

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 CSP in the MENA region, new big PV plants, quarterly results of solar companies and PV market updates for several countries.

### **CSP on the move in the MENA region**



*The CSP plant will be located in Israel's Negev Desert*

This week saw big developments in the CSP industry, which is beginning to grow beyond Spain and the Southwestern United States. BrightSource and Alstom have won a bid to build a 121 MW CSP plant in Israel. [More](#)

Also this week, German development bank KfW signed an agreement to loan USD 128 million to Morocco's MASEN to build a 160 MW CSP plant. The plant will be supported by a number of other development banks and European governments. [More](#)

### **Big PV plants to be built in Ecuador, West Africa**



This week also saw progress on big PV projects in the developing world. Isofoton has signed an agreement with Ecuador's CONELEC to build a 50 MW PV plant in the nation. [More](#)

While the European Commission announced that it will supply USD