

2010-02-02

Welcome to the second edition of our Solar Weekly Highlights, presenting the “Must-Knows” of the Week in the Global Solar Industry, ranging from significant industry developments, policies, research, and new Technologies to markets and pricing.

Some weeks the news is all about volume, and the week of January 25<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> was full of big news for the global solar industry.

### Large installed PV capacities in Italy, 2.65% solar electricity in Spain



*PV plant in Apulia, Italy. Picture courtesy: SunEdison*

This week the organization that operates Italy's feed-in tariff released installation and application data for 2010. It appears that the nation has had another very strong year, with 1.85 GW of new PV installed, to bring Italy to at least 2.8GW of installed capacity.

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However, the cumulative applications to participate in the nation's feed-in tariff have reached 7GW, exceeding the expectations of many in the industry, and sparking speculations that the nation may take steps to control growth. [More](#)

Meanwhile, the corporation that operates Spain's electricity grid reported that despite the roller coaster ride of Spain's PV market, the nation now gets 2.65% of its electricity from solar. [More](#)

### Big PV manufacturing capacity expansions



*Aide Solar breaks ground for expansion*

The expectation that booming global solar markets will continue was expressed in news of major capacity expansions this week as well. As the largest of these, Aide Solar announced that the second phase of its PV factory in China will include 2GW of annual PV module production in one facility. [More](#)

In the U.S. state of Arizona Power-One, which has emerged as the world's second-largest inverter company, announced that it will build 1GW of new manufacturing capacity in Phoenix. [More](#)

- Schott Solar stated that it will expand wafer manufacturing in Germany, and entered a joint venture to build PV module capacity in China. [More](#)

- Indicators show that these capacity expansions will continue, and PV manufacturing equipment maker Centrotherm released information showing a large increase in orders in the fourth quarter of 2010. [More](#)
- However, all of this expansion must sooner or later see limitations. This week China passed new regulations to limit polysilicon production, a sign that the nation's numerous announced polysilicon plants may be creating conditions for oversupply. [More](#)

## Big deals, big plants

- Some major agreements were also announced during the week, led by an agreement between JinkoSolar and the Bank of China which could include up to USD\$7.6 billion in credit – [More](#)
- Suntech also signed a framework agreement with Siemens to supply modules for PV plants in Europe. [More](#)



*Sun Edison/Duke Energy PV plant in Davidson County, North Carolina*

A record-setting PV plant went online during the week, with Duke Energy and SunEdison commissioning a 17MW PV plant in North Carolina. This plant is the largest on the U.S. East Coast north of Florida. [More](#)

Also, we saw the completion of the largest rooftop PV facility in the European car industry by SEAT. [More](#)

Thanks for your interest in our Solar Weekly Highlights. Stay posted for more highlights from next week.

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Best Regards  
Rolf Hug, Editor in Chief

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<p><b>Publisher:</b>  <b>Heindl Server GmbH</b> Kaiserstraße 137</p>	<p><b>Solarserver North America Representation</b> One Embarcadero Center, Suite 1060 San Francisco, CA 94111</p>
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