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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 solar trade war, national PV markets.

## **EU imposes duties on imported Chinese PV cells, modules, silicon wafers**



*Yingli notes that many EU member states are also opposed to the duties (Image:Yingli)*

After much speculation and waiting, this week the European Commission imposed provisional anti-dumping duties on imports of Chinese PV, which started at 11.8% on June 6th and then increase to 37.2% - 67.9% on August 6th, 2013.

This gives the EU and China time to negotiate a settlement, which Germany, the UK, and many companies both in the EU and Chinese PV industries have called for. In the words of EU Trade Commissioner Karel de Gucht: "The ball is now in China's court". [More](#)

Responses from opposing sides have been predictable. Yingli and Trina, the two largest Chinese PV module manufacturers, have called for negotiations to end the trade case. [More](#)

## **Policy news: Ontario to replace feed-in tariff with bidding for projects over 500 kW**

In what may be fallout from other trade action, late last week Ontario's Ministry of Energy announced that it would develop a competitive solicitation process for PV plants over 500 kW. This follows a WTO ruling against the feed-in tariff's domestic content requirement. [More](#)

## **National market updates: Japanese PV market booms, French PV market falls, Germany steady, Italian FIT coming to an end**



*In addition to increasing imports, Japanese thin-film shipments grew sharply during the year*

This week saw the publication of market results from a number of nations. Japan, which uses a different calendar, reported a 62% growth in PV shipments in its fiscal year 2012, with booming imports and thin-film shipments, particularly in the most recent quarter. [More](#)

However, the French PV market fell 76% year-over-year to 88 MW, marking its lowest first quarter since 2009. The nation has now reached 4.11 GW of commissioned PV, with another 552 MW under development with interconnection agreements. [More](#)

Meanwhile Germany hit a middle ground between these two extremes. In a more up-to-date report, the nation installed 368 MW in April 2013 after five months of falling installations, to bring it to 1.14 GW in the first four months of 2013. [More](#)

However, another large European PV market may have already come to an end. NPD Solarbuzz notes that Italy's Conto Energia is approaching its EUR 6.7 billion cap, after which the nation's PV market will be driven by net metering, tax rebates and PPAs. [More](#)

### Q1 results: Yingli results improve on Japanese sales

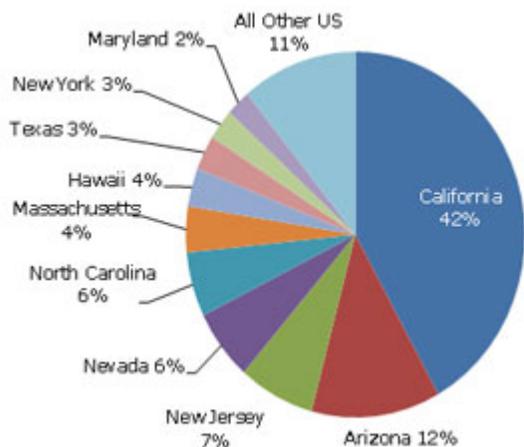


*Hanwha SolarOne HQ in Shanghai. Both revenues and shipments rose sharply in Q1, 2013*

The boom in the Japanese market and its increasing use of imports is showing benefits for PV manufacturers as well. Late last week Yingli reported first quarter 2013 results, reporting a 15% year-over-year decline in revenues to USD 431 million, but greatly improving its operating margin to -12%. [More](#)

Hanwha SolarOne reported an even stronger quarter, with rising revenues and shipments and a significantly better operating margin at -11% than the previous quarter. [More](#)

### US market continues to grow, big PV, CSP projects approved



*California will continue to be by far the nation's largest solar market in 2013*

Despite changing fortunes and trade actions in Europe, prospects remain positive for the United States market in 2013. This week NPD Solarbuzz predicted that demand for PV modules will grow roughly 20% to 4.3 GW in 2013.

"The strong commercial and utility-based solar PV being deployed in the US is stimulated by state specific mandates that require solar to meet target levels, or carve-outs, of total energy production," explained NPD Solarbuzz Analyst Chris Sunsong. [More](#)

Also this week, the US Interior Department announced approval of the 350 MW Midland PV project and the 100 MW Quartzsite CSP project in the US states of Nevada and Arizona. [More](#)

### Solar report: Solar Trade War

In addition to providing breaking news coverage, this week Solar Server brings you an in-depth look at the global solar trade war, including examining trade policies, trade flows and ideology beyond the solar industry to give proper context to this unfolding drama. [More](#)

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

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