM OF THE GLOBAL ENERGY SYSTEM. PV MAGAZINE ALSO WANTED, ALONG WITH OUR PARTNERS, TO DEMONSTRATE HOW THE COMBINATION OF VARIOUS PV PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGIES MAKE INCREMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS THAT TOGETHER WILL ALLOW SOLAR TO DISTURB, UNSETTLE AND EVENTUALLY DISRUPT THE POLLUTING SOURCES OF ELECTRICITY WE HAVE RELIED ON IN THE PAST.

COAL MAY BE BIG, BUT THE SOLAR SUPERHEROES HAVE A COMBINED POWER, DRIVEN BY INNOVATION, THAT CAN'T BE STOPPED.

WITHIN THIS WIDER NARRATIVE THERE ARE MANY STORIES TO TELL AND BY ROLLING OUT OUR SOLAR SUPERHEROES AS A CROSS PLATFORM AND DYNAMIC SERIES, THE POWER OF SOLAR CAN BE DEMONSTRATED IN A WAY THAT WILL ENGAGE, ENTERTAIN AND INFORM ALL PARTICIPANTS IN OUR AMAZING INDUSTRY. IT MAY ALSO INSPIRE SOME SOLAR ENGINEERS, SCIENTISTS AND BUSINESS LEADERS OF THE FUTURE!

THE SOLAR SUPERHEROES TRULY MARK THE UNVEILING OF A COMPLETE NEW WAY TO CONCEPTUALIZE, COMMUNICATE AND INSPIRE SOLAR PROFESSIONALS AND ENTHUSIASTS ALIKE AND ILLUSTRATE THE UNSTOPPABLE POWER OF THE SUITE OF FUTURE PV TECHNOLOGIES.

PV MAGAZINE WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR INITIAL SOLAR SUPERHERO PARTNERS: HERAEUS, BÜRKLE, WAVELABS AND MEYER BURGER. IN 2016 WE WILL DEVELOP MORE EXCITING STORIES AND WAYS IN WHICH THIS POWERFUL MESSAGE CAN BE SPREAD, SHARED AND USED TO ENGAGE ACROSS AGES, GEOGRAPHIES AND MEDIA PLATFORMS.

WE ALSO WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME OTHER SECTORS OF THE SOLAR INDUSTRY AND PARTNERS TO CREATE MORE CHARACTERS, MORE ACTION, MORE STORIES AND MORE PV AWESOMENESS! THE SUPERHEROES TRULY REPRESENT A DISRUPTIVE MARKETING IDEA TO HELP FOSTER THE DISRUPTIVE PV INDUSTRY.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO DEVELOPING NEW FIGURES AND STORYLINES WITH YOU IN 2016!

JONATHAN GIFFORD

SOLAR SUPERHEROES

2030: PROFESSOR GREEN RECALLS THE GATHERING OF HIS CHOSEN SOLAR SUPERHEROES; AND THE LEAD UP TO THEIR FIRST, ELECTRIFYING, BATTLE.

I COULD SEE – MANY OF US COULD – THE HAVOC BEING WREAKED BY COAL: HIS BIG, FILTHY FOOTPRINTS, NOXIOUS AND GASSY, SCORCHING THE EARTH; HIS POWER INCREASING, FEEDING ON OUR RISING ENERGY DEMANDS. FOR YEARS, WE WORKED FERVENTLY TO DISPLACE OUR GROWING, DIRTY, RELIANCE ON HIM. IT WASN'T UNTIL 2015, THOUGH, WHEN THE TECHNOLOGIES ALIGNED, THAT WE WERE PRESENTED WITH A TRULY VIABLE ALTERNATIVE.
I KNEW THEN WHAT I HAD TO DO. FOR 2015 WAS ALSO A TURNING POINT: SEVERE WEATHER ROCKED THE GLOBE; SPECIES WERE UNDER THREAT; PEOPLE WERE HUNGRY FOR ENERGY, ALWAYS MORE ENERGY; AND COAL WAS TURNING TO NEW MARKETS, DIGGING EVER DEEPER INTO HIS MIGHTY RESERVES.

PROFESSOR GREEN

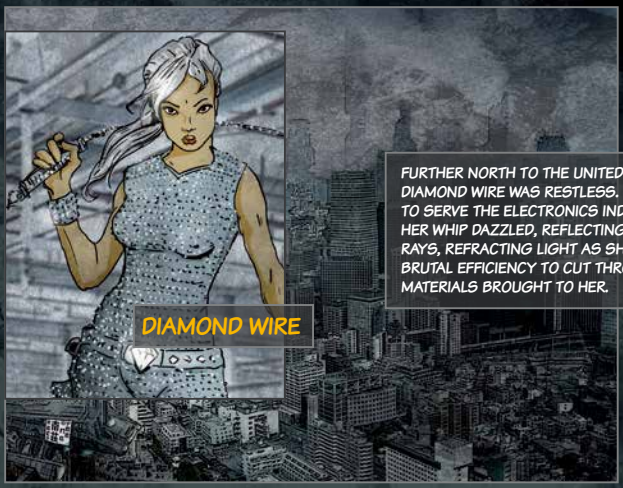
COAL

THE TECHNOLOGIES – THE SOLAR SUPERHEROES – HAD TO CONVERGE, JOIN FORCES. TIME TO DRIVE COAL BACK UNDERGROUND. IT WAS NEVER GOING TO BE EASY, CONVINCING THEM TO WORK TOGETHER, THEIR PERSONALITIES SO TERRIFYINGLY DIFFERENT.
BUT THEY – WE – DIDN'T HAVE A CHOICE...

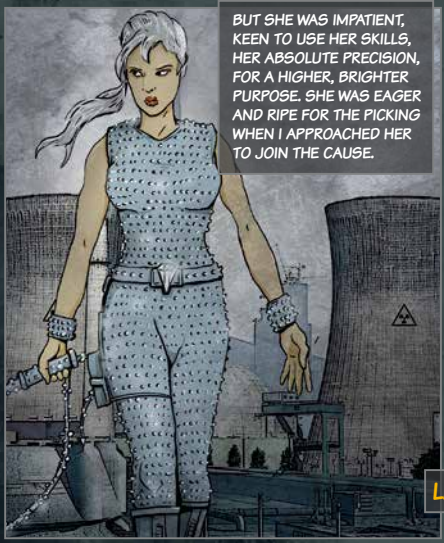
OVER MANY YEARS, FLASH HONED AND PERFECTED HIS LED FLASHING TECHNOLOGY. I OBSERVED HIM IN HIS NATIVE HOMELAND OF SANTIAGO, ENERGIZING WHOLE COMMUNITIES, FIGHTING TO KEEP POLLUTION AT BAY, HIS RAINBOW LASERS HEALING AND PROTECTING. HE WAS POWERFUL AND WIELDED HIS INFLUENCE, IN THE MAIN, FOR THE GREATER GOOD.

FLASH

ALONE, HOWEVER, HE COULD NOT SLAY THE DIRTY DEMONS; THE SMOG CONTINUED TO BUILD, CHOKING THOSE IT SMOTHERED. HE GREW FRUSTRATED, BORED, ARROGANT. HE FORGOT HIS ORIGINAL IDEOLOGIES. HE NEEDED TO BE REMINDED.



