

2015-05-19

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 PV module prices in April 2015, gigawatt PV deals in China, and PV market forecasts for the U.S. and Latin America.

## PV price index: Average module price up by 1.9 percent in April, except for German products

In April 2015 prices for crystalline PV modules from Asia increased an average 1.9% compared to March.

Price trends April 2015				
Module type, origin	€/Wp		Trend since 2015-03	Trend since 2015-01
Crystalline modules				
Germany	0.60	↔	0.0%	↔ 0.0%
Japan, Korea	0.64	↗	+ 1.6%	↗ + 4.9%
China	0.55	↗	+ 1.9%	↗ + 1.9%
Southeast Asia, Taiwan	0.48	↗	+ 2.1%	↗ + 4.3%

The price for products from Japan and Korea rose by 1.6%. Chinese modules became 1.9 percent more expensive, and products from Southeast Asia, Taiwan were sold at EUR 0.48/Wp – up 2.1% compared to March. [More](#)

Prices for German modules are unaltered since January 2015.

## JinkoSolar signs 1 GW PV module supply agreement with China Minsheng New Energy

JinkoSolar Holding Co., Ltd. (Shanghai, China) on May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015 announced that it has signed a strategy cooperation agreement for the supply of 1 GW of solar photovoltaic (PV) modules with China Minsheng New Energy (CMNE).



According to the terms of the agreement, CMNE will purchase a minimum of 1 GW of solar PV modules with priority given to JinkoSolar in case of same terms and conditions over the two years spanning 2015 and 2016 with the minimum amount allocated for 2015 being no less than 600 MW. [More](#)

*Image left: At the end of 2014, JinkoSolar's in-house PV module production capacity was 3.2 GW*

## United PV announces acquisition of PV projects totaling 930 MW from Hareon Solar

United Photovoltaics Group Limited (United PV, Hong Kong, China) on May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015 announced that the company and Hareon Solar Technology Company Limited (Shanghai, China) entered into an agreement, pursuant to which United PV acquires 17 solar photovoltaic (PV) projects from Hareon Solar with a total installed capacity of 930 MW.



The 17 solar PV projects are located in Xinjiang, Hebei, Yunnan, Shanxi, Jiangsu, etc.

“The acquisition of 930 MW solar power projects from Hareon Solar is the largest single solar power plants acquisition across the globe,” United PV emphasizes. [More](#)

## SMA posts significant sales growth, improves operating earnings in Q1

SMA Solar Technology AG (Niestetal, Germany) on May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015 announced a good start to fiscal year 2015 and achieved the forecast sales target in the first quarter. Compared to the same quarter of the previous year, the SMA Group’s sales from January to March 2015 climbed by 28% to EUR 226.3 million (Q1 2014: EUR 176.3 million).



*SMA’s main sales driver was the segment of large-scale solar PV power plants*

The main sales driver was the segment of large-scale solar photovoltaic (PV) power plants. The international share of sales rose significantly to 88.0% (Q1 2014: 71.1%).

The SMA Group’s most important foreign markets in the first three months of the year were North America, Japan, Great Britain and Australia. SMA sold PV inverters with a total output of 1.7 GW in the reporting period (Q1 2014: 1.0 GW). [More](#)

*Promotion*

## Complete T-Solar 60 MW PV thin-film PV manufacturing facility in Spain for sale

Escrapalia are proud to offer for sale the complete T-Solar 60 MW PV Thin Film manufacturing facility in Ourense, Spain by negotiated sale and public online auction. The sale comprises of state of the art solar panel manufacturing, test and associated handling equipment.



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Large process equipment is available immediately to be followed by an online auction on June, 24<sup>th</sup>.

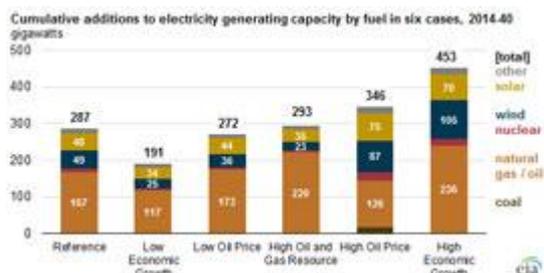
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## Up to 70 GW of solar generation capacity could be installed in the U.S. through 2040

According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA)'s latest Annual Energy Outlook 2015 up to 31 GW of solar PV capacity could be deployed in the United States through 2040.



EIA's forecast for solar energy capacity additions 2014–2040 is in a range from 34 GW (low economic growth) to 70 GW (high economic growth), including 31 GW of solar photovoltaic (PV) installations from rooftop and other distributed generation installations. [More](#)

## Honduras to overtake Mexico as Latin America's second-largest solar PV market in 2015; Chile to install 1 GW

In the latest edition of the "Latin America PV Playbook", GTM Research (Boston, MA, U.S.) forecasts Honduras to install 460 megawatts of solar photovoltaic (PV) generation capacity in 2015. This puts Honduras second in the rankings, behind perennial PV market leader Chile, which is expected to install 1 gigawatt in 2015.



Mexico, Latin America's No. 2 installer in 2014, will be bumped into third place, according to GTM Research.

With 349 megawatts of utility-scale PV projects under construction despite concerns about country risk, Honduras has emerged as Latin America's 2015 surprise story, GTM research notes. [More](#)

*Picture left: JinkoSolar has supplied approximately 3 MW of solar photovoltaic (PV) modules for Honduras' largest rooftop solar energy system*

## Trina Solar announces new manufacturing base in Thailand to add 500 MW PV module and 700 MW solar cell capacity

Trina Solar on May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015 announced that it has set up Trina Solar Science & Technology (Thailand) Ltd., a subsidiary company in Thailand to build a solar manufacturing facility with 500 MW of photovoltaic (PV) module and 700 MW of solar cell production capacity.



Trina Solar will invest USD 160 million in the facility, which is located in Rayong, the company notes. Production is projected to commence in late 2015 or in early 2016. [More](#)

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