

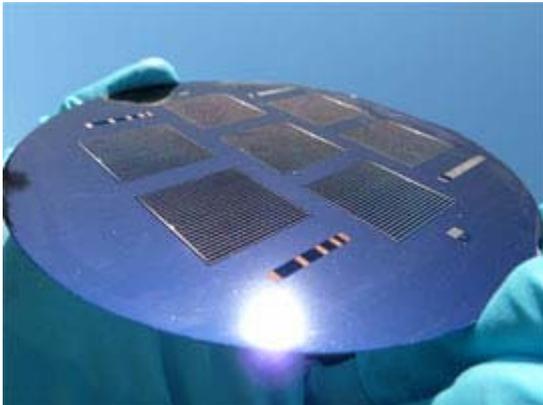
2011-09-08

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 Solar Weekly Insight focuses on PV research & development progress, Solyndra's bankruptcy, and ongoing government support for the U.S. PV industry.

In addition we recommend Solar Server's exclusive Interview with Suntech CCO Andrew Beebe on the emerging Chinese and U.S. PV markets.

Innovation and efficiency: PV R&D advances continue



High-efficiency solar cells (21.4 % efficiency at 2x2 cm²) with long-term-stable copper metallization from the ETALab at Fraunhofer ISE

PV companies and research organizations from across the globe unveiled new technological developments this week at the EU PVSEC trade show, which opened on September 5th, 2011 in Hamburg, Germany.

The Fraunhofer ISE announced that by developing advanced processes for metalization of solar cells it has achieved a 21.4% efficient cell that utilizes copper in the place of silver.

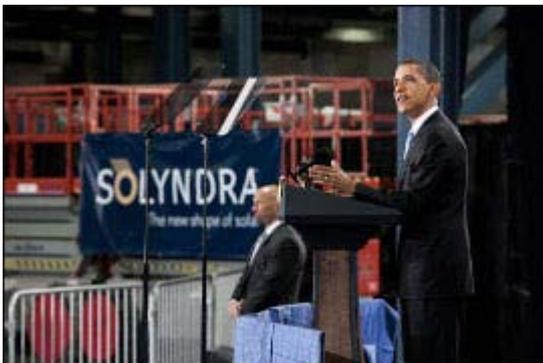
[More](#)

While SCHOTT Solar AG announced that the European Solar Test installation has confirmed its record 18.2% aperture area efficiency with polycrystalline silicon PV technology. [More](#)

And Neo Solar Power unveiled its PV modules using its 19% efficient "Black 19" PV cells. [More](#)

Finally, Imec and Solliance have joined forces to pursue thin film PV R&D. [More](#)

Solyndra files for bankruptcy



Despite being the first recipient in a recent round of U.S. DOE loan guarantees, Solyndra has been struggling for some time.

In late breaking news from last week, U.S. CIGS PV manufacturer Solyndra suspended production and filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy, the third U.S. PV manufacturer to do so this summer. [More](#)

However, market analysts are quick to point out that Solyndra, like other companies that have failed, was struggling financially for some time, and that this is not a reflection of the health of the overall PV industry. [More](#)

U.S. government continues to support its PV industry



Dow Solar will receive USD 12.8 million to advance its BIPV technologies

Despite the political fallout over the funding of Solyndra, the U.S. federal government continues to award significant funding to the PV industry, though in much smaller amounts than the Chinese government.

The U.S. Department of Energy announced that it will award USD 145 million to 69 projects to lower costs and increase the efficiencies of PV projects through the SunShot Initiative. [More](#)

And it is not only the DOE that is bankrolling the development of the U.S. solar industry. The Export-Import Bank is also supplying substantial funding for U.S. PV exports.



PV modules exported by First Solar will be built in its Perrysburg, Ohio manufacturing facility

This week the Ex-Im Bank announced that it will supply USD 456 million in loan guarantees for Canadian PV projects to purchase First Solar modules. [More](#)

Two weeks ago, the Ex-Im Bank supplied a USD 84.3 million loan to support First Solar's sale of modules for a 100 MW PV plant in Rajasthan, India, which was announced on September 5th, 2011.

Solar Server exclusive: Interview with Suntech CCO Andrew Beebe



Also this week, Solar Server is proud to publish an exclusive interview with Andrew Beebe, Chief Commercial Officer (CCO) of the world's largest PV manufacturer, Suntech.

Beebe addresses Suntech's view on the emerging Chinese and U.S. PV markets, as well as the company's strategies for remaining on top in a challenging period for PV manufacturers. [More](#)

Picture left: Suntech CCO Andrew Beebe

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

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