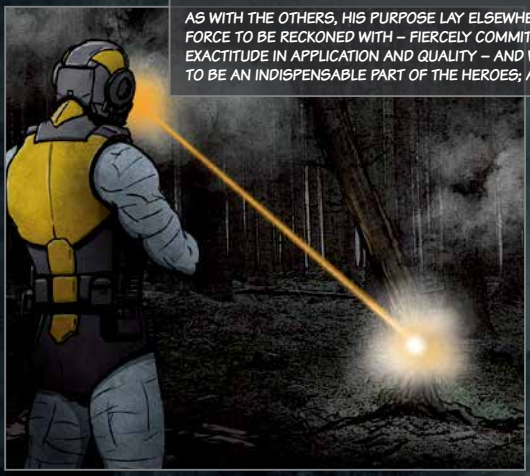
FURTHER NORTH TO THE UNITED STATES, DIAMOND WIRE WAS RESTLESS. CREATED TO SERVE THE ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY, HER WHIP DAZZLED, REFLECTING THE SUN'S RAYS, REFRACTING LIGHT AS SHE USED HER BRUTAL EFFICIENCY TO CUT THROUGH THE MATERIALS BROUGHT TO HER.



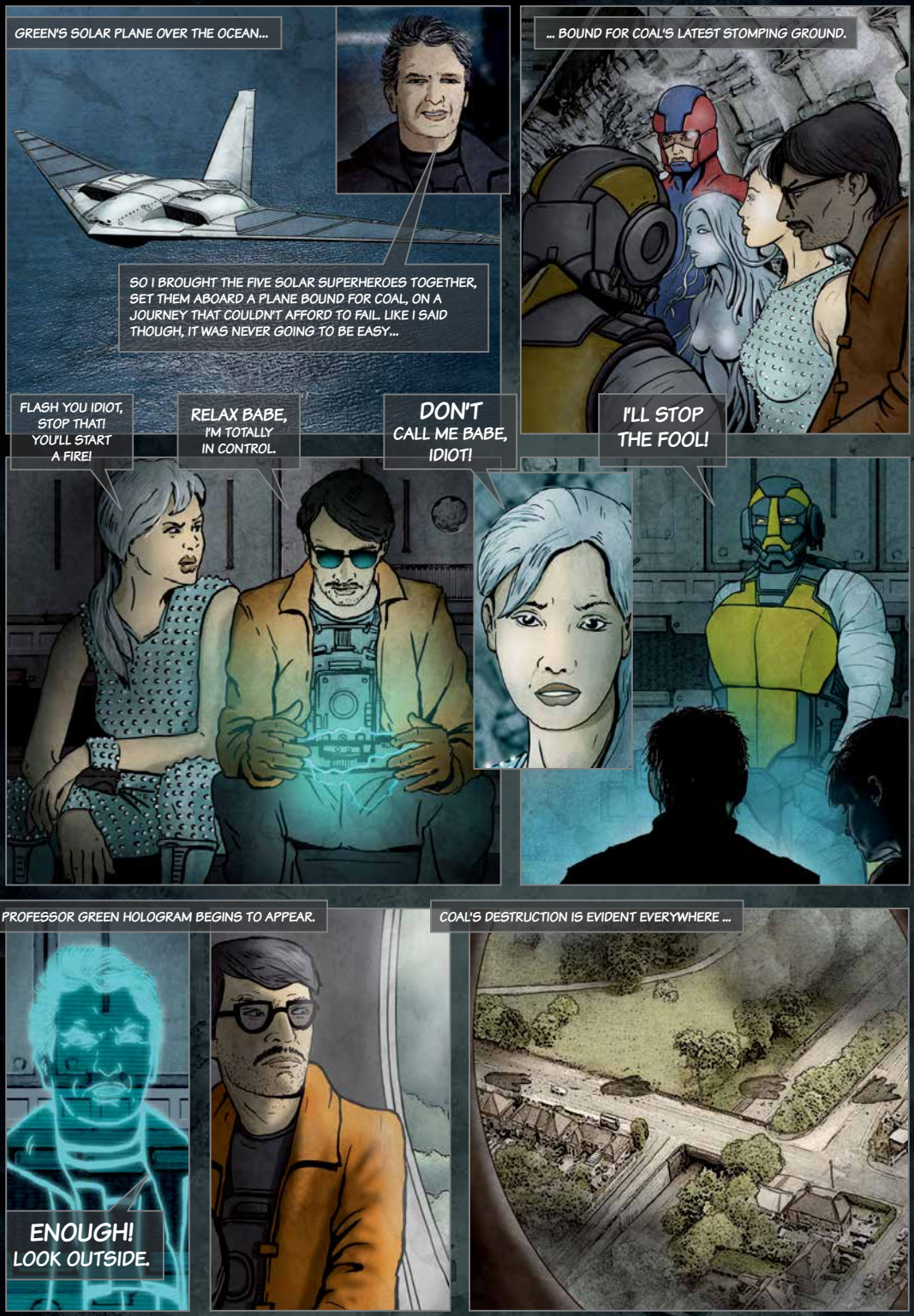
BUT SHE WAS IMPATIENT, KEEN TO USE HER SKILLS, HER ABSOLUTE PRECISION, FOR A HIGHER, BRIGHTER PURPOSE. SHE WAS EAGER AND RIPE FOR THE PICKING WHEN I APPROACHED HER TO JOIN THE CAUSE.

HIDDEN IN THE DARKEST DEPTHS OF GERMANY'S BLACK FOREST, LAMINATOR WAS BEING PUT HARD TO WORK, CUTTING DOWN TREES WITH HIS MIGHTY HEAT-FIRING LASERS, BINDING BUNDLES OF WOOD TOGETHER WITH EVA FOILS SHOT FROM HIS WRISTS. IT WAS GUT WRENCHING TO SEE THAT STATUESQUE FIGURE APPLYING HIS TALENTS TO SUCH A HUMDRUM TASK.

AS WITH THE OTHERS, HIS PURPOSE LAY ELSEWHERE. HE WAS A FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH – FIERCELY COMMITTED TO EXACTITUDE IN APPLICATION AND QUALITY – AND WAS GOING TO BE AN INDISPENSABLE PART OF THE HEROES; A LEADER.



