

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 big PV deals in the U.S. and the UK, the British and Latin America markets, and recent distinguished German solar industry developments.

Canadian Solar to acquire Recurrent Energy from Sharp for USD 265 Million

Canadian Solar Inc. on February 2nd, 2015 announced that it has entered into a definitive agreement with Sharp Corporation to acquire Recurrent Energy, LLC (San Francisco, California, U.S.), a North American solar photovoltaic (PV) project developer, for approximately USD 265 million.



Once completed, the acquisition of Recurrent will increase Canadian Solar's total solar project pipeline by approximately 4.0 GW to 8.5 GW, and its late-stage project pipeline by approximately 1.0 GW to 2.4 GW. [More](#)

Picture left: PV plant developed by Recurrent Energy. The transaction further expands Canadian Solar's position as a leading solar PV developer, with a globally diversified project pipeline in low risk geographies

Solarcentury sells UK PV projects to Magnetar Solar, will construct eight solar farms with a total capacity of 111 MWp

Solarcentury on February 2nd, 2015 announced that Magnetar Solar (UK) has purchased Solarcentury's 71 MWp pipeline of solar photovoltaic (PV) projects, and has selected Solarcentury to build an additional 40 MWp of projects for Magnetar Solar.



The companies have agreed to construct eight solar farms with a total capacity of 111 MWp. [More](#)

The portfolio developed by Solarcentury and sold to Magnetar Solar consists of four sites ranging from 7 MWp to 28 MWp. The companies have also signed agreements for the construction of four sites from Magnetar Solar's existing portfolio totaling 40 MWp.

UK almost doubled PV capacity in 2014, reached almost 5 GW at the end of 2014

Official Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) figures out on January 29th, 2015 show that solar electricity generation in the United Kingdom almost doubled over the course of last year, with almost 5 GW of capacity at the end of 2014 up from 2.8 GW at the end of 2013. [More](#)

The Latin America solar PV market grew 370% in 2014, installed 625 MW

The Latin American region, which is comprised of Mexico, Central America, South America and the Caribbean, installed 625 megawatts (MW) of solar photovoltaics (PV) in 2014, a 370 percent annual growth rate over 2013, according to the newly released Q4 2014 Latin America PV Playbook from GTM Research (Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.). Chile led the region in PV installations, followed by Mexico and Brazil. [More](#)

Total, SunPower celebrate completion of 70 MW Salvador Solar PV plant in Chile

Total and SunPower Corp. at the end of January 2015 completed the 70 megawatt PV Salvador solar photovoltaic (PV) project, one of the world's largest operating merchant PV plants.



The PV Salvador power plant is expected to produce approximately 200 gigawatt-hours of solar power per year, enough to supply electricity to approximately 70,000 households in Chile.

PV Salvador will initially operate on a merchant basis where the electricity produced is sold on the spot market. [More](#)

Good and bad solar industry news from Germany

While SolarWorld boosted shipments of solar PV modules and kits by 55 percent to 849 megawatts in fiscal year 2014, SMA Solar Technology AG dipped its sales forecast to between EUR 730 million to EUR 770 million and expects losses before interest and taxes (EBIT) of EUR 30 million to EUR 60 million in the current fiscal year.

SMA announced to cut approximately 1,600 full-time positions as part of cost reduction measures. [More](#)

And Solar-Fabrik AG filed for insolvency in self administration on February 2nd, 2015. [More](#)

SolarWorld AG exceeds PV shipment forecast in 2014 considerably



SolarWorld achieved strong growth above all in the United States, where the group nearly doubled shipments compared with the previous year. The United States were SolarWorld's biggest market, reaching a share of 41 percent of total shipments of modules and kits.

In France, the United Kingdom and Japan, SolarWorld was able to expand its business strongly, too. [More](#)

After the successful restructuring in 2014, SolarWorld announced to turn operating EBIT back into positive territory in fiscal year 2015

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