

2011-27-10

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 of Solar Weekly Insight focuses on trade hassle between U.S and Chinese PV producers, large PV plants in Austria, Ukraine and California.

Moreover we are highlighting carbon dioxide regulation in the U.S., and changes on U.K. Renewables Obligations.

A solar trade war between the U.S. and China?



"China's systematic campaign to dismantle the U.S. industry has cost thousands of jobs in Arizona, California, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York and Pennsylvania," said SolarWorld Americas President Gordon Brinser

This last week's news was dominated by a trade complaint filed by SolarWorld and six other PV manufacturers with U.S. operations, alleging that China is unfairly subsidizing its PV industry in violation of international trade law.

The Coalition for American Solar Manufacturing claims for an end to "illegal dumping" of Chinese-manufactured PV products, which it says is leading to "decimation" of U.S. solar manufacturing jobs. [More](#)

This complaint brought quick reactions from both major Chinese PV manufacturers and the Chinese government, which has warned the U.S. against protectionist policies.

- Suntech replied the company is well-prepared to substantiate strict adherence to fair international trade practices. [More](#)
- Yingli and the Chinese Ministry of Commerce accentuated that such petitions present only the views of one side, and only a partial view of a very complicated story. [More](#)
- Trina also rejected the allegations noting they will eventually prove to be unfounded. [More](#)

Big PV in California, Austria and Ukraine!



In other news, this week Vienna based Activ Solar announced the completion of the world's fourth-largest PV plant, in the unlikely location of Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula.

The Ohotnikovo Power Station has a total capacity of 80 megawatts (MW) spanning over 160 hectares and consisting of approximately 360,000 modules. [More](#)

Ohotnikovo PV plant, 80 megawatts, Crimean Peninsula; Ukraine



The Tauernwind project is the largest solar PV installation in Austria, located 1,900 m above sea level

German Albasolar GmbH (Berlin) in collaboration with REC Solar Spain provides modules for the largest solar project in Austria, which will also be the highest PV plant in Europe with an output of 2 megawatts, located in the Niedere Tauern massif in the state of Steiermark. [More](#)

While in California, Suntech announced that it has shipped the first modules for the 150 MW Mesquite Solar 1 plant. [More](#)

Promotion

Growing U.S. solar market offers opportunities for manufacturers and investors

Although the shift in energy policy in the U.S. is just changing slowly, the photovoltaic market is increasingly growing. In the first quarter of this year, 66% more photovoltaic systems were connected to the grid than in the same period last year. Market researchers assume that the U.S. solar market will increase tenfold by 2014, despite the difficult economic environment.

Those interested in insight into the latest developments of the market and its prospects, will come together on November 30th and December 1st for the "PV Power Plants – USA 2011" conference in Phoenix, Arizona.

Opportunity to visit and tour Suntech and Power-One manufacturing facilities

During the conference, representatives from the Greater Phoenix Economic Council and Arizona Commerce Authority will be on hand to discuss funding opportunities. Interested parties will also have the opportunity to visit and tour the Suntech and Power-One manufacturing facilities. The conference is primarily focused at developers and continues to attract manufacturers, suppliers, insurers, builders, banks, investors, energy service companies and law firms. More information is available at www.solarpraxis.de/en/conferences/

California passes cap-and-trade, U.K. proposed new solar incentive levels



ARB will begin regulating greenhouse gas emissions from electricity generation starting in 2013

This was also a big week for policy, both in the United States and the United Kingdom. In California, the state's Air Resources Board has finalized a cap-and-trade program to regulate carbon dioxide, which will go into effect beginning in 2013. [More](#)

While in the U.K., the Department of Energy and Climate Change released a review of credit levels under its Renewables Obligation, which would keep solar at 2 ROCs for the time being. The Solar Trade Association quickly denounced the proposal, noting the special characteristics and needs of the PV industry. [More](#)

Meyer Burger to slow down production

Finally, the consequences of three quarters of overproduction of PV products is starting to make its way to equipment manufacturers. Meyer Burger announced this week that it will reduce production of wafer saws in November 2011, but maintained its previous guidance for the full year 2012. [More](#)

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

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Publisher:

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