

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.

Focus on Asia, PV efficiency

This week much of the top news in the global solar industry came out of Asia: 350 MW of new PV projects have been awarded under India's National Solar Mission, Malaysia launched feed-in tariffs. And the trade hassle between the governments of the United States and China continues.

In addition this week's Solar Highlights focus on new PV efficiency records and features an interview with Chris Brown of Asia Cleantech Gateway on Chinese energy policy and the development of the nation's solar market.

ITC to continue investigation on Chinese PV dumping

As the latest intensification of the trade hassle developing between the U.S. and China, on December 2nd, the U.S. International Trade Commission announced that it will continue its countervailing duty and anti-dumping investigations against the Chinese PV industry.



The Ministry of Commerce stated that the trade case will cause damage to renewable energy industry development and consumers

As a result of the vote, the U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC) will continue countervailing duty and anti-dumping investigations, with preliminary rulings expected around January 12th, 2012 or March 22nd, 2012, respectively. [More](#)

The investigation has been condemned by China's Ministry of Commerce, as well as Chinese trade organization CCCME. During the week CASE, which leads domestic opposition to the investigation, also reported that it has grown to 132 companies. [More](#)

350 MW of PV projects awarded in latest round of India's JNNSM



Solar panels in Punjab by Azure Power India

On December 2nd, India's Ministry of New and Renewable Energy awarded bids for 350 MW of new PV projects under batch 2 of the second phase of India's Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission (JNNSM). BRIDGE TO INDIA reports that tariff bids fell 27.5% from batch one, reaching new lows. [More](#)

Great Chances for business at Algeria's 6th electro, automation & energy 2012, focused on energy efficiency and renewable energies



May 7th – 10th, 2012 Palais des Expositions d'Alger

With its ambitious "Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Program" of March 2011, the Algerian ministry of energy and mines paves the way for Algeria to become a dynamic leader of green energy.

22,000 MW of power generating capacity shall be installed from renewable sources between 2011 and 2030.

To reach these targets, Algeria needs to invest up to 120 billion US Dollars. The investment will come from both the public and private sector, as well as from foreign partners. By 2020 about sixty solar photovoltaic and concentrating solar power plants, wind farms as hybrid power plants are projected.

[Algeria's 6th electro, automation & energy 2012](#) takes place on the background of steadily growing imports of power and electro-technology. The trade fair focuses on a B2B-audience of professionals from all over Algeria. With up to 70 % c-level attendees (CEOs and GMs; commercial, purchasing and technical directors; engineers), the event provides best possible opportunities for business.

For background information please visit www.electro-automation

Malaysia implements feed-in tariffs



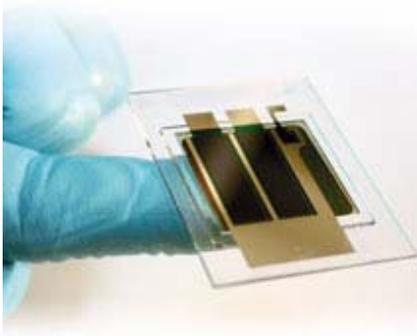
On December 1st, Malaysia began accepting applications for its newly created feed-in tariff system, which aims to develop more than 1 GW of PV by 2020. [More](#)

Picture left: Malaysia has attracted significant PV manufacturers, including several First Solar facilities

Hetero-junction, OPV, and thin-film PV Efficiency records

This week also saw a number of announcements of higher efficiencies that have been reached with several PV technologies. During the week, Roth & Rau reported that it has reached 21% efficiency with its hetero-junction solar cells.

"With our current results, we have taken a further step towards achieving grid parity," stated Roth & Rau VP for Research and Development Dr. Egbert Vetter. "It is now clear that very high cell efficiency rates are achievable with heterojunction technology. Now it is a question of transferring these results to mass production systems." [More](#)



Two Heliatek record OPV cells with 9.8% efficiency on an active area of 1.1 cm² each

Heliatek achieved a new world record for organic PV cells, with 9.8% cell efficiency certified by Fraunhofer ISE. This new record makes the third time in a row that Heliatek has set a world record for efficiency in the field of organic photovoltaic and demonstrates its continuous technology leadership in organic solar, the company emphasizes.

One year ago, Heliatek GmbH set a world record for efficiency of 8.3% for an active surface of 1.1 cm². Thanks to its most recent developments, Heliatek has now been able to make the remarkable 1.5% leap in cell efficiency, to 9.8%. [More](#)



Solteature PV modules under production

Finally, Solteature announced that it has begun producing CIGS thin-film PV modules with an efficiency of 13.4%. Solteature manufactures these 100 watt "Linion" modules at its production line in Berlin. The company also announced that it has achieved ISO 9001 certification, which it says confirms its high production and service standards. [More](#)

Interview: A look at China as a market, with Chris Brown of Asia Cleantech Gateway

Solar Server interviewed Chris Brown, an expert on Chinese energy policy, about his views on the development of the nation's solar market, and the unique challenges that the nation faces.



Chris Brown serves as general manager for North America for Asia Cleantech Gateway, which specializes in assisting low carbon energy technology companies in both the Asia Pacific region and the West to share commercial opportunities and engage successfully with each other.

Chris Brown on the PV trade hassle: "I think that treating the SolarWorld petition as a trade dispute purely between China and the U.S. is not only bad for the industry as a whole, but also not accurate in the sense that you have installers in the U.S. who are against the suit and who are going to suffer from it." [More](#)

I think SolarWorld and the six other filers are shooting the solar industry in the foot - we are shooting ourselves in the foot.

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

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