WITH UNWAVERING STRENGTH AND FLEXIBILITY, SILVER MAZE HAD AN ELECTRIFYING TOUCH AND HAD LONG TURNED HER POWERFUL YET DELICATE TOUCH TO MAKING PRODUCTS THAT WOULD GREEN THE EARTH. AND THE END RESULTS WERE ALWAYS A SIGHT TO BEHOLD.
SILVER MAZE
SHE WAS A PERFECTIONIST, BUT SHE LANGUISHED ALONE; HER POWERS GREAT BUT IN ISOLATION SHE REMAINED UNFULFILLED.
I REACHED THE MYSTERIOUS CREATURE JUST IN TIME; COAXED HER FROM HER LONELY, DAZZLING SHELL, AND BROUGHT HER INTO THE FOLD OF THE SOLAR SUPERHEROES.
WIRE MESH
WIRE MESH IS AN INTRIGUING ONE.
TUCKED AWAY IN THE SWISS ALPS, HE USED HIS STRONG COATED MESH PEERLESSLY AND WITH PRECISE EFFICIENCY, TO AVERT DISASTER AND HELP THOSE IN DISTRESS. HE HATED THE SPOTLIGHT THOUGH, CRAVED ANONYMITY.
I KNEW MY CALLING WOULD BE HARD FOR THE STOIC HERO, BUT HE WAS A VITAL ELEMENT IN HALTING COAL'S DEFIANT MARCH. AND HE CAME, EVENTUALLY, UNDERSTANDING WHAT WAS AT STAKE, PUTTING HIS ISSUES ASIDE, READY TO USE HIS POWERS, READY TO FIGHT.


GREEN'S SOLAR PLANE OVER THE OCEAN...
SO I BROUGHT THE FIVE SOLAR SUPERHEROES TOGETHER, SET THEM ABOARD A PLANE BOUND FOR COAL, ON A JOURNEY THAT COULDN'T AFFORD TO FAIL. LIKE I SAID THOUGH, IT WAS NEVER GOING TO BE EASY...
... BOUND FOR COAL'S LATEST STOMPING GROUND.
FLASH YOU IDIOT, STOP THAT! YOU'LL START A FIRE!
RELAX BABE, I'M TOTALLY IN CONTROL.
DON'T CALL ME BABE, IDIOT!
I'LL STOP THE FOOL!
PROFESSOR GREEN HOLOGRAM BEGINS TO APPEAR.
ENOUGH! LOOK OUTSIDE.
COAL'S DESTRUCTION IS EVIDENT EVERYWHERE ...

... CITIES COATED IN SMOG, CHOKING ITS INHABITANTS; POLLUTED POOLS OF WATER INFECTING HABITATS. HIS PROMISE OF CHEAP POWER AND CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT ...

... LEAVING NOTHING BUT A TOXIC, CONTAMINATED TRAIL IN HIS LUMBERING WAKE. WE NEED TO UNITE. AND WE NEED TO DO IT NOW!

GREEN'S COMMUNICATOR:

PROFESSOR GREEN, WE'VE SECURED COAL'S POSITION. THE PLANE IS LESS THAN A MINUTE AWAY. THE SOLAR SUPERHEROES NEED TO BE READY FOR DEPLOYMENT.

STOP!

I CAN TAKE OUT COAL. KEEP OUT OF MY WAY!

WILL THE SOLAR SUPERHEROES BAND TOGETHER IN THEIR QUEST TO BRING THEIR FOE, COAL, TO HIS KNEES? CAN THEY OVERCOME THEIR PERSONAL DIFFERENCES? AND HOW WILL THEY IMPACT HIS FORWARD MARCH, REPAIR THE DAMAGE HIS TRODDEN PATH HAS INFLICTED? WATCH OUT FOR THE NEXT INSTALLMENT OF THE SOLAR SUPERHEROES IN THE OCTOBER EDITION OF PV MAGAZINE AND ON PV-MAGAZINE.COM

TO BE CONTINUED ...

SILVER MAZE GENESIS

IT'S BIG THIS TIME. THE HUMANS CANNOT CONTAIN THE SPILL.

A MAJOR EXPLOSION AND OIL SPILL HAS OCCURRED AT AN OFFSHORE DRILLING RIG IN THE PACIFIC OCEAN. MARINE HABITATS ARE BEING ADVERSELY AFFECTED ON A LARGE SCALE AND THE SPILL CANNOT BE CONTAINED.

Heraeus

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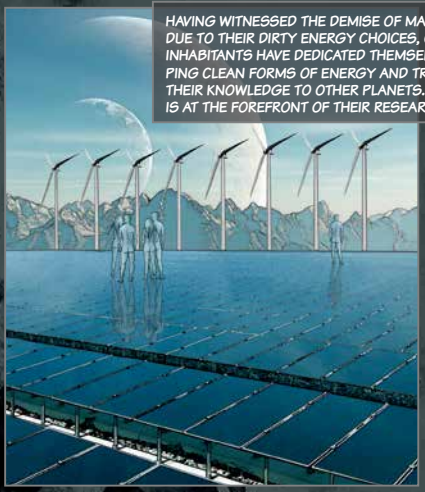
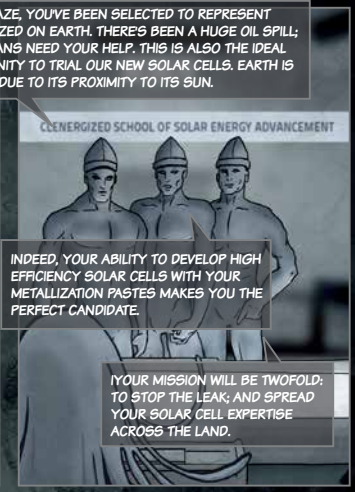


HAVING WITNESSED THE DEMISE OF MANY PLANETS, DUE TO THEIR DIRTY ENERGY CHOICES, CLENERGIZED'S INHABITANTS HAVE DEDICATED THEMSELVES TO DEVELOPING CLEAN FORMS OF ENERGY AND TRANSFERRING THEIR KNOWLEDGE TO OTHER PLANETS. SOLAR POWER IS AT THE FOREFRONT OF THEIR RESEARCH.

WOW! SILVER, THIS IS THE BEST RECORD YET! YOUR EFFICIENCY LEVELS ARE OFF THE CHART!



SILVER MAZE, YOU'VE BEEN SELECTED TO REPRESENT CLENERGIZED ON EARTH. THERE'S BEEN A HUGE OIL SPILL; THE HUMANS NEED YOUR HELP. THIS IS ALSO THE IDEAL OPPORTUNITY TO TRIAL OUR NEW SOLAR CELLS. EARTH IS PERFECT, DUE TO ITS PROXIMITY TO ITS SUN.

INDEED, YOUR ABILITY TO DEVELOP HIGH EFFICIENCY SOLAR CELLS WITH YOUR METALLIZATION PASTES MAKES YOU THE PERFECT CANDIDATE.

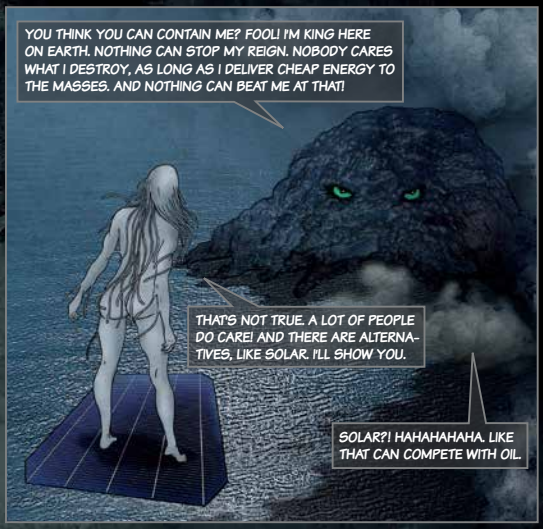
YOUR MISSION WILL BE TWOFOLD: TO STOP THE LEAK; AND SPREAD YOUR SOLAR CELL EXPERTISE ACROSS THE LAND.

