

# SOLAR SUPERHEROES

EPISODE 2 - PART 1

PROFESSOR GREEN



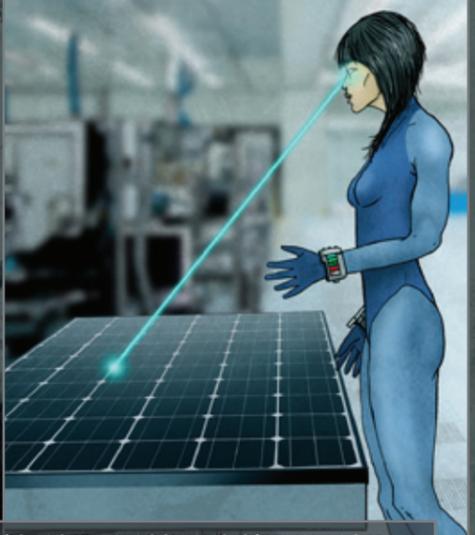
THE SOLAR SUPERHEROES AND THEIR COMPATRIOTS HAVE BEEN BUSY, DEPLOYING EVER MORE SOLAR. 2015 SAW A RECORD 60 GW INSTALLED, A NEARLY FOUR-FOLD INCREASE ON 2010! AND COSTS CONTINUE TO FALL, WHILE TECHNOLOGY ADVANCES.

INSPECTOR VI



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.

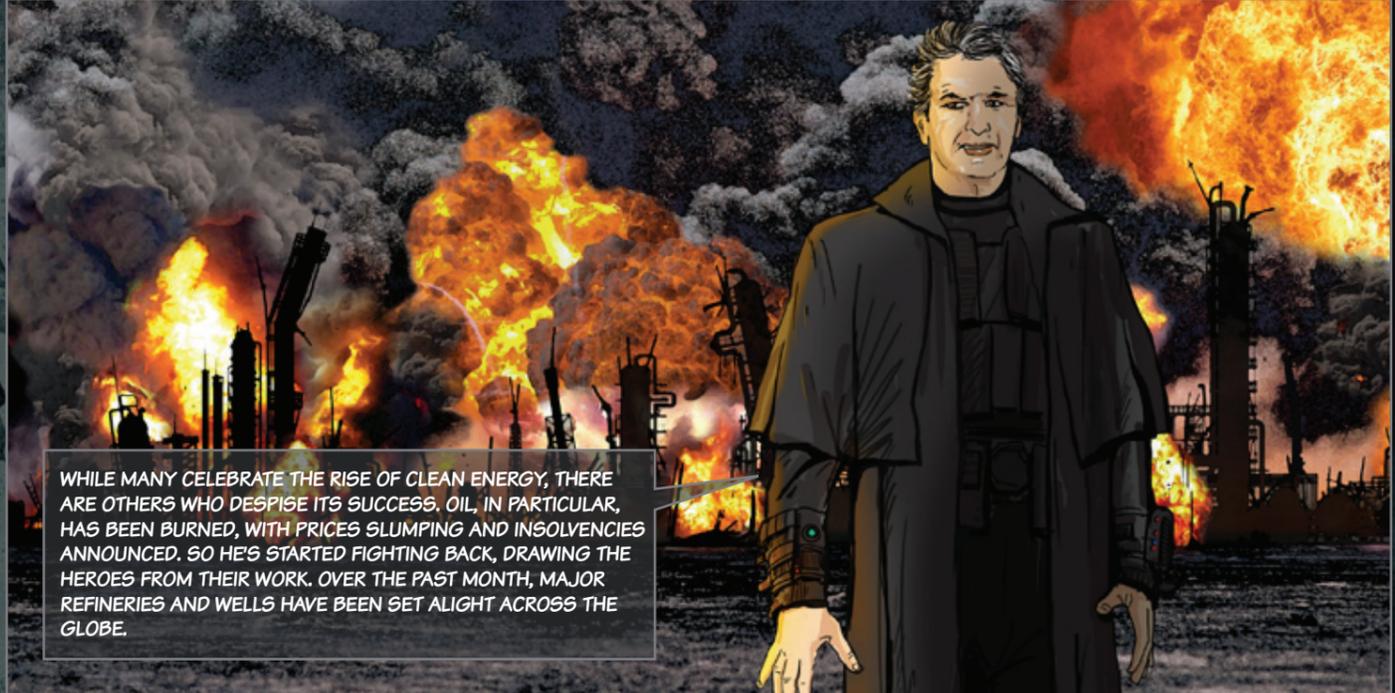
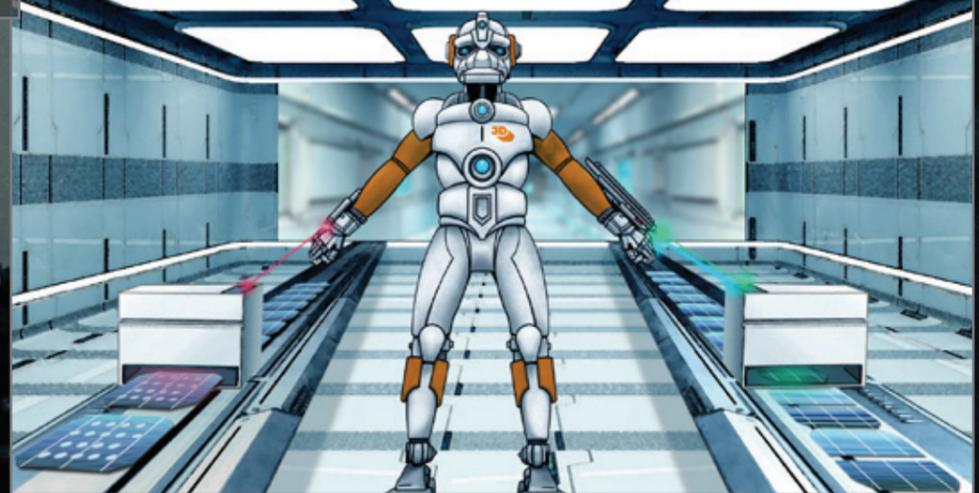


APOLLON

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





**SUPERHERO HQ**

HOW BAD IS IT?

