

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 global PV installations in 2014 and 2015, infrastructure funds investing in PV, and triple-digit MW PV in the US, India and the UK

IHS revises forecast: Global PV installations will grow by 30% to reach 57 GW in 2015

IHS Technology (El Segundo, California, US) forecasts that global solar PV installations will grow by 30% in 2015 to reach 57.3 GW. At the same time it has revised its estimates for installations in 2014 to 44.2 GW (previously 45.1 GW).



PV plant in China: IHS has raised its forecast for China PV installations in 2015 to 17.3 GW

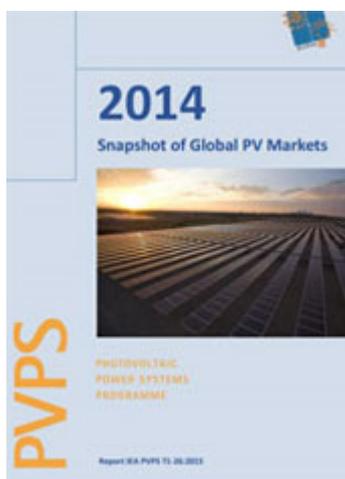
Amongst the key findings from the upcoming IHS PV Demand Market Tracker is that global PV Installations are forecast to grow at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 10.5% over the next five years to reach 73 GW in 2019.

IHS forecasts that Japan will retain its position as the world's second largest solar market in 2015 and grow by 4% to 10.4 GW.

The US is forecast to install more than 9 GW in 2015 before peaking in 2016. [More](#)

IEA PVPS: At least 177 GW of PV are now installed world-wide

The International Energy Agency's Photovoltaic Power System Programme IEA PVPS published its new Snapshot report on March 30th, 2015. At least 177 GW of PV capacity is now installed worldwide, while in 2014, 38.7 GW of PV capacity were installed in the IEA PVPS countries and the major other markets (2013: 37.6 GW).



The Asia Pacific region represented in 2014 around 59% of the global PV market and was the leading region for the second year in a row.

In 19 countries the annual PV contribution to electricity demand has passed the 1% mark, with Italy at the top with at least 7.9 % followed by Greece at 7.6% and Germany at 7%, finds the report. [More](#)

Download the full report here: <http://www.iea-pvps.org/index.php?id=trends0>

Major infrastructure funds race into utility-scale PV

The burgeoning market for utility-scale solar photovoltaics (PV) is attracting major global infrastructure funds to invest in portfolios of PV power stations, according to new figures published on April 1st, 2015 by Wiki-Solar.



MidAmerican's Topaz Solar PV plant (550 MW),

The list is led by US giants NRG Energy and Warren Buffett's MidAmerican Energy, who have invested together in the Agua Caliente plant (350 MW).

MidAmerican also owns the world's largest operating plant, First Solar's Topaz (550 MW), and will shortly add Solar Star (585 MW), which is almost complete.

Amongst NRG's solar assets is SunPower's California Valley project (250 MW). [More](#)

Promotion



More than one million PV modules installed at 250 MW Copper Mountain Solar 3 project in Nevada

Cupertino Electric, Inc. on April 6th, 2015 announced that it has installed the last of more than one million solar photovoltaic (PV) modules at Sempra U.S. Gas & Power and Consolidated Edison Development's 250 megawatt (MW, AC) Copper Mountain Solar 3 project in Boulder City, Nevada.



Working alongside international engineering and project management company Amec Foster Wheeler, Cupertino Electric has completed installation of more than one million solar PV modules on the 1,400-acre, fixed tilt, ground-mount project that broke ground in early 2013. [More](#)

Sterling and Wilson developed 140 MW of solar PV plants across India during FY 2014-15

Solar photovoltaic EPC company Sterling and Wilson Pvt. Ltd. (Mumbai, Maharashtra, India), close to commissioning more than 140 MW of PV plants in India for the financial year 2014 – 2015.



The PV plants have been developed by Sterling and Wilson for various private sector institutions across Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana.

According to Sterling and Wilson, the cumulative power output from the 140 MWs of PV projects would be able to light up 2,00,000 Indian homes. [More](#)

Conergy completes 12 PV projects totaling 105 MW in the UK

Conergy (Hamburg, Germany) on April 1st, 2015 announced that it has built and grid-connected twelve solar photovoltaic (PV) projects in the United Kingdom in the first quarter of 2015, bringing its UK total to 22 solar farms.



These 22 PV projects use nearly one million solar panels and have peak output of 230 MWp, enough to power more than 65,000 homes.

The solar farms range in size from 2.8 MW to 37.2 MW and were mostly built on low grade agricultural across southern England and Wales. [More](#)

Robert Goss, MD Conergy UK: "Conergy sees no limits to solar's potential in the UK"

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