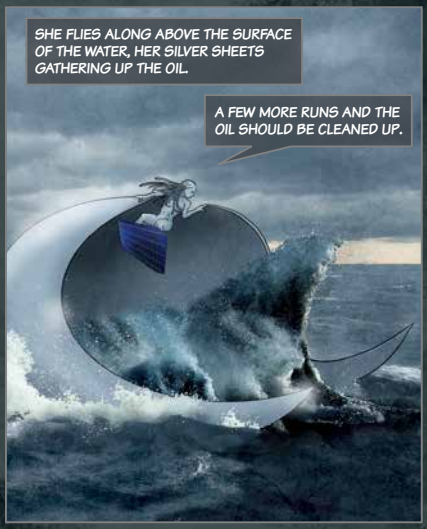
I'M HONORED TO HAVE BEEN CHOSEN. LET'S WASTE NO MORE TIME AND FORMULATE A PLAN!

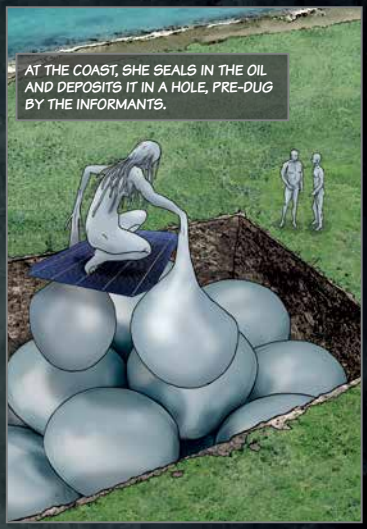
LATER ON EARTH ...

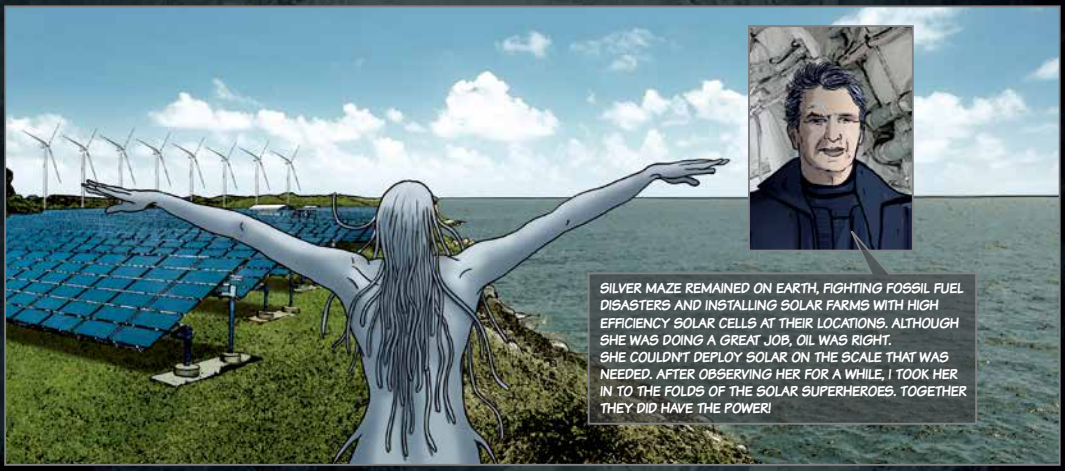
OH MAN! THIS IS WAY WORSE THAN I ANTICIPATED! WELL, BETTER GET STARTED. THEY SAID THE RIG SHOULD BE AROUND HERE, SOMEWHERE.

SILVER MAZE DIVES DOWN TO THE UNDERWATER OIL SPILL.


YOU THINK YOU CAN CONTAIN ME? FOOL! I'M KING HERE ON EARTH. NOTHING CAN STOP MY REIGN. NOBODY CARES WHAT I DESTROY, AS LONG AS I DELIVER CHEAP ENERGY TO THE MASSES. AND NOTHING CAN BEAT ME AT THAT!
THAT'S NOT TRUE. A LOT OF PEOPLE DO CARE! AND THERE ARE ALTERNATIVES, LIKE SOLAR. I'LL SHOW YOU.
SOLAR?! HAHAHAHAHA. LIKE THAT CAN COMPETE WITH OIL.

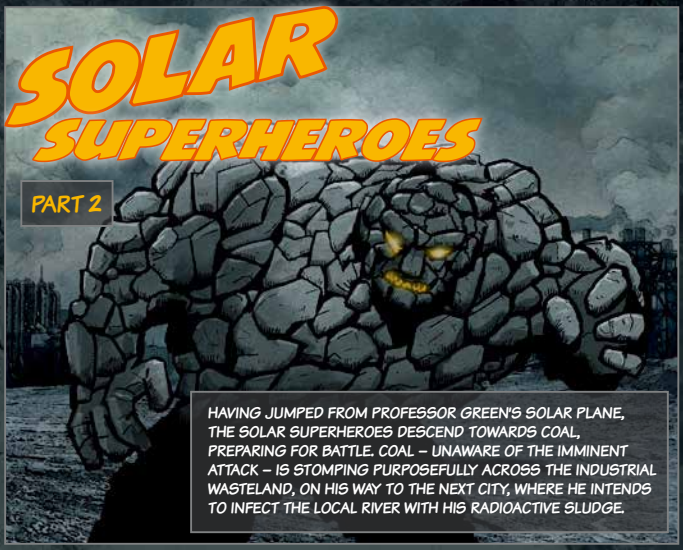

SHE FLIES ALONG ABOVE THE SURFACE OF THE WATER, HER SILVER SHEETS GATHERING UP THE OIL.
A FEW MORE RUNS AND THE OIL SHOULD BE CLEANED UP.


AT THE COAST, SHE SEALS IN THE OIL AND DEPOSITS IT IN A HOLE, PRE-DUG BY THE INFORMANTS.


SILVER MAZE REMAINED ON EARTH, FIGHTING FOSSIL FUEL DISASTERS AND INSTALLING SOLAR FARMS WITH HIGH EFFICIENCY SOLAR CELLS AT THEIR LOCATIONS. ALTHOUGH SHE WAS DOING A GREAT JOB, OIL WAS RIGHT. SHE COULDN'T DEPLOY SOLAR ON THE SCALE THAT WAS NEEDED. AFTER OBSERVING HER FOR A WHILE, I TOOK HER IN TO THE FOLDS OF THE SOLAR SUPERHEROES. TOGETHER THEY DID HAVE THE POWER!

SOLAR SUPERHEROES

PART 2



HAVING JUMPED FROM PROFESSOR GREEN'S SOLAR PLANE, THE SOLAR SUPERHEROES DESCEND TOWARDS COAL, PREPARING FOR BATTLE. COAL – UNAWARE OF THE IMMINENT ATTACK – IS STOMPING PURPOSEFULLY ACROSS THE INDUSTRIAL WASTELAND, ON HIS WAY TO THE NEXT CITY, WHERE HE INTENDS TO INFECT THE LOCAL RIVER WITH HIS RADIOACTIVE SLUDGE.

