

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 weeks' edition focuses on PV markets, funding, and projects world-wide. Furthermore we are pointing to the new Solar Report "2013 review: Solar goes east - Growing global PV markets expected in 2014"

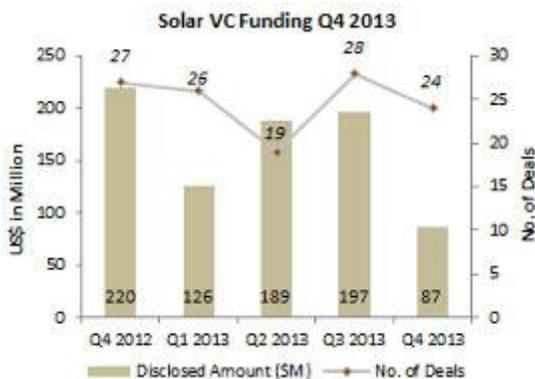
The solar trade war continues



On the last day of 2013, SolarWorld Americas announced that it filed anti-dumping and anti-subsidy petitions with U.S. authorities against PV projects from China and Taiwan. The company says that this will close a loophole in earlier trade rulings for Chinese PV modules made with cells produced in other nations. [More](#)

Picture left: SolarWorld says that this will close a loophole in the earlier trade ruling which allowed exempted Chinese PV modules made from third-nation cells. (Trina Solar)

Solar industry funding grows in 2013, despite fall in VC



This week Mercom Capital released its annual analysis of solar industry funding and mergers and acquisitions, finding that capital inputs into the global PV industry grew in the categories of corporate funding, solar loan funds and large-scale project funding. [More](#)

Picture left: VC funding in the solar industry remained depressed in 2013

Germany meets 4.9% of 2013 electricity demand with PV



This week Platts put out its analysis of German electricity production versus demand in 2013, finding that PV production increased 6% to 29.7 Twh. This means PV met an estimated 4.9% of German electricity demand during the year, up from 4.4% in 2012. [More](#)

Picture left: At 35.5 GW as of the end of November, Germany has installed more PV than any nation on earth

Big deals in Asia: Yingli, CNNC to build 500 MW of distributed PV in China, ReneSola to supply 420 MW of PV modules for Japanese projects



This week saw some very ambitious deals involving Chinese PV companies. Yingli has formed a JV with China National Nuclear Corporation with the aim of building 500 MW of distributed PV projects in China, including 200 MW on sites to be provided by CNNC. [More](#)

Picture left: Yingli expects distributed solar PV to embrace rapid growth in China

Additionally, ReneSola has announced that it will supply 420 MW of its Virtus II 300 watt PV modules to an unnamed developer for projects in Japan. [More](#)

Chinese solar thermal industry revenues steady at USD 17 billion in 2013

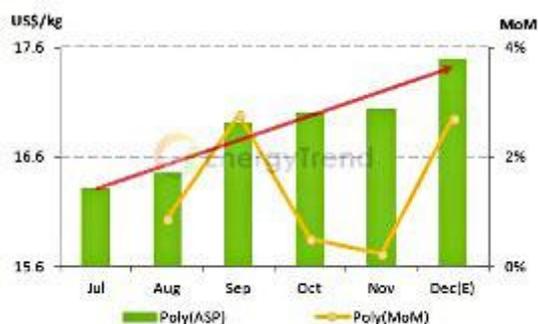


With so much talk of PV, solar thermal is often forgotten. However, un-noticed by most English-language media, China hosts a massive solar thermal industry. Collector area deployed in 2013 increased 3.3% to 66 million square meters, as revenues remained relatively stable at USD 17 billion.

The nation's urban solar thermal market is growing, as rural single-family home deployment contracts. [More](#)

Picture left: China's urban market for solar thermal is growing rapidly, driven in part by mandates for solar thermal in cities including Beijing

The polysilicon roller coaster



This week saw two analyses of the changing circumstances of the global polysilicon market. In the first, EnergyTrend finds that rising polysilicon prices to USD 18 per kg by the end of 2013 may cause increases in PV wafer and cell prices. [More](#)

Picture left: Polysilicon prices rose throughout the second half of 2013



However, Bernreuter Research predicts that while prices may rise more in the first half of 2013, they will fall again to USD 16 per kg by the end of 2014. The company forecasts a return to oversupply spurred by 66,000 metric tons of new capacity scheduled to come online during the year. [More](#)

Picture left: The report notes that roughly 1/3 of the polysilicon capacity set to come online in 2013 is based on the FBR process. Image: REC Silicon

CDB loan bonanza



This week the state-run China Development Bank gave late Christmas presents to at least three Chinese developers in the form of loans for PV projects.

Topping the list was China Wind Power, which has secured up to USD 942 million for more than 800 MW of PV projects which it plans to build in 2014 and 2015.

[More](#)

Picture left: China WindPower currently operates 150 MW of PV plants



PV maker Shunfeng will also borrow USD 160 million to support the construction of 110 MW of PV projects in Northwestern China. [More](#)

Picture left: All six projects are located in the Xinjiang Region of Northwestern China. (Wikimedia Commons)

Ascent Solar to build thin film PV factory in China



Finally, Ascent Solar has entered a JV with the city of Suqian, China to build a factory to produce its flexible CIGS modules. The facility will have a production capacity of 100 MW annually. [More](#)

Picture left: Ascent Solar plans to produce its flexible CIGS thin film PV modules and related products at the new factory

Solar Year in Review: Solar Goes East



This week Solar Server brings you our review of 2013, covering the biggest industry trends of the year. The global PV market's shift to Asia is explored, as are the details of PV industry recovery, the rise of energy storage, CSP successes and the growth of Latin American and other global markets. [More](#)

(Image: Scatec Solar)

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Heindl Server GmbH
Kaiserstraße 137
D - 72764 Reutlingen

Tel.: +49 (0)7121-69681-30
Fax: +49 (0)7121-69681-38

Register of corporations-Nr:
HRB 382398 Handelsregister des Amtsgerichts Stuttgart

CEO / Editor in Chief: Rolf Hug; rolf.hug@solarserver.de

Solarserver North America Representation

One Embarcadero Center, Suite 1060
San Francisco, CA 94111

Toll-Free: + 1 877 SUN 7077
or +1 877 786 7077
Fax: +1 415 627 9169

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