

## Solar Weekly Highlights

Welcome to the 06-01-2011 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 global PV installations forecasts for 2011, production technology improvements for CIGS, and world-wide PV Inverter shipments falling by 39% in 1Q 2011

### IMS predicts 21 GW of PV will be installed world-wide in 2011



PV research director Ash Sharma:  
European installations will decline in both 2011 and 2012

On May 31st, 2011, IMS Research increased its predictions for the 2011 global solar photovoltaic (PV) market, stating that it expects more than 21 gigawatts (GW) of new PV capacity to be installed during the year.

The company attributes this increased projection to new information on lower prices throughout supply chains, which it says will help stimulate demand in major markets. IMS also estimates that Europe's share of total installations will fall in coming years.

“Europe’s share of the PV market will fall considerably in the next 3-5 years; in fact, we predict European installations will decline in both 2011 and 2012 and will not return to the 2010 level for quite some time,” commented PV research director Ash Sharma.

[More](#)

### PV production technology improvements for CIGS on a roll



Overall view of the integrated web-coating system for CIGS solar cell production.

Researchers at the Center for Solar Energy and Hydrogen Research Baden-Württemberg (ZSW, Stuttgart, Germany) have achieved a breakthrough in the development of efficient web coating of thin-film solar modules made of copper indium gallium diselenide (CIGS) on plastic film.

ZSW reached over 10% efficiency with CIGS deposited on polymer film using a roll-to-roll manufacturing process, which promises far lower manufacturing costs. [More](#)

## Global PV Inverter shipments fall 39% in 1Q 2011



Tremendous increases in manufacturing capacities, sluggish demand in the German market during the first months, and the interruption of Italian demand compounded for an oversupply of PV inverters in the first quarter of 2011.

According to IMS Research, world-wide PV inverter shipments declined by 39% during the first quarter, and German suppliers losing shares with some of the biggest losses by industry leader SMA. [More](#)

## Promotion

### Intersolar North America - California's Largest Solar Event

Interested in making contact with established U.S. and international solar companies?

In 2011, Intersolar North America is the largest solar exhibition in California - the primary U.S. solar market. Over 22,000 visitors and 800 exhibitors are expected at the exhibition, co-located with SEMICON West.



[Early Bird registration for the Exhibition & Conference is online and available by June 3!](#)



The event's rapid growth over the past three years under- scores the exhibition's status as North America's global industry hub as a vital international industry meeting point for photovoltaics and solar thermal technology among manufacturers, suppliers, distributors, project developers and service providers.

Further Information: <http://www.intersolar.us/>

## 1Q 2011 orders slip at Applied Materials, Suntech



Baccini Esatto Technology is one of many Applied Materials technologies sold to solar photovoltaic manufacturers

During the last week the world's largest PV manufacturer and the largest producer of PV manufacturing equipment released financial results for the first quarter of 2011. These reports reveal similar stories of an industry that saw a slump in the first quarter of 2011 amid a trend of dynamic long-term growth.

Applied Materials' Energy and Environmental Services Division, which produces PV manufacturing equipment, saw a 34% increase in sales, but an 8% drop in orders quarter-to-quarter. [More](#)

Suntech's revenues likewise dropped by 7.2% sequentially. [More](#)

However, during the week the PV giant also announced a deal to supply Solarhybrid with 190 MW of PV modules. [More](#)

## European PV remains popular as manufacturing struggles



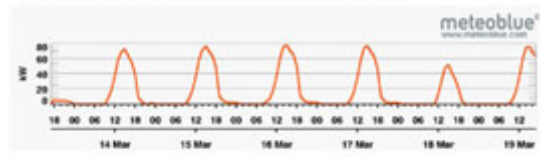
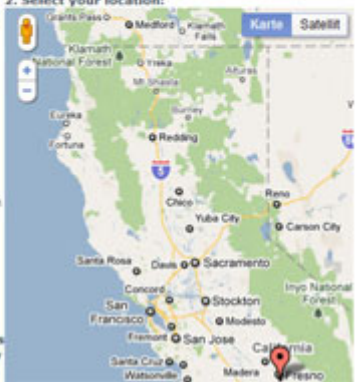
CdTe modules remain legal to sell in Europe, despite the restriction on cadmium in electronics.

During the last week Europe public opinion and policy both showed strong support of the PV industry. The EU announced that it will maintain exceptions for PV modules in its restriction on hazardous substances, which is very important for First Solar and other cadmium telluride PV manufacturers. [More](#)

EPIA and ESTIF estimated that more than half a million Europeans attended more than 8,000 events promoting solar energy in 18 nations throughout Europe, during the early May "Solar Days". [More](#)

However, despite this support, European PV manufacturing is struggling, both due to short-term interruptions in demand and competition from low-cost Asian manufacturing. During the week, REC announced, that it will reduce production of wafers and cells in Norway as a response to market conditions. [More](#)

**Solar Server presents PV yield forecast for worldwide locations at Intersolar Europe 2011, Munich, June 8<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup>, booth # B3.111**

<p>Sample forecast for a 100 kWp PV system in Fresno, CA</p>  <p>1. Insert the specifications of your PV system: Facing Angle: 180° S Slope angle: 30° Nominal power (Kilowatt peak): 100</p> <p>2. Select your location:</p>  <p>Accurate power forecasts for more solar electricity in the grid / Projections</p>	<p>An increasing amount of electricity from solar PV plants is incorporated into electricity grids. More and more, system operators are requested to determine and communicate promptly the exact amounts of their power delivery - and also account for the stability of electricity grids.</p> <p>Solar Server provides individual online solar photovoltaic power forecasts for worldwide locations - powered by meteoblue's pointSOLAR: Accurate site selection for specific roads, areas and buildings / high resolution meteorological irradiation data.</p> <p>At Intersolar Europe experts from Solar Server's partner meteoblue will provide detailed information on PV yield forecasts and the importance of grid stability, every day at 10 AM and 4 PM; Hall B3, Booth # 111.</p>
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Thanks for your interest in the Solar Weekly Highlights. Stay posted for next week's industry highlights.

**Visit Solar Server at Intersolar North America 2011; San Francisco; July 12<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup>; Moscone West; First Level; booth # 7400. We are looking forward to meeting you!**

For free subscription, registration and recommendation please visit: [www.solarserver.com/registration](http://www.solarserver.com/registration)

Best Regards; Rolf Hug, Editor in Chief

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