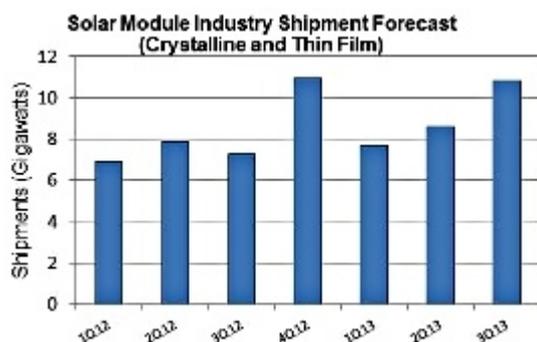


Welcome to Solar Weekly Insight, presenting the most important developments in the global solar industry, ranging from significant industry trends, policies, research, and new technologies to markets and pricing.

This week's edition focuses on solar power production in Italy and Germany as well as on political developments in New York, California and the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh.

It also features a report by IHS on increasing global PV module shipments in the fourth quarter of 2012, including the prediction of a strong 2013 with 35 GW of new global PV installations.

IHS: Global PV module shipments surge to 11 GW in 4Q 2012



This week IHS brought the global PV industry some good news, reporting that PV module shipments have increased to 11 GW in the fourth quarter of 2012.

However, IHS notes that it does not expect the supply-demand balance to return before the second half of 2013. [More](#)

Picture left: IHS predicts a seasonal decline in the first quarter of 2013

Italy out-paces Germany in portion of PV production



Late last week Solar Server published solar power production figures from both Germany and Italy, with Italy's Terna reporting that the nation had met 5.6% of electricity demand with PV in 2012, even more than Germany's 4.8%.

[Italian electricity figures](#)

[German electricity figures](#)

Picture left: Germany has set another world record for annual PV installations at 7.6 GW in 2012

BrightSource suspends Rio Mesa CSP project



Meanwhile in California, BrightSource Energy has suspended plans for its 500 MW Rio Mesa CSP project, noting a number of issues and an inability to complete the project before a PPA deadline.

[More](#)

Picture left: Artist's rendering of BrightSource's Rio Mesa CSP project

Promotion

Solar Thin Film Panel Production Equipment; Online Auction 6 February 2013



By order of Schüco TF and Malibu – Maynards, Hilco Industrial and Heritage Global Partners are proud to offer for sale, by online auction, technology based on Thin-Film Silicon Multi-Junction.

Included in the sale are Solar PECVD Systems, Kloepper NIP Roller Laminator, Scholz Autoclave, Rofin Laser sources, Vacuum Pumps and much more.

The equipment is sold ex 3 locations in Germany and can be previewed by appointment. Please contact Daniel Kroeger at DanielK@maynards.com or +49 174 3210115, or visit www.hilcoind.com

Andhra Pradesh opens 1 GW tender for PV, CSP projects



On January 8th the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh opened a request for submissions for 1 GW of PV and CSP projects between 1 and 20 MW.

Market analysts expect a more robust response than Tamil Nadu experienced with its bidding process. [More](#)

Picture left: Natural Group predicts that Andhra Pradesh's bidding process will fare better the one held in the neighboring state of Tamil Nadu

Policy moves in New York, California



The last week saw major policy announcements in both New York and California. New York has expanded state's NY-Sun Initiative, including an additional USD 150 million per year in funding over 10 years. [More](#)

While Los Angeles passed a feed-in tariff with a cap of 100 MW, limited to PV plants between 30 kW and 3 MW in size. [More](#)

Meanwhile, California regulators have announced that the California Solar Initiative has passed the 1 GW mark for PV installed through the program. [More](#)

New York Governor Andrew Cuomo (left) has emphasized the job and economic development benefits of the NY-Sun program

Hemlock Semiconductor to lay off 400 employees in Tennessee, Michigan



In less promising news, Hemlock Semiconductor has reported that it will temporarily lay off 400 employees and cut back production and delay ramp-up of US facilities, as a result of both a depressed polysilicon market and the threat of Chinese tariffs on the material. [More](#)

Picture left: The layoffs make uncertain the completion date of Hemlock's polysilicon plant in the US state of Tennessee

Schott sells c-Si PV patent families to Fraunhofer ISE



Late last week Schott Solar announced that it would transfer 111 patent families in the field of c-Si PV technology to the Fraunhofer Institute ISE. [More](#)

Picture left: PV plant at a hiker's inn in the Black Forest from 1987 using PV modules by AEG, which became Schott Solar

First Solar begins construction of Camp Verde PV plant



Finally, late last week First Solar announced that it had begun construction of its 139 MW Campo Verde PV project in Southern California's Imperial Valley.

First Solar notes that the project received approval for transmission easements from the Imperial Irrigation District (Imperial, California, U.S.) on December 18th, 2012. The company expects to complete the Campo Verde project during 2013. [More](#)

Picture left: The plant will be comprised of First Solar's thin-film cadmium telluride PV modules

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

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San Francisco, CA 94111

Toll-Free: + 1 877 SUN 7077
or +1 877 786 7077
Fax: +1 415 627 9169

For recommendation / registration please visit

www.solarserver.com/registration

Heindl Server GmbH
Kaiserstraße 137
D - 72764 Reutlingen

Tel.: +49 (0)7121-69681-30
Fax: +49 (0)7121-69681-38

Register of corporations-Nr:
HRB 382398 Handelsregister des Amtsgerichts
Stuttgart

CEO / Editor in Chief: Rolf Hug;
rolf.hug@solarserver.de

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