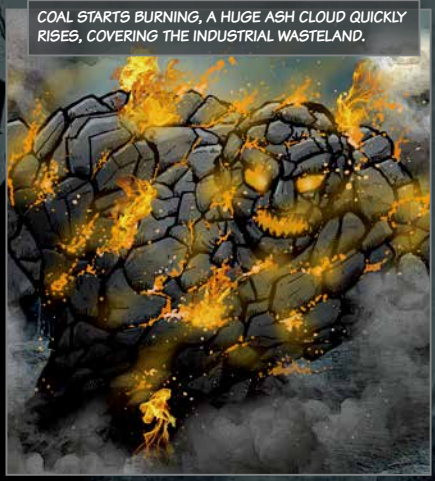
FLASH REACHES THE GROUND BEFORE THE OTHERS, USING HIS FLASH TO STOP HIS IMPACT.

FLASH OPENS HIS COAT, ACTIVATING HIS LED FLASH AND DIRECTING IT INTO COAL'S EYES.

YES! I'VE GOT HIM!

STOP! HE'S BURNING! YOU'RE GIVING HIM EVEN MORE POWER, FOOL!

COAL STARTS BURNING, A HUGE ASH CLOUD QUICKLY RISES, COVERING THE INDUSTRIAL WASTELAND.



LAMINATOR SHOOTS EVA FOILS...

WE CAN'T SEE!

...BUT THEY QUICKLY MELT.

WIRE MESH COVERS COAL IN HIS MESH BUT HE QUICKLY BREAKS FREE ...
DIAMOND WIRE WHIPS COAL'S ARM...
...BUT ALMOST INSTANTLY, A NEW ARM REPLACES THE TORN LIMB.
RETREAT!
WE CAN'T GET COAL LIKE THIS.
I HAVE A PLAN...
THE FIRST THING WE NEED TO DO IS PUT OUT THE FIRE AND STOP THE SMOKE...
COME OUT LITTLE ONES. LET'S END THIS NOW! NO POINT IN HIDING. I WILL DESTROY YOU!
HAHAHAHAHAHAHA!
A THICK, TOXIC SLUDGE OOZES FROM COAL'S FINGERS.
SILVER MAZE IS TOO QUICK FOR HIM THOUGH, AND SHAPE SHIFTS INTO A BIRD, RISING AND FLYING OFF.

SHE SOARS THROUGH THE AIR ...
GO!
...SPOTTING A NEARBY RIVER, SHE SWOOPS DOWN.
FLASH USES HIS INFRARED GOGGLES TO CREEP NEARER TO COAL, THROUGH THE SMOG.
NOW!
FLASH DEPLOYS HIS RED LEDS WHILE DIAMOND WIRE USES HER WHIP TO REFRACT THE LIGHT. IT IS SCATTERED DIRECTLY INTO COAL'S EYES.
WHA ...
COAL CRIES OUT IN PAIN AND CONFUSION.
SILVER MAZE REAPPEARS, CARRYING A LARGE CONTAINER FILLED WITH WATER...
...AND SHE TIPS IT OVER COAL.
LAMINATOR SHOOTS OUT FOILS, WHICH WRAP AROUND COAL'S KNEES, CAUSING THEM TO BUCKLE.
DIAMOND WIRE SLICES HIS HEAD OFF IN A SINGLE FLICK OF HER RAZOR SHARP WHIP.

LAMINATOR CREATES A HUGE VACUUM OF HEAT AND DIRECTS IT TOWARDS COAL'S DECAPITATED BODY...

YOU THINK YOU CAN BEAT ME LITTLE ONES? HAHAHAHAHAHA!

FLASH, PEERING AROUND TO SEE NO ONE IS WATCHING HIM, PICKS UP A PIECE OF COAL AND POCKETS IT.

HAHAHAHA!

SILVER MAZE CAN'T BEAR THE LAUGHTER ANYMORE. SHE SHOOTS OUT FINE RIBBONS, WHICH WRAP AROUND COAL'S HEAD, COATING IT IN A THIN BUT STRONG LAYER OF SILVER.

WIRE MESH HOISTS COAL'S HEAD ALOFT, TRIUMPHANT.

THE SOLAR SUPERHEROES ARE ONBOARD PROFESSOR GREEN'S PLANE.

WELL DONE SUPERHEROES! YOU'VE DEFEATED COAL,YOU WORKED TOGETHER AND HARNESSED YOUR MIGHTY POWERS TO SILENCE YOUR FOE. NOW YOUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS CAN GO OUT ACROSS THE LAND, APPLYING THEIR UNIQUE SOLAR TECHNOLOGY TO CITIES, VILLAGES, WHOLE COMMUNITIES OFF AND ON THE GRID: CLEAN ENERGY, CLEAN LANDSCAPES, CLEAN AIR, NEW JOBS, AND PROSPERITY AWAIT.
WE CAN ALL BREATHE EASIER NOW!

FLASH TURNS AWAY FROM THE THE OTHERS AND LOOKS UNEASILY AT THE PIECE OF COAL HE TOOK AS A SOUVENIR OF THEIR BATTLE.

MEANWHILE IN A DISTANT LAND...

...PIECES OF COAL BEGIN JOINING TOGETHER.

COAL BEGINS TO TAKE SHAPE ONCE MORE. THE WAR, IT SEEMS, IS NOT YET OVER...

COAL MAY HAVE BEEN DEFEATED THIS TIME, BUT UNBEKNOWNST TO THE SOLAR SUPERHEROES, WHO ARE REVELING IN THEIR VICTORY, COAL IS REGROUPING, PREPARING TO FIGHT, UNWILLING TO LET SOLAR TECHNOLOGY DRIVE HIM BACK TO HIS UNDERGROUND LAIR.
NEXT TIME, HE'LL BE READY.

SOLAR SUPERHEROES

EPISODE 2 – PART 1

PROFESSOR GREEN

THE SOLAR SUPERHEROES AND THEIR COMPATRIOTS HAVE BEEN BUSY, DEPLOYING EVER MORE SOLAR. 2015 SAW A RECORD 60 GW INSTALLED, A NEARLY FOUR-FOLD INCREASE ON 2010! AND COSTS CONTINUE TO FALL, WHILE TECHNOLOGY ADVANCES.

THESE TECHNOLOGICAL GAINS SAW NEW ACTORS ENTER THE FOLDS OF THE HEROES. INSPECTOR VI WAS THE FIRST TO JOIN FOLLOWING THE BATTLE WITH COAL. HAVING REALIZED ITS POTENTIAL EARLY ON, SHE TURNED HER ATTENTION AWAY FROM THE AUTOMOTIVE SECTOR, WHERE SHE WAS ORIGINALLY EMPLOYED, TO FOCUS ON SOLAR.

