

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.

The past seven days have seen a number of ground-breaking announcements, with enormous projects planned in China, the world's largest CPV plant commissioned in Colorado, and new figures on Indian PV and CSP, as analysts report that the center of global PV markets will shift to Asia as early as the second half of 2012.

CNPV, CGN-SEDC to build up to 2.5 GW of PV in China



CNPV will supply PV systems for the plants

CNPV has announced an agreement with a China Guangdong Nuclear Solar Energy and a local government in Shandong Province, China, to build up to 2.5 GW of PV plants in the region over the next 5 years.

The agreement begins with a commitment to build 100 MW of PV plants in three phases, for which CNPV will supply the PV systems. These plants will be built on land in Shandong Province with highly alkaline and saline soil which is unfit for other uses. [More](#)

World's largest CPV plant commissioned in Colorado



Late last week Cogentrix announced the commissioning of the 30 MW Alamosa CPV plant, the largest CPV plant in operation worldwide.

The plant is comprised of 500 dual-axis tracker assemblies located on 91 hectares in Colorado's San Luis Valley. Each tracker assembly is 20 meters wide and 15 meters high, and contains 7,560 Fresnel lenses that concentrate sunlight 500 times to produce 60 kW from multi-junction solar photovoltaic (PV) cells.

"Cogentrix has a long history of developing, constructing, and operating power plants employing a variety of technologies," stated Cogentrix President Tom Bonner. [More](#)

MNRE: India reaches 979 MW of grid-tied PV, CSP

Late last week, India's Ministry of New and Renewable Energy announced that the nation has installed 979 MW of grid-tied PV and CSP, 2/3 of which is in the state of Gujarat. [More](#)

German bill to cut FIT levels goes to Mediation Committee; Merkel sacks environment Minister Röttgen

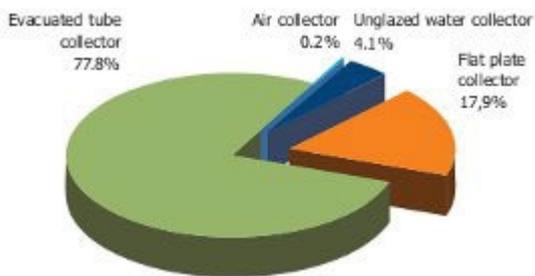
As the latest in the struggle against FIT cuts in Germany, resistance from German states has forced the federal council to activate the Mediation Committee in order to arrive at a compromise. [More](#)

On May 16th, 2012 German Chancellor Angela Merkel has announced that Environment Minister Norbert Röttgen had been dismissed, and Peter Altmaier is set to take over the role.

Sovello to restructure, files for insolvency

On May 14th, 2012 Sovello filed for insolvency at local court in Dessau, Germany. The company has also announced a restructuring plan, and will continue production while searching for investors. [More](#)

IEA SHC: Solar thermal markets grew 14% in 2010



The IEA-SHC has released its annual report on global solar thermal markets, noting a 14% growth of overall market volume in 2010 and an estimated 16% growth in 2011. The report notes the increasing dominance of the Chinese market and the increasing share of evacuated tube collectors as a result. [More](#)

Picture left: The report notes that evacuated tube collectors are increasing their share of the global solar thermal installations, largely as a result of the Chinese market

Solarbuzz: Asia, North America to dominate 2H 2012

In its latest analysis of global solar markets released this week, NPD Solarbuzz predicted that North America and Asia will come to represent the majority of PV sales in the second half of 2012, with China playing a particularly prominent role. [More](#)

EuPD: Italian FIT changes to decimate large-scale PV

On May 15th, EuPD Research released an analysis of potential impacts of proposed changes to Italy's FIT, warning that current proposals would result in a "complete downturn" in the market for large-scale PV in the nation. [More](#)

IHS iSuppli: Polysilicon prices fall 11% in April 2012, spot market on the rise

Finally, late last week IHS iSuppli released a report which finds that polysilicon prices for PV applications fell 11% in April 2012, as more purchasers look to the spot market instead of long-term contracts. [More](#)

Interview: Chris Beitel of Silevo

This week Solar Server brings you an exclusive interview with Silevo VP Christopher Beitel, who talks about his company's Triex technology, tunneling-junction cells, and the making of high-efficiency PV. [More](#)

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

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