

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.

TOP STORY: On October 10th, 2012 the U.S. Department of Commerce has found enormous dumping margins and countervailable subsidies on PV cells exported from China and modules made from these Cells.

This week's highlights:

- German S.A.G Solarstrom AG announced a JV with Spanish developers to 440 MW of PV in Spain.
- Novatec Solar commissioned the world's largest linear Fresnel CSP plant
- IMS Research predicts that the Chinese PV market will exceed 4 GW in the second half of 2012, to bring full year installations to 5 GW.
- Mercom Capital has released its latest report on solar industry funding, finding that investments in solar have broadly fallen, with VC funding falling to its lowest level since 2008
- And Applied Materials has announced that it will reduce its global workforce by 6-9%.

U.S. DOC rules in favor of anti-dumping, countervailing duties on Chinese PV products



Preliminary tariffs have led to many Chinese PV module producers sourcing cells from Taiwan.
Image source: Arise Technologies

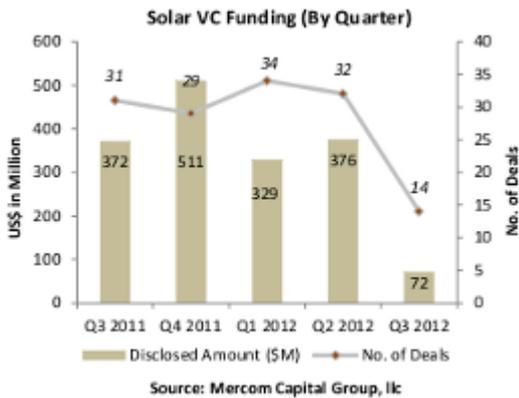
This week, the U.S. Department of Commerce has found dumping margins between 18% and 250% and countervailable subsidies of 15-16% on PV cells exported from China, and modules made from these cells.

The International Trade Commission will now rule on whether or not to establish tariffs at these levels on November 7th, 2012. [More](#)

Solar Server will publish an interview with SolarWorld's Head of Corporate Communications Ben Santarris, as part of a series of interviews on this issue on Friday, October 12th.

<http://www.solarserver.com/solar-magazine/solar-interviews.html>.

Solar investments fall across the board in 3Q 2012

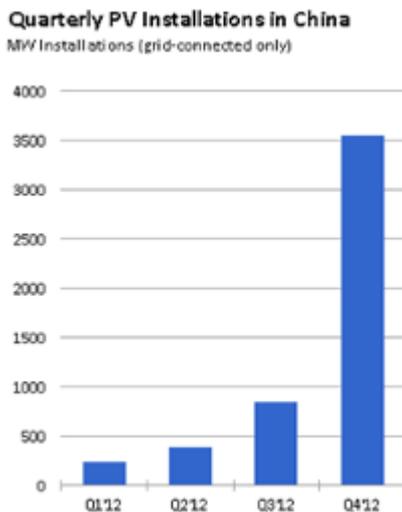


Mercom Capital has released its latest report on solar industry funding, finding that investments in solar have broadly fallen, with VC funding falling to its lowest level since 2008.

Mercom also reports four bankruptcies and insolvencies during the quarter, as well as 14 restructuring and downsizing announcements, to bring the total to 22 solar bankruptcies and 42 restructuring and downsizing announcements in 2012 to date. [More](#)

Picture left: VC funding collapsed to USD 72 million during the quarter

China to install more than 4 GW in 2H 2012



Also this week, IMS Research released a report which predicts that the Chinese PV market will exceed 4 GW in the second half of 2012, to bring full year installations to 5 GW. [More](#)

"Many projects are said to have completed the bidding process; however, they are not yet under construction. Integrators are prioritizing projects to be completed by year end, and there will be a huge surge in installations in the final quarter of the year," says IMS Research Senior PV Analyst Frank Xie.

Picture left: IMS Research expects Chinese installations to peak in the fourth quarter of 2012

SolarCity files for IPO



Late last week SolarCity began filing for an initial public offering, and also announced that it will add two new locations in the U.S. state of New York. [More](#)

Picture left: SolarCity says that its decision to expand in New York is strongly influenced by NY Governor Cuomo's approval of the NY-Sun program.

Applied Materials to reduce global workforce 6-9%



In less positive news, Applied Materials has announced that it will reduce its global workforce by 6-9%, eliminating 900 to 1,300 positions, beginning with a voluntary retirement program.

[More](#)

Picture left: Applied Materials will enact the voluntary retirement program in the United States, and then reduce its workforce globally.

SAG Solarstrom, Spanish developers form JV to build 440 MW of PV in Spain

This week, S.A.G Solarstrom announced that it has formed a JV with Valsolar 2006 SL and Cavalum SGPS SA to build four solar photovoltaic (PV) plants with a total output of 440 MW in the Spanish region of Extremadura. [More](#)

World's largest linear Fresnel CSP plant commissioned



Also in Spain, late last week Novatec Solar commissioned the 30 MW Puerto Errado 2 CSP plant, as the world's largest linear Fresnel CSP plant. PE2's solar boiler includes a mirror surface of 302,000 qm making it the world's largest operational solar thermal power station based on linear Fresnel collector technology. [More](#)

Picture left: PE2's solar boiler consists of 28 rows of linear Fresnel reflectors

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