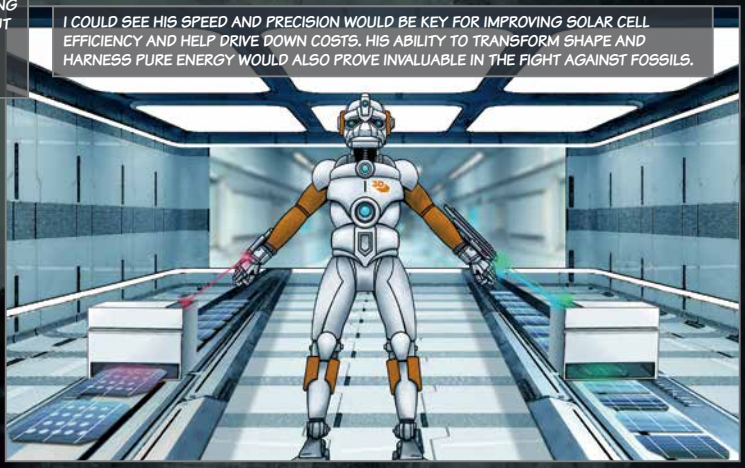
HER ENORMOUS SPECTRAL AND SPATIAL VISUAL CAPACITY HELPED IMPROVE EFFICIENCY AND RELIABILITY ALONG THE SUPPLY CHAIN.

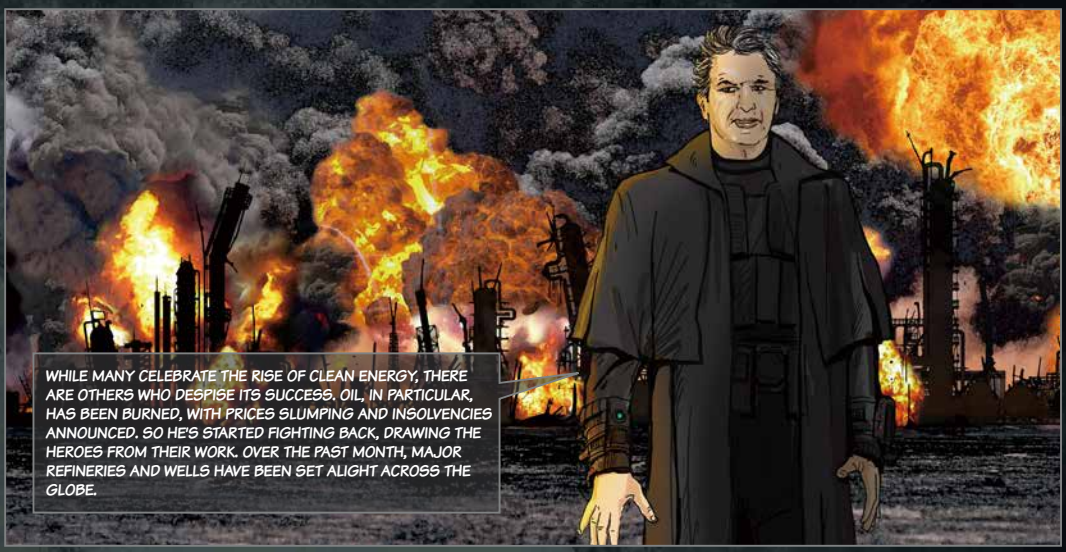
ALTHOUGH THE INSPECTOR MOSTLY WORKED ALONE, IT WAS SHE WHO APPROACHED ME WITH THE REQUEST TO JOIN THE SUPERHEROES. HELPING TO FORMULATE STRATEGIES AND IDENTIFY THE WEAKNESSES IN THEIR FOSSIL FOES WERE HER STRENGTHS, AND ONE THE GROUP SORELY NEEDED.

APOLLON JOINED SHORTLY AFTERWARDS. HE WAS ORIGINALLY ENGINEERED FOR THE FIELD OF LASER MICROMACHINING; A WORKHORSE FOR THE ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY.

HIS LASER ABLATION AND THERMAL LASER SEPARATION PROCESSING SKILLS WERE BEING APPLIED TO A NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS. BUT HE WAS BORED, LACKED PURPOSE. THIS LED HIM TO MOONLIGHT AT MUSIC FESTIVALS; A RIDICULOUS WASTE OF HIS TALENTS!

I COULD SEE HIS SPEED AND PRECISION WOULD BE KEY FOR IMPROVING SOLAR CELL EFFICIENCY AND HELP DRIVE DOWN COSTS. HIS ABILITY TO TRANSFORM SHAPE AND HARNESS PURE ENERGY WOULD ALSO PROVE INVALUABLE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST FOSSILS.




WHILE MANY CELEBRATE THE RISE OF CLEAN ENERGY, THERE ARE OTHERS WHO DESPISE ITS SUCCESS. OIL, IN PARTICULAR, HAS BEEN BURNED, WITH PRICES SLUMPING AND INSOLVENCIES ANNOUNCED. SO HE'S STARTED FIGHTING BACK, DRAWING THE HEROES FROM THEIR WORK. OVER THE PAST MONTH, MAJOR REFINERIES AND WELLS HAVE BEEN SET ALIGHT ACROSS THE GLOBE.

THE SUPERHEROES HAVE BEEN SEPARATED, THEIR FOCUS DISTRACTED, AS THEY BATTLE TO PUT OUT THE FIRES. EVEN WITH THE HELP OF TWO NEW ACTORS – INSPECTOR VI AND APOLLON – THEY'RE TIRED AND RUNNING LOW ON ENERGY.
LAMINATOR
DIAMOND WIRE
INSPECTOR VI
FLASH
WIRE MESH
APOLLON
SILVER MAZE

AT AN OIL REFINERY IN JAPAN

HOW BAD IS IT?

SUPERHERO HQ
IT'S ON A SCALE NEVER SEEN BEFORE. ACCORDING TO MY CALCULATIONS, THE DISASTER WILL BE TOO BIG TO CONTAIN IN AROUND 24 HOURS. AFTER THAT, EVEN IF WE CAN STOP IT, THE DAMAGE WILL BE IRREVERSIBLE.

YO VI, HAVE YOU MANAGED TO HARNESS YOUR RADICAL VISION TO LOCATE THE OTHERS?

YES, BUT I CAN'T GET THE COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS TO WORK. OIL'S BLOCKING THEM.

BUT YOU KNOW EXACTLY WHERE THEY ARE INSPECTOR?
I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW YOU CAN SEE WHAT THEY'RE DOING.
YES.

IT'S SIMPLE: I CAN SENSE DIFFERENT OBJECTS, REGARDLESS OF THEIR LOCATION AND MEASURE THE DISTANCE BETWEEN THEM.
I CAN "SEE" SILVER MAZE AND WIRE MESH HAVE NEARLY PUT OUT THE FIRES IN JAPAN. BUT THE OTHERS, THEY'RE STRUGGLING IN THE US. THE WIND'S MESSING WITH THEM.

