

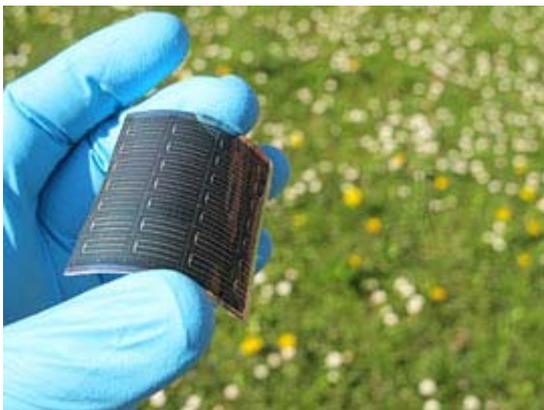
2011-05-25

Solar Weekly Highlights

Welcome to the 05-25-2011 edition of Solar Weekly Highlights, presenting the most important developments in the global solar industry, ranging from significant industry trends, policies, research, and new technologies to markets and pricing.

This week Solar Weekly Highlights focuses on CIGS technology, European PV installations, the conservative's threat to feed-in tariffs in Ontario, and cuts to Australian feed-in tariffs.

Flexible CIGS breakthrough: EMPA reaches 18.7% efficiency



EMPA's record-breaking flexible CIGS cell

This week the Swiss Federal Laboratories for Materials Testing and Research (EMPA) achieved a world record of 18.7% efficiency with a flexible CIGS cell, as verified by the Fraunhofer ISE. [More](#)

On CIGS efficiency records, Solar Server also published an interview with Solibro Managing Director Dr. Karl-Peter Merz, whose company has set a new record with its mass-produced CIGS cells. [More](#)

Europe shines in 2010 installed PV



More good news: With final numbers out, EurObserv'ER calculates that the EU-27 reached a cumulative total installed PV capacity of 29.3 GW, with Czech Republic's per-capita installed PV capacity now rivaling Germany's.

Europe accounted for over 80% of new global PV capacity, far ahead of markets including Japan (nearly 1 GW) and the United States (800 MW). [More](#)

Left: Germany remains still far ahead of other EU nations in PV capacity

Promotion

Intersolar North America - California's Largest Solar Event

Interested in making contact with established U.S. and international solar companies?

In 2011, Intersolar North America is the largest solar exhibition in California - the primary U.S. solar market. Over 22,000 visitors and 800 exhibitors are expected at the exhibition, co-located with SEMICON West.



[Early Bird registration for the Exhibition & Conference is online and available by June 3!](#)



The event's rapid growth over the past three years under-scores the exhibition's status as North America's global industry hub as a vital international industry meeting point for photovoltaics and solar thermal technology among manufacturers, suppliers, distributors, project developers and service providers.

Further Information: <http://www.intersolar.us/>

Ontario union denounces threat to feed-in tariff as plans for two more Ontario PV factories are announced



Ontario Leader Tim Hudak has couched his opposition to Ontario's feed-in tariff as protection for Ontario families, however his party ignores the job creation benefits of the policy.

This week Ontario's electrical workers union condemned the Progressive Conservative Party for threatening the province's feed-in tariffs, which it credits for creating thousands of jobs for its members. [More](#)

The conservatives' economic argument ignores the job creation benefits of the feed-in tariff, which continue unchecked with the construction of new PV factories.

Schmid stated during the week that it will supply Magnum Pv with a 60 MW PV module line. [More](#)



KUKA announced that it will install a 120 MW PV factory in the province. [More](#)

And the Siliken Corporation opened a 50 MW module factory in Windsor, Ontario. [More](#)

Picture left: Official opening of Siliken's PV module manufacturing facility in Windsor, Ontario

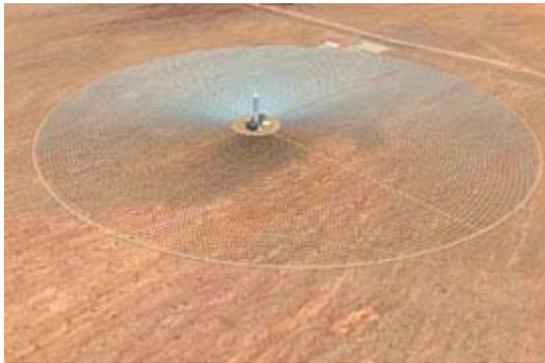
Australian divisions over cuts to feed-in tariffs

Ontario is not the only place with a political battle over feed-in tariffs. In Australia, the PV industry and its allies are pushing back against cuts to feed-in tariffs in multiple states.

The Australian Solar Energy Society held a rally to demand the re-opening of the New South Wales feed-in tariff. [More](#).

The Government of Western Australia announced that it will halve feed-in tariff rates. [More](#)

Another large loan guarantee on the way...



Finally, the U.S. DOE offered a USD 737 million conditional loan guarantee for the Crescent Dunes CSP project, which will incorporate molten salt storage.

Construction on the project is scheduled to begin in the summer of 2011 in Nye County in the U.S. state of Nevada. [More](#)

Left: Artist's rendering of SolarReserve's solar power tower technology. Courtesy: SolarReserve LLC

Thanks for your interest in the Solar Weekly Highlights. Stay posted for next week's industry highlights.

Visit Solar Server at Intersolar Europe 2011, Munich, June 8th -10th, booth # B3.111.

Solar Server at Intersolar North America: 2011, San Francisco, July 12th -14th, Moscone West, First Level, booth # 7400.

We are looking forward to meeting you!

For free subscription, registration and recommendation please visit: www.solarserver.com/registration

Best Regards; Rolf Hug, Editor in Chief

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