

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 ongoing solar trade war; quarterly PV industry results, and large PV projects in the Americas.

Solar trade war: Trade actions in India, Australia and the EU



The past week has seen not one but three major developments in global solar trade cases. In the first, India appears to have found injury to its domestic PV industry in its anti-dumping investigation, which will likely result in the imposition of tariffs on PV imports from four nations. First Solar has condemned this decision, and suggested that it may take legal action. [More](#)

Picture left: First Solar's cadmium telluride thin film PV modules enjoy a strong market share in India



Mercom Capital has also issued a warning regarding the potential impacts of tariffs on the nation's "young and fragile" industry, and says that it will revise down its 2014 Indian PV market forecast of 1 GW if tariffs are imposed. [More](#)

Picture left: Mercom says that the election of Narendra Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has created a positive mood in the Indian PV industry. Image: BJP



Second, Australia has initiated an anti-dumping investigation of imported crystalline silicon Chinese PV modules. A local solar manufacturer has welcomed the decision. [More](#)

Picture left: Tindo Solar says that the investigation is important for it to be able to continue to offer manufacturing jobs in Australia. Image: Tindo Solar



Finally, the EU has imposed final anti-dumping and anti-subsidy tariffs on imports of solar glass from China. The combined tariffs range from 17–42%, and took effect on May 15th, 2014. Final anti-dumping duties were lower in some cases than provisional anti-dumping rates. [More](#)

Picture left: China's market share in the EU solar glass market increased from 7.3% in 2010 to 30.5% in 2012. Image: EU Prosun

Quarterly results: SMA, Trina Solar, Hanwha SolarOne, Daqo



SMA has reported another quarter of declining sales on lower shipments for large inverters, with shipments falling 18% year-over-year to around 1 GW and revenues falling 17% to USD 240 million. [More](#)

Picture left: SMA's division which makes inverters for utility-scale PV projects saw the biggest fall in sales during the quarter



Trina reported a strong first quarter of 2014 on a year-over-year basis, with substantial revenue growth boosted by the sale of a PV plant the company built in Northwestern China. The company is increasingly moving into the PV project business, and expects to build 400–500 MW of PV in 2014, mostly in China. [More](#)

Picture left: Trina Solar's results were boosted by the sale of its 50 MW PV project in China's Gansu Province



Meanwhile, Hanwha SolarOne reported its first positive operating margin in three years in the first quarter of 2014, with flat year-over-year revenue growth. Like Trina, the company's increased sales into the UK and Japan made up for slowness in the Chinese market. [More](#)

Picture left: Hanwha SolarOne plans to increase its PV cell and module capacities by the end of 2014



Finally, Daqo New Energy has also reported its first positive operating margin in three years, tripling its revenues on a year-over-year basis. The company has begun construction to double the capacity of its polysilicon plant in the Xinjiang Region to 12,150 metric tons annually. [More](#)

Picture left: Daqo has begun construction on the expansion of its polysilicon capacity to 12,150 metric tons annually

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U.S. PV: Progress on large projects in Texas and Georgia



The last week saw a number of developments with large PV projects in the Southern United States, a region with relatively under-developed PV markets. Recurrent Energy has secured a PPA for a 150 MW PV project in West Texas, which will be the largest single-site PV project in the state to date. [More](#)

Picture left: The PV plant will be located in West Texas, an arid part of the state



Also, late last week Georgia Power announced plans to build, own and operate three PV plants, each 30 MW-AC in capacity, on U.S. Army bases in the state of Georgia. These will be the largest PV plants to be built on military bases in the nation. [More](#)

Picture left: The U.S. Army has aggressively deployed PV at its facilities

Emerging markets: Enel starts work on 100 MW of solar PV in Chile, Philippines completes its largest PV plant at 13 MW



This week Enel Green Power announced that it has begun work on two solar photovoltaic (PV) projects totaling 100 MW in Chile, which were awarded under a bidding process and will connect to the nation's Central (SIC) Grid. [More](#)

Picture left: Both PV plants will be built in Northern Chile, in regions with very strong natural solar potential



And finally, Conergy has put online the largest solar PV plant in the Philippines at 13 MW, as the first phase of the 22 MW San Carlos Solar project. [More](#)

Picture left: SaCaSol is the largest solar photovoltaic plant in the Philippines

Promotion

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