

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 focuses on recent difficulties of German and U.S. PV companies, a 300 MW PV project in Chile, and the Australian Solar Dawn Project. In addition we are announcing a new solar interview with Sungevity Founder Danny Kennedy.

German, U.S. PV industry woes: Abound Solar folds, Schott Solar to quit c-Si production, Q-Cells insolvency proceedings begin

This has been a difficult week for both the German and U.S. PV industries, with news of bankruptcies and closure of whole divisions.



Among the assets that will be liquidated under the Chapter 7 process is Abound Solar's manufacturing facility in Colorado

This week CdTe thin-film maker Abound Solar filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy, which involves liquidation of its assets. [More](#)

Late last week, Schott Solar announced that it will close its Crystalline silicon manufacturing business in 2012, but will retain its thin-film PV business. [More](#)

However, as a bright spot, this week Q-Cells announced that despite the start of its insolvency proceedings for Q-Cells in a local German court, it will continue business operations, and that no layoffs are currently planned. [More](#)

Sky Solar to build 300 MW of PV in Chile



Despite the troubles that manufacturers are experiencing, the global PV industry continues to grow in new markets. This week, Sky Solar announced an agreement with the China Development Bank and a local Chilean construction company to build 300 MW of PV in Chile, beginning with at least 170 MW of projects over the next 18 months. [More](#)

Picture left: Chile's Atacama Desert has some of the strongest natural solar potential in the world

Queensland terminates funding for Solar Dawn Project



Late last week, the government of Queensland announced that it will withdraw USD 75 million in funding for the Solar Dawn project, a proposed 250 MW CSP plant using Areva's compact linear Fresnel technology. The Australian federal government criticized the move, and has given the project over to the newly created Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA). [More](#)

Picture left: The Solar Dawn project utilizes Areva's compact linear Fresnel technology

Santerno wins 155 MW inverter supply contract for PV project in Imperial Valley, California



This week Santerno announced that it has been awarded a contract to supply 155 MW of its inverter stations to a PV plant under construction in California's Imperial Valley. [More](#)

"This contract is a milestone for Santerno, as it signals our entrance into the USA Solar Farm Market," says Guido Tonin, Executive Vice President of Santerno Inc., the North America subsidiary of Santerno Group, located in San Francisco.

Picture left: Santerno PV inverter

Solar Server interview with Sungevity Founder Danny Kennedy



This week, Solar Server brings you an exclusive interview with Danny Kennedy of Sungevity on his company's unique business model, building enthusiasm for PV, and how solar as a service is taking over the world.

Solar Server: Can you talk a little about Sungevity's business model, and how solar leasing works?

Danny Kennedy: Sungevity innovates in two ways in the solar industry, one is the solar lease, that we can come back to, and the other is that we take care of most of the business processes in a very efficient manner either online, or over the phone. [More](#)

Picture left: Danny Kennedy

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