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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 newsletter focuses on solar trade war, Q2 results, big CSP and PV projects, and market predictions by BNEF, Solarbuzz.

Solar Trade War update: EU Member States approve price undertaking



Late last week, EU Member States approved the "price undertaking" negotiated between the EU Trade Office and Chinese Officials, including a minimum price and negotiated market share for Chinese PV imports.

While the EU has been mum about the details of this deal, various parties are reporting that the minimum price will be set at EUR 0.56 (USD 0.74) per watt. [More](#)

Picture left: Deutsche Bank has called the deal an "insignificant cap" on Chinese exports to the EU

First Solar buys GE's CdTe technology, as revenues fall on delayed projects



This week First Solar reported the purchase of General Electric's world-leading cadmium telluride (CdTe) thin-film PV technology in exchange for 1.75 million First Solar shares.

The company also released second quarter 2013 results, which showed a fall in revenue on project delays, but technology progress and positive margins nonetheless. [More](#)

Picture left: First Solar says that GE's CdTe PV technology is compatible with its manufacturing platform. Image: GE

More Q2 results: Sharp, Kyocera sales boom on domestic market, GT returns to the black

Late last week and this week second quarter 2013 financial results continued to roll in, confirming that it is a good time to be a PV manufacturer... in Japan. Sharp's Q2 results show a year-over-year doubling of revenues to USD 854 million and an 8.1% operating margin in its Solar Cells division, largely on the strength of the Japanese market. [More](#)

While Kyocera showed a 44% year-over-year increase in revenues to USD 623 million in its Applied Ceramics division, and a 13% operating margin, which it also credits to strong demand in multiple sectors of the nation's PV market. [More](#)

Finally, GT Advanced Technologies has sprung back from two quarters of heavy losses on the strength of its polysilicon division, reporting USD 151 million in sales, mostly to Asia. The company also reported a 13% operating margin. [More](#)

Promotion

FREE registration to *Solar Energy UK* (formerly Solar Power UK)

With just 2 months until *Solar Energy UK* returns to the NEC, running from the 8 – 10 October at the NEC Birmingham, here are a few exciting things to look forward to at this year's event:



Join our newest exhibitors: Shenzhen Invt Electric Co Ltd, Freeth Cartwright, Avasco Industries BV, Tata Steel, BBA, Earthwish Products Ltd, Orkli, Elemko S.A. Cleantec Trade, VENTUS LTD and P.M. Service, SolarEdge along with 86 other companies exhibiting so far in Hall 3 at the NEC, Birmingham this October. Don't miss the largest solar dedicated B2B event in the UK!

Registration for the exhibition is free of charge. To make sure you're part of the UK's solar future, avoid queues by fast tracking your entry. [REGISTER TODAY.](#)

Don't forget to join us for the inaugural Solar Power Portal Awards Dinner taking place on the first evening of Solar Energy UK, 8 October at the Hilton NEC. Book your tickets here: <http://sppawards.solarenergyevents.com/awards-ceremony>

- **Discover** the latest products, ground-breaking innovation and solutions at our **Technology Theatre** – NEW to 2013, while securing your supply chain at *Solar Energy UK's* **free** exhibition.
- **Engage** in our all-new seminar series at **Solar Business Seminar Hall** for up-to-date policy changes, market trends, latest technologies and large-scale solar investment in 2013.
- **Develop** new skills and discover trade secrets at our specially-designed, open plan feature areas: **Large Scale PV** and **Practical PV** sponsored by DulasMHH. Take part in daily practical demonstrations and get the best advice on products from industry experts.
- **Network** with all your industry contacts under one roof and get the answers you need to kick-start your solar project.

Chilean solar projects moving forward

The Chilean government announced that it has granted land concessions to 17 solar projects totaling 604 MW. The Ministry of National Assets named Enel, SunEdison and Mainstream Renewable Power among the lucky developers. The capacity of renewable energy projects for which the agency has granted concessions has doubled in the last seven months. [More](#)

Big projects: CSP with storage in South Africa, the world's largest rooftop PV plant in China



Clenergy notes that the project is in its final construction phase

This week also saw two big announcements regarding landmark projects.

ACWA has announced that the consortium which it leads has begun construction on a 50 MW CSP plant in South Africa, which will include 9.3 hours of energy storage. [More](#)

Meanwhile, Clenergy reports that it has supplied mounting systems for the world's largest rooftop PV plant at 37 MW.

The mammoth plant is being built on the top of a pulp plant in the province of Hainan in Southern China. [More](#)

Market predictions: BNEF says global demand to rise to 37.0 GW in 2013, Solarbuzz predicts European market contraction



Solarbuzz analyst Murphy states that PV market comeback in Europe depends upon how emerging grid barriers are addressed

Last last week Bloomberg New Energy Finance published a report which finds that solar PV shipments and prices have increased in June 2013. The company also predicts a 21% rise in global demand in 2013 to 37.0 GW. [More](#)

However, NPD Solarbuzz had a gloomier prediction for the EU market, predicting a 33% contraction to 11.2 GW, noting the transition away from feed-in tariffs towards "competitively priced PV electricity".

The company states that European market recovery will largely hinge on grid access policies. [More](#)

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

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