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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.

Our first newsletter after the summer break focuses on global PV module prices, Brazil's recent PV tender results, big PV deals in the U.S., and Taiwan's increased solar PV deployment target for 2030.

PV price index; Market comment

Average price of solar PV modules made in China converges with European products

In August 2015, for the first time since 10 years, the average price of solar PV modules produced in China was similar to modules manufactured in Europe. However, since the beginning of September, PV prices drift apart again, and reductions cannot be described as a trend.

Furthermore, only a few deliveries from Asia are finding their way onto the European market, Martin Schachinger, pvXchange.com, notes. German and European PV products become more expensive again after demand picked up again the end of August, and in early September. The recent decline in prices appears to have been stopped.

PRICE INDEX - AUGUST 2015

Module type, Origin	€/Wp	Trend from July 2015	Trend from January 2015
Crystalline modules			
Germany, Europe	0.58	- 1.7 % ↓	- 5.0 % ↓
Japan, Korea	0.65	0.0 % →	+ 6.6 % ↑
China	0.57	0.0 % →	+ 5.6 % ↑
Southeast-Asia, Taiwan	0.50	- 2.0 % ↓	+ 6.5 % ↑

In August 2015 prices for crystalline PV modules from China did not increase compared to July. The price for products from Japan and Korea also remained constant. Products from Southeast Asia, Taiwan were sold at EUR 0.50/Wp – down 2.0 percent compared to July. [PV price index](#)

Brazil concludes solar PV auction with 30 projects totaling 834 MW awarded

Last week, Brazil's Energy Research Company (EPE) announced, that the first Reserve Energy Auction 2015 hired a total of 30 solar photovoltaic (PV) projects, adding a generation capacity of 833.802 megawatts (MWp).



The average auction price was R\$ 301.79 (USD 83.3)/MWh, reflecting a discount of 13.5% over the initial price. According to the president of the Energy Research Company, Mauricio Tolmasquim, the price obtained in the auction (8 cents/kWh) was one of the lowest in the world, which reaffirms Brazil's vocation for solar energy.

[More](#)

Southern Power acquires controlling interest in the 300 MW Desert Stateline PV project in California

Also last week, Southern Company subsidiary Southern Power announced the acquisition of a controlling interest in the company's largest solar asset – the 300-megawatt (MW) Desert Stateline Facility in California – from First Solar Inc.



First Solar will retain the remaining interest in the project. This project represents Southern Power's and First Solar's fourth shared acquisition. Southern Power's seventh solar PV acquisition in California, the Desert Stateline Facility, will be located on 1,685 acres of federally managed public land in San Bernardino County and is expected to consist of approximately 3.2 million of First Solar's thin-film solar photovoltaic (PV) modules mounted on fixed-tilt tables. [More](#)

Canadian Solar announces partnership with Southern Power in 200 MW Tranquillity Solar Power project

Canadian Solar Inc. on August 31st, 2015 announced that its wholly owned subsidiary Recurrent Energy signed an agreement with Southern Power. Southern Power will acquire a controlling interest in the 200 MW Tranquillity Solar Power project in California. The PV project, developed by Recurrent Energy, is currently under construction.



The PV project will consist of more than 800,000 polycrystalline solar PV modules, mounted on tracking tables, and cover an area of 1,900 acres in Fresno County. It is expected to reach commercial operation in the fourth quarter of 2016. [More](#)

Promotion



The [31st European Photovoltaic Solar Energy Conference and Exhibition](#) (EU PVSEC 2015) taking place from 14–18 September 2015 at the Congress Center (CCH) Hamburg, Germany, will be chaired by Dr.-Ing. Stefan Rinck, Chief Executive Officer of SINGULUS TECHNOLOGIES AG.

There will be 1,300 presentations from 6,500 authors and co-authors from 86 countries. With these presentations and conference sessions, the EU PVSEC 2015 underlines its own worldwide importance while once again setting the benchmark for this year's global PV events. The EU PVSEC 2015 offers the opportunity to join the world's top-ranking scientists, engineers and industry leaders to present and discuss future PV technologies and applications.

Taiwan increases solar PV deployment target for 2030 from 6.2 GW to 8.7 GW

Taiwan's Bureau of Energy (BOE), part of the Ministry of Economic Affairs (MOEA) at the end of August 2015 announced the Nation's third upward adjustment of the targets for renewable energy.



Now, MOEA raises the target for solar photovoltaics (PV) for 2030 from 6,200 MW to 8,700 MW and the off-shore wind power target for 2030 from 3,000 MW to 4,000 MW. The target of total installed capacity is expected to increase to 17,250 MW for 2030.

[More](#)

Image left: PV modules on the roof of a stadium in Taiwan

Solarcentury to build Holland's largest solar farm on Ameland Island

Solarcentury (London, UK) is to build a 6 MWp solar photovoltaic (PV) farm, the largest to date in Holland, on Ameland Island in the north of the Netherlands.



Solar Park Ameland will provide enough solar power for 1,500 homes, reducing reliance on fossil energy from the mainland, the company announces. Solarcentury will be responsible for the design and construction of the utility-scale PV plant, as well as the maintenance and monitoring of the solar park. [More](#)

Image left: In 2014, Solarcentury connected a solar PV system on Blackfriars Bridge which spans the River Thames in the heart of London

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