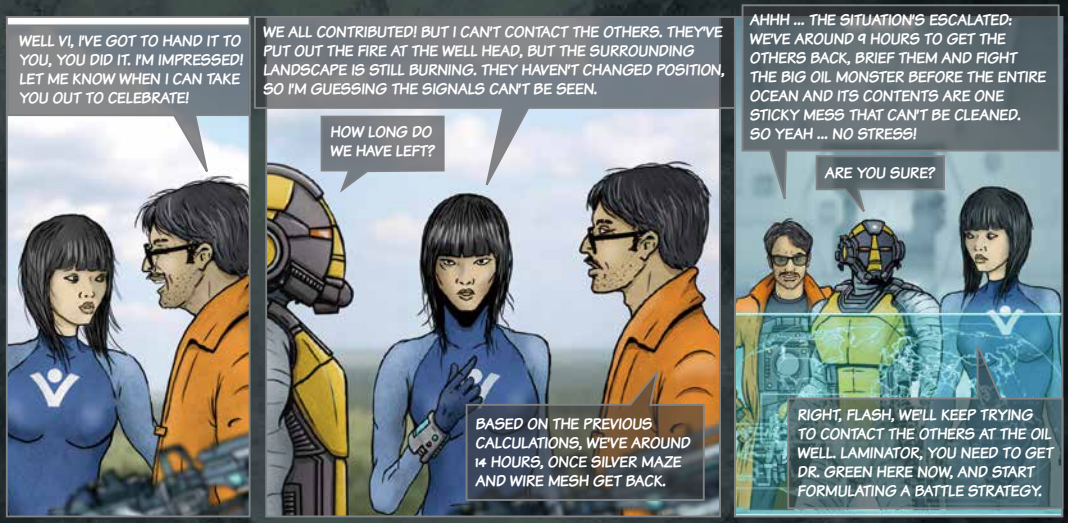
FLASH! WE COULD USE YOUR LED PULSES TO TRANSMIT A SIGNAL. YOU KNOW MORSE CODE RIGHT?
YEAH, BUT UH, HOW'S THAT GOING TO HELP US?

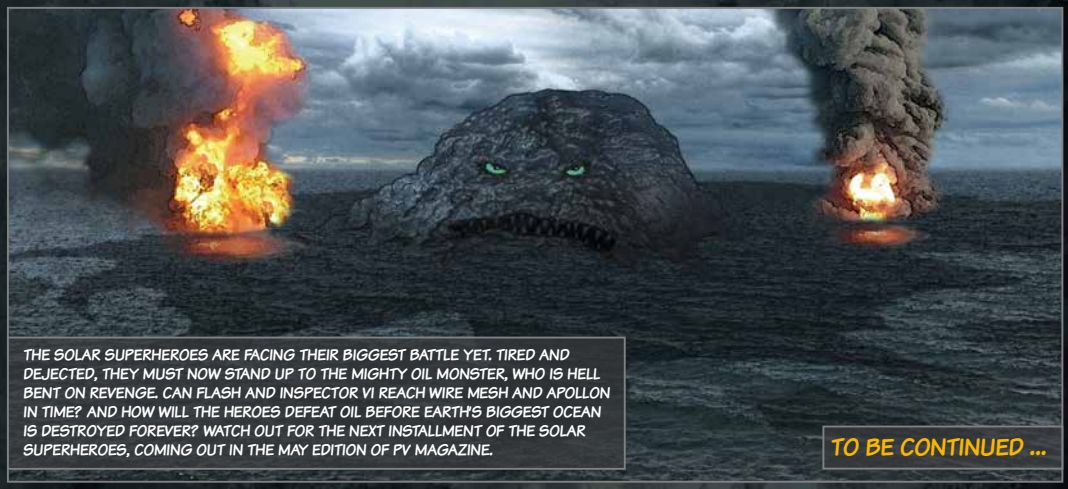
WE CAN USE YOUR PULSES AS A SIGNAL LAMP, BEAM THEM INTO THE SKY, SIGNALING TO THEM TO COME BACK NOW.
RIIIIGGGHHHHHTTT. BECAUSE THEY'LL REACH JAPAN!

WE HAVE TO TRY.
WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO FLY THERE. THERE MUST BE A WAY. OR DO YOU HAVE ANY BETTER IDEAS?!

ACTUALLY LAMINATOR'S IDEA'S NOT THAT FAR FETCHED. WE CAN TRY MODIFYING A GALILEAN LASER BEAM EXPANDER TO FURTHER THE REACH OF YOUR LED PULSES.

HA HA HA
HOW QUICKLY CAN YOU DO IT?
GIVE ME 10 HOURS AND I SHOULD HAVE SOMETHING.
YOU'VE GOT 3. FLASH, STOP! COME HELP! THERE'S NO TIME TO LOSE.
AT A BURNING OIL WELL IN THE US
IT'S NO USE APOLLON, THE WIND'S TOO STRONG. WE'VE BEEN FIGHTING FOR HOURS. WE NEED TO RECHARGE!
LOOK, IT'S RISKY, BUT I'VE GOT AN IDEA. I THINK I COULD CREATE AN EXPLOSION USING A BALL OF PURE ENERGY TO PUSH THE BURNING FUEL AND OXYGEN AWAY. YOU'LL THEN HAVE A FEW SECONDS TO CAP THE WELL HEAD. AND THEN WE CAN TACKLE THE OTHER FIRES.
I'M NOT SURE HOW LONG IT'S GOING TO HOLD. I CAN HEAR THE FIRE UNDERNEATH. WE NEED TO GET TO ITS BASE.





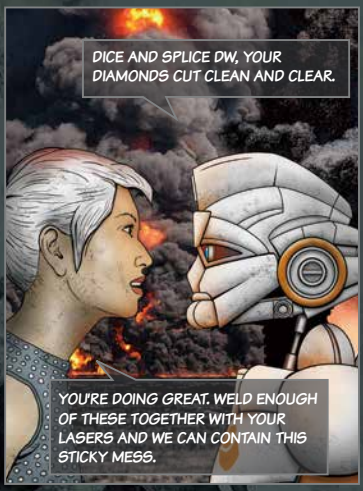
THE SOLAR SUPERHEROES ARE FACING THEIR BIGGEST BATTLE YET. TIRED AND DEJECTED, THEY MUST NOW STAND UP TO THE MIGHTY OIL MONSTER, WHO IS HELL BENT ON REVENGE. CAN FLASH AND INSPECTOR VI REACH WIRE MESH AND APOLLON IN TIME? AND HOW WILL THE HEROES DEFEAT OIL BEFORE EARTH'S BIGGEST OCEAN IS DESTROYED FOREVER? WATCH OUT FOR THE NEXT INSTALLMENT OF THE SOLAR SUPERHEROES, COMING OUT IN THE MAY EDITION OF PV MAGAZINE.

TO BE CONTINUED ...

SOLAR SUPERHEROES

EPISODE 2 - PART 2

WHILE THEY'D CAPPED AN OUT OF CONTROL REFINERY FIRE, APOLLON AND DIAMOND WIRE WERE NONE THE WISER ABOUT THE OIL MONSTER UNFURLING IN THE OCEAN.


DICE AND SPLICE DW, YOUR DIAMONDS CUT CLEAN AND CLEAR.
YOU'RE DOING GREAT. WELD ENOUGH OF THESE TOGETHER WITH YOUR LASERS AND WE CAN CONTAIN THIS STICKY MESS.

THAT'S FLASH USING HIS LEDS, ROGER THAT, MORSE CODE.
THEY WANT US BACK AT BASE RIGHT? LET'S GO.

