

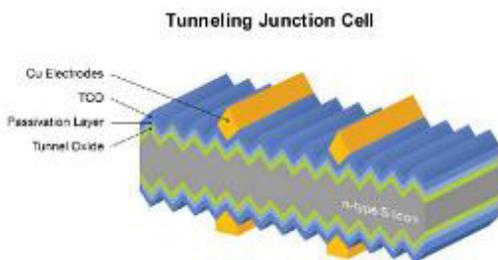
Welcome to Solar Weekly Insight, presenting the most important developments in the global solar industry, ranging from significant industry trends, policies, research, and new technologies to markets and pricing.

This week's edition focuses on economical, political and technical developments in the PV industry. Suntech and China Sunergy report losses despite increased shipments. Paula Mints, Director of Solar Research for market research company Navigant stated that selling less and losing less would be in the industry's best interest.

On the political level, U.S. President Obama presented a platform supporting solar at the Democratic Party's nominating convention. Furthermore, this week saw several improvements in PV cell and module efficiency and the commissioning of a 35 MW PV plant in Germany.

Silevo unveils 21% efficient PV cells, TSMC reaches 14.2% with CIGS, RTI develops CQD PV cells with >5% efficiency

This week saw several new efficiency announcements in various PV technologies.



Silevo announced that it is manufacturing modules from 21% efficient PV cells using its Triex technology, for a total module efficiency of 18 - 18.4%, at its factory in Hangzhou, China. The company estimates that it can produce these modules for USD 0.98 per watt. [More](#)

Taiwan Semiconductor reported that it has produced 14.2% efficient CIGS modules on a pilot line. [More](#)

Silveco's Triex solar photovoltaic (PV) technology

And RTI announced that it has developed colloidal quantum dot (CQD) PV cells that can achieve better than 5% efficiency. [More](#)

U.S. President Obama shows support for solar in platform



This week the U.S. Democratic Party held its nominating convention, presenting a platform which stands in stark contrast to the Republican Platform on climate and energy policy. However, in some areas the platform's rhetoric is grander than his party's actual ambitions. [More](#)

Picture left: U.S. President Barack Obama has called for a revival of the Section 1603 Treasury Grant Program

Navigant warns of trouble in the PV industry, IMS says microinverters and optimizers a bright spot



Also this week, Navigant warned that the difficulties which the PV industry is facing due to collapsed prices are likely to continue, with the danger of a potential backlash against PV if quality declines, in its latest annual report on global PV markets. [More](#)

IMS Research also released a report noting the boom in sales for microinverters and power optimizers and predicting further growth, as an expanding market in the PV space. [More](#)

Picture left: Paula Mints: "...selling less and losing less would be in the industry's best interests"

Suntech, China Sunergy increase shipments, post losses

In what has become a repeating story line among PV manufacturers, both Suntech and China Sunergy reported increasing shipments but declining revenues year-over-year and continued losses in second quarter 2012 results released this week.



Suntech Board Chairman Dr. Zhengrong Shi stepped down from the position of CEO on August 15 2012, after 11 years

In its preliminary financial results, Suntech reported an increase in shipments quarter-to-quarter, however the company's quarterly revenues of USD 471 million represent a 46% decline from the second quarter of 2012. [More](#)

China Sunergy also reported a 23% year-over-year fall in revenues to USD 110 million, despite a 68% increase in shipments to 150 MW, with average selling prices falling to USD 0.75 per watt during the quarter. [More](#)

Gehrlicher commissions 35 MW PV plant in Germany



Finally, late last week Gehrlicher Solar announced that it has connected a 35 MW solar photovoltaic (PV) plant to the grid on a former military airport in Perleberg, Germany. [More](#)

Picture left: 35 MW PV plant on former military airport Perleberg, Germany

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

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