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.



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.

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.



I'M NOT SURE HOW LONG IT'S GOING TO HOLD. I CAN HEAR THE FIRE UNDERNEATH. WE NEED TO GET TO ITS BASE.





DO YOU SEE IT TOO? IS THAT MORSE CODE?

IT'S FLASH! SOMETHING'S GOING ON. WE NEED TO GET BACK TO HQ NOW!

COME ON, HURRY!

BACK AT HQ. YES! THEY'VE PUT OUT THE FIRES. THEY'RE MOVING QUICKLY, IN OUR DIRECTION. THEY SHOULD BE HERE SOON.

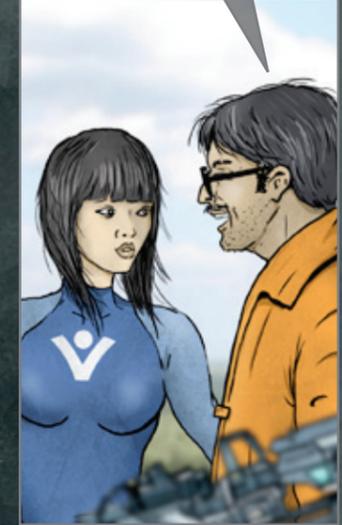


AND THEY'RE DEFINITELY ON THE MOVE?

WELL VI, I'VE GOT TO HAND IT TO YOU, YOU DID IT. I'M IMPRESSED! LET ME KNOW WHEN I CAN TAKE YOU OUT TO CELEBRATE!

WE ALL CONTRIBUTED! BUT I CAN'T CONTACT THE OTHERS. THEY'VE PUT OUT THE FIRE AT THE WELL HEAD, BUT THE SURROUNDING LANDSCAPE IS STILL BURNING. THEY HAVEN'T CHANGED POSITION, SO I'M GUESSING THE SIGNALS CAN'T BE SEEN.

AHHH ... THE SITUATION'S ESCALATED: WE'VE AROUND 9 HOURS TO GET THE OTHERS BACK, BRIEF THEM AND FIGHT THE BIG OIL MONSTER BEFORE THE ENTIRE OCEAN AND ITS CONTENTS ARE ONE STICKY MESS THAT CAN'T BE CLEANED. SO YEAH ... NO STRESS!



HOW LONG DO WE HAVE LEFT?

BASED ON THE PREVIOUS CALCULATIONS, WE'VE AROUND 14 HOURS, ONCE SILVER MAZE AND WIRE MESH GET BACK.



ARE YOU SURE?

RIGHT, FLASH, WE'LL KEEP TRYING TO CONTACT THE OTHERS AT THE OIL WELL. LAMINATOR, YOU NEED TO GET DR. GREEN HERE NOW, AND START FORMULATING A BATTLE STRATEGY.

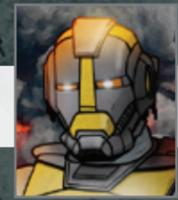


THE SOLAR SUPERHEROES ARE FACING THEIR BIGGEST BATTLE YET. TIRED AND DEJECTED, THEY MUST NOW STAND UP TO THE MIGHTY OIL MONSTER, WHO IS HELL BENT ON REVENGE. CAN FLASH AND INSPECTOR VI REACH WIRE MESH AND APOLLON IN TIME? AND HOW WILL THE HEROES DEFEAT OIL BEFORE EARTH'S BIGGEST OCEAN IS DESTROYED FOREVER?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

TO BE CONTINUED ...

# SOLAR SUPERHEROES

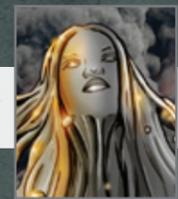
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ILLUSTRATION: STEFAN LOCHMANN



LAMINATOR

**BURKLE**  
PROCESS TECHNOLOGIES

MICHAEL ESSICH, ROBERT GAISER  
KEN SONG



SILVER MAZE

**Heraeus**

ANDREAS LIEBHEIT, MICHAEL TREUTEL  
VERENA KLOTZ



DIAMOND WIRE WIRE MESH

**MEYER BURGER**

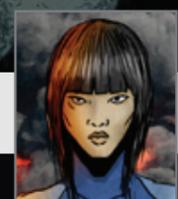
ROGER GLAUSER  
RAMON MÜLLER  
JOSE BAUTISTA



APOLLON

**3D MICROMAC**

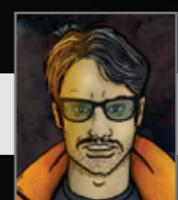
KRISTIN SCHUMANN, FREDERICK BAMBERG  
MANDY GEBHARDT



INSPECTOR VI

**VITRONIC**  
the machine vision people

RICHARD MORETH, FLORIAN STEINER  
BILL WANG, BIRGIT VOIGT



FLASH

**WAVELABS**

TORSTEN BRAMMER, FALK WILDGRUBE  
VOLKER GUTEWORT, JÖRN SUTHUES