DON'T SCRATCH THE PAINT WITH YOUR GLITTERY GOODNESS. I JUST GOT IT DONE!

AH, THIS ARROGANT FELLOW. I'VE BATTLED HIM BEFORE.
LET'S SHORE UP THIS OIL RIG. IT FALLS, OIL GROWS.
MY CONNECTING MESH IS STRONG ENOUGH. BUT THE QUESTION IS, AM I?
A TOUCH OF SILVER PASTE CAN HELP STRENGTHEN THE BONDS.

OH GREAT, THAT ARROGANT BLOB KNOWS WE'RE HERE.
WELL, WELL, WELL. IT'S THE SOLAR STUPIDHEADS. YOU BUFFOONS CAN'T CONTAIN EVEN A SINGLE DROP OF MY GOODNESS.
OIL SPEWS OUT A HAZE OF NOXIOUS, BLACK SMOKE AND MILLIONS OF STICKY DROPLETS.
AY DIOS MÍO! CHECK OUT THE SMOKE. I SMELL AN OILY STAIN THAT NEEDS PUTTING OUT.
THIS'LL TEST OUR BATTERIES, AND NOW I CAN'T SEE A THING!
OK, I'LL TAKE OVER CONTROLS!
WITH MY INFRARED GLASSES AND THE INSPECTOR'S PRECISION VISION, WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED OL' LAMINTO!
I'LL HEAD OUT BACK.
IT'S WORSE THAN I THOUGHT. THE OIL SPILL IS HUGE!

IT'S TIME FOR OIL TO LEARN HOW EVA CAN ENCAPSULATE ANYTHING!

THESE SHEETS OF EVA CAN SEAL IN OIL'S GOOEY MESS.

IT'S TIME TO HEAT THIS UP!

APOLLON AND DIAMOND WIRE ARRIVE AT THE SCENE.
IT LOOKS LIKE WE'RE IN TIME FOR THE CLEAN UP.
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU HAD IT IN YOU OLD BOY!
IT WAS A VICTORY. THE POWER OF SOLAR HAD MOPPED UP THE THREAT OF OIL, FOR NOW AT LEAST. BUT DEFEATING ONE FOSSIL DOES NOT AN ENERGY TRANSITION MAKE.
AND WHAT'S LEFT OF OUR MORTAL ENEMY COAL?
TO BE CONTINUED ...

SOLAR SUPERHEROES

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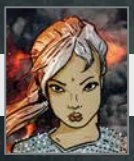

DIAMOND WIRE

WIRE MESH

MEYER BURGER

ROGER GLAUSER
RAMON MÜLLER
JOSE BAUTISTA

APOLLON

3D MICROMAC

KRISTIN SCHUMANN, FREDERICK BAMBERG
MANDY GEBHARDT

INSPECTOR VI

VITRONIC
the machine vision people

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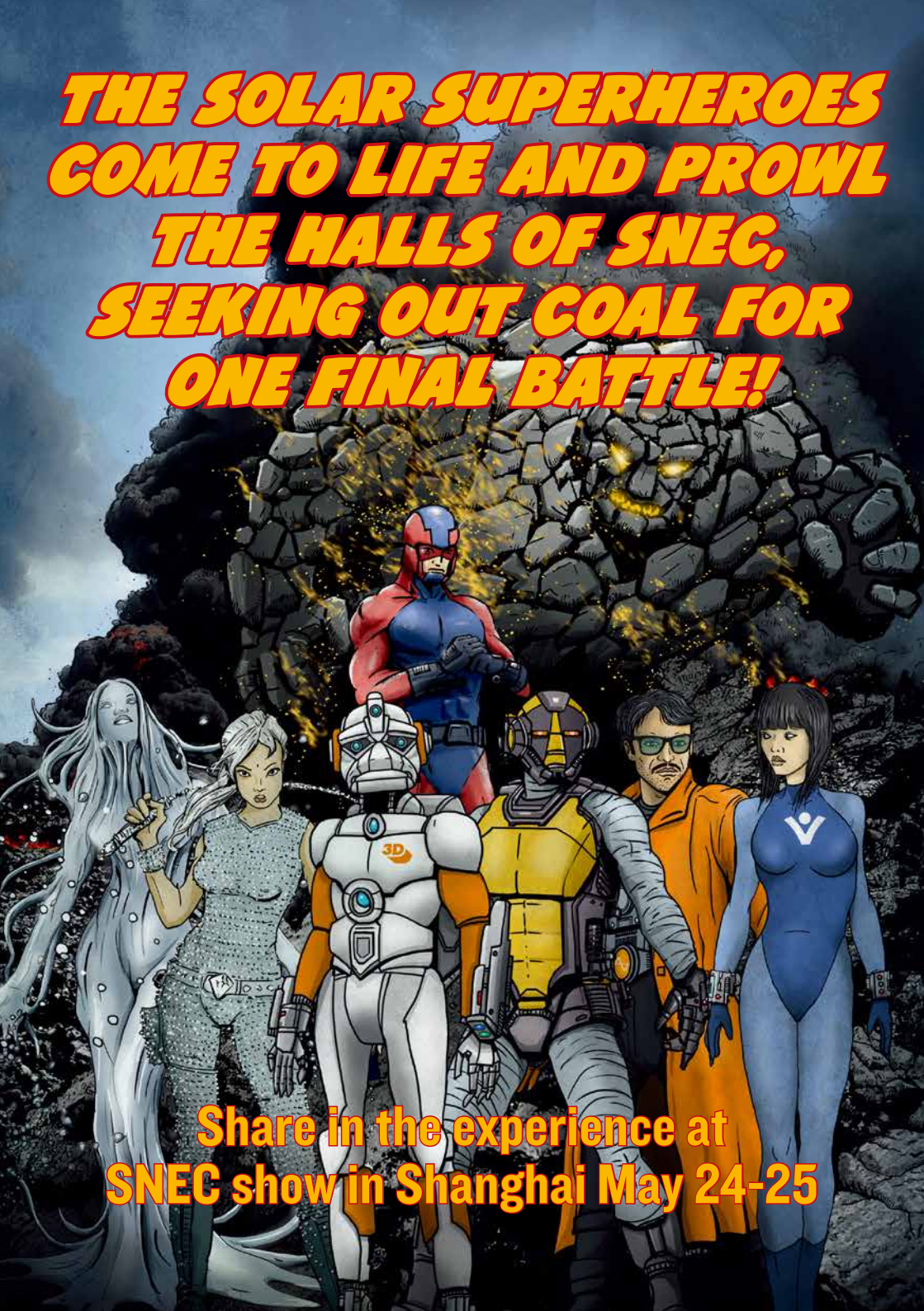
FLASH

WAVELABS

TORSTEN BRAMMER, FALK WILDGRUBE
VOLKER GUTEWORT, JÖRN SUTHUES


THE SOLAR SUPERHEROES COME TO LIFE AND PROWL THE HALLS OF SNEC, SEEKING OUT COAL FOR ONE FINAL BATTLE!
Share in the experience at
SNEC show in Shanghai May 24-25

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