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Welcome to the 06-29-2011 edition of Solar Weekly Highlights, 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 Highlights focuses on exciting developments in CSP technology, PV equipment manufacturing mergers, and shifting global PV markets.

Second molten salt tower CSP plant to be built in Spain



Following the recent commissioning of the groundbreaking Gemasolar Plant (our [Solar Energy System of the Month](#) for June:), on June 27th, 2011, a joint venture between Termosolar Alcazar and SolarReserve announced that it has been selected by the Spanish Government to build a similar plant, which will also be able to supply power on demand using molten salt technology in a solar power tower design. [More](#)

Artist's rendering depicting the Termosolar Alcazar Power Project that employs SolarReserve's utility-scale molten salt power tower technology

Consolidation among European PV equipment manufacturers



This week saw the consolidation of two of the bigger names in the PV equipment manufacturing industry, as Meyer Burger acquired a majority stake in Roth & Rau. Meyer Burger Technology AG (Baar, Switzerland) acquired more than 75% of the shares of Roth & Rau AG (Hohenstein-Ernstthal, Germany) at the close of a voluntary public tender offer. [More](#) .

Left: Coating system for PV cells by Roth & Rau.

American, Asian PV markets on the rise?

This week, we received more indications that global PV markets are diversifying outside of Europe. Solarbuzz released a report predicting that the U.S. and Asian PV markets will increase to 9% and 16%, respectively, of the global PV market in 2011. [More](#)



Prologis will supply rooftop space on industrial buildings in up to 28 states

Much of the new capacity in the United States will be from the commercial and utility PV markets. This week a plan to build 733 MW of distributed solar photovoltaics (PV) received a conditional commitment for a USD 1.4 billion loan guarantee from the U.S. DOE. [More](#)

Also this week, Greentech Media launched a U.S. utility PV tracker, noting that more than 1 GW of projects are slated for completion in the nation by the end of 2011. [More](#)

And yet another PV manufacturer to build capacity in Asia



Finally, this week yet another PV manufacturer announced big plans for Asia, as Bosch announced its intention to build a EUR 520 million (USD 742 million) PV production facility in Malaysia.

“With this investment, Bosch is moving further along the path of internationalization it has already set for its photovoltaics business,” said Franz Fehrenbach, chairman of the Bosch board of management, in Stuttgart. [More](#)

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

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Best Regards; Rolf Hug, Editor in Chief

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