

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 the Indian solar market, Japan's proposed feed-in tariff cut, big PV players' financial results, Global PV revenues 2012 and perspectives in 2013. In addition we are featuring the solar energy system of the month, the 250 MW Agua Caliente Project.

India state solicitation news: Punjab, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh



Both PV and CSP projects will be eligible to participate in the solicitation

This was a big week for solar solicitations in Indian states. Punjab opened a competitive solicitation against a benchmark tariff of USD 0.161 per kWh for 300 MW-AC of PV projects. [More](#)

While Karnataka opened a solicitation for 130 MW of PV and CSP, using a reverse bidding process. [More](#)

Andhra Pradesh has released the results of its latest solicitation, with bids for most locations offered and the lowest bid coming in at USD 0.118/kWh. ACME Tele Power placed the lowest bid at 20 of 161 sites. [More](#)

Welspun commissions 50 MW PV plant in Rajasthan



Also this week, Welspun commissioned a 50 MW PV plant in Rajasthan.

The company built the plant in three phases, commissioning the first 15 MW phase of the plant earlier in 2013.

The project was awarded through Phase 1, Batch 2 of the nation's National Solar Mission. [More](#)

Picture left: Rajasthan has the second-highest amount of operational PV of any state in India

Japan considers cutting PV feed-in tariff 10%



This week a committee recommended to Japan's METI that the feed-in tariff be cut 9.5%-10%, due to the falling installation costs. Recommended tariffs of JPY 36-38 would still provide internal rates of return of 3.2% - 6.0%.

While other periodicals reprinted Reuters' coverage, Solar Server brings you details from the source documents. [More](#)

Picture left: PV plants smaller than 10 kW would receive USD 0.396/kWh under the new recommendations

Promotion

Solar Thin Film Panel Production Equipment Online Auction 21 March 2013



By order of Schüco TF and Malibu – Maynards, Hilco Industrial and Heritage Global Partners are proud to offer for sale by Online Auction, technology based on Thin-Film Silicon Multi-Junction.

Included in the sale are Solar PECVD Systems, Kloepper NIP Roller Laminator, Scholz Autoclave, Rofin Laser sources, Vacuum Pumps and much more.

The equipment is sold ex 2 locations in Germany and can be previewed by appointment. Please contact Daniel Kroeger at DanielK@maynards.com or +49 174 3210115, or visit www.hilcoind.com.

Solar Woes: SolarWorld postpones annual statement, Canadian Solar, Solar City report losses



SolarWorld has struggled with negative operating margins and a heavy debt load in 2012

This week SolarWorld announced that it would postpone its annual statement, citing ongoing negotiations with creditors and the finalization of a restructuring plan. [More](#)

Meanwhile, Canadian Solar released difficult fourth quarter 2012 results, reporting an increased loss on bad debts and arbitration. The company plans to return to profitability in 2013, stressing its project development business. [More](#)

And SolarCity reported ongoing losses but substantial growth in its fourth quarter 2012 results, reporting a 129% year-over-year increase in volume of PV systems deployed. [More](#)

Suntech: Last-minute deals, factory closing and the founder who won't quit

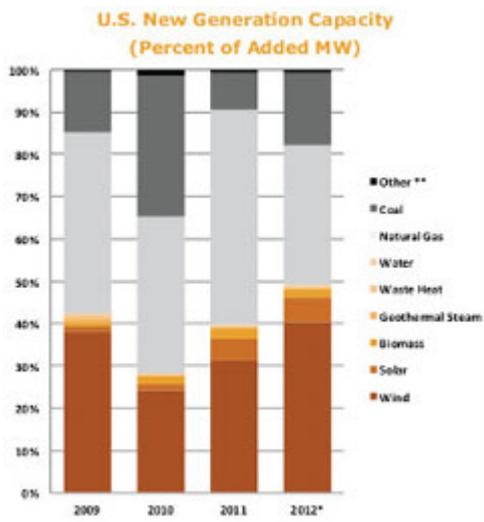


This week Suntech reached a last minute deal to secure forbearance from holders of its 3% convertible notes, preventing a crisis for the indebted manufacturer. [More](#)

However, as part of its restructuring Suntech will close its factory in Arizona, which it blames on US tariffs on PV cells and aluminum. [More](#)

Suntech remains in a strange position. Despite the board appointing a new chair, Suntech Founder Dr. Zhengrong Shi has refused to step down from the role.

Clean Edge: Global PV revenues fall 19% in 2012



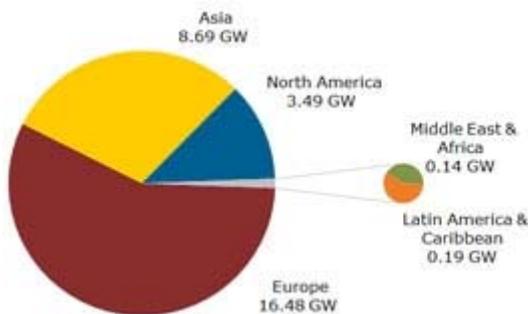
This week Clean Edge issued a report which puts the struggles of SolarWorld and other manufacturers in perspective.

The Clean Edge reports that despite a record 30.9 GW of PV installations, total industry revenues fell 19% from 2011-2012.

However, the report notes a number of positive industry trends including big investors moving into PV and the growth of solar as a service. [More](#)

Picture left: Renewable energy (brown bars) made up almost half of the generation capacity added in the US in 2012

Mercom, NPD Solarbuzz offer 2013 predictions



Despite these setbacks the global PV industry continues to advance. This week NPD Solarbuzz predicted that the global PV market will grow from 29 to 31 GW in 2013, with China as the leading market. [More](#)

Mercom Capital has a more optimistic view, and forecast 34.5 GW of new PV, with China and the United States as the largest markets. [More](#)

Picture left: Solarbuzz geographic breakdown of global PV demand in 2013

Solar Energy System of the Month: Agua Caliente



This week Solar Server brings you an in-depth look at the construction of the world's largest PV plant, the 250 MW-AC Agua Caliente Solar Project.

When complete, the plant will supply enough power for roughly 100,000 homes, with electricity sold to Pacific Gas & Electric Company in Northern California. [More](#)

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

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Publisher:

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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