

Welcome to Solar Weekly Insight, 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's edition gives an account of a CPV efficiency record, changes in Spanish, German and Indian feed-in tariffs, and the new solar report on 2011 developments in the global solar industry.

Semprius reaches 33.9% active area CPV module efficiency

On January 31st, 2012 Semprius set a new world record for PV module efficiency, achieving a 33.9% active area module efficiency with a CPV module. The company notes that this efficiency well exceeds the previous record of 32.0%.



The Technical University of Madrid's Institute of Solar Energy (Madrid, Spain) tested the module indoors under standard test conditions at 850 watts/m² and 25 degrees Celsius cell temperature. The measurement was confirmed by outdoor tests performed by the Institute of Concentrating Photovoltaic Systems (Puertollano, Spain). [More](#)

Siemens Energy will work with Semprius to commercialize its CPV technology

Feed-in tariffs: Spain halts program, Gujarat sets FIT levels, Germany's BSW warns against FIT caps



This week Spain's new center-right government announced that it will suspend the nation's feed-in tariff program, including tariffs for both PV and CSP, while it reforms the nation's electricity system.

The suspension will not affect plants that are already receiving payments or those in a registry of systems for pre-allocation. "It is intended to temporarily curb a reward system that involves costs too high for the electrical system, causing a continuous increase of the tariff deficit," reads a statement from the MITyC. [More](#)

Spain will stop accepting applications to its feed-in tariff program, including applications for both PV and CSP plants



GERC states that developers have not offered convincing reasons to extend the January 28th, 2012 deadline for 2011 FIT rates.



The German Solar Industry Association (BSW-Solar) sees more than 100,000 jobs jeopardized by the proposal of Germany's Minister of Economics Rösler to cap PV subsidies

Also this week, the Indian state of Gujarat announced new feed-in tariff levels, while announcing that it will not extend the January 28th deadline for projects to receive 2011 FIT rates.

The order on January 27th, 2012 offers leveled tariffs for PV between INR 9.28/kWh (USD 0.188/kWh) and INR 12.44/kWh (USD 0.252/kWh) for PV plants commissioned through March 31st, 2013. The commission has also set a rate of INR 11.55 (USD 0.234/kWh) and INR 12.91 (USD 0.262/kWh) for concentrating solar power (CSP) plants with and without an accelerated depreciation benefit. [More](#)

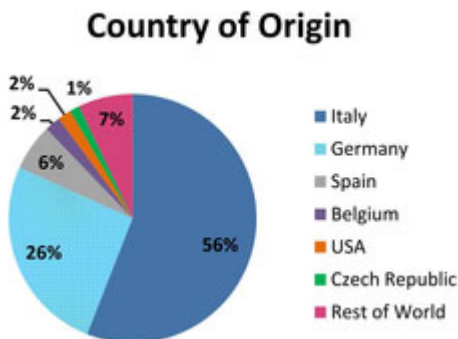
And in Germany, the Solar Industry Association (BSW) has warned that a proposal by Minister of Economics Philipp Rösler to limit PV subsidies will affect the transition of the energy system and put more than 100,000 jobs in danger.

"If the federal government implements Rösler's plans, the energy turnaround is doomed to fail. A powerful expansion of solar power's share to around ten percent of Germany's electricity mix by 2020 is essential for the successful transition of our energy system," BSW-Solar Chief Executive Carsten Koernig said on January 25th, 2011 in Berlin. [More](#)

Promotion

Conferenza dell'Industria Solare - Italia 2012: Policies, Markets & Finance, Marketing & Sales, Public Relations

On February 23rd and 24th, 2012, the Italian photovoltaic and solar thermal industry will meet Rome, Italy, to discuss recent developments in policies and markets.



The CIS-IT 2012 will again feature many exciting issues and attract a high number of key decision makers from the solar industry, finance, politics, science, media and other stakeholders interested in the latest developments of solar markets and policies.

In two parallel sessions the crucial topics of the industry will be addressed by more than 40 market experts.

From its very first staging in February 2009, CIS-IT has become one of the biggest international meetings for the Italian solar industry. With an average of over 400 participants and good media coverage, the conference is one of the most important appointments for the solar thermal and photovoltaic industry. The conference is organized by Solarpraxis AG (Berlin), one of the leading service companies in the solar and renewable energy fields, in collaboration with Ambiente Italia.

Further Information: <http://www.solarpraxis.de/en/conferences/cis-it-2012/general-information/>

Wacker Polysilicon sales slump in 4Q 2012



Also this week, Wacker Chemie released fourth quarter 2012 results, noting that declining polysilicon demand has reduced both its revenues and operating margin.

The company also reports that a number of customers terminated supply contracts. [More](#)

Picture left: WACKER brought new polysilicon production online at its Nünchritz polysilicon facility in October 2011

Solar Report: The upside of a down year, or developments in the global solar industry in 2011



This week Solar Server brings you an in-depth look at technology and policy developments during 2011, examining how some of the developments during the year point to a strong future for the solar industry, even during a difficult year for many manufacturers. [More](#)

Picture left: In May 2011 Amonix commissioned a CPV factory in Las Vegas with an annual output of 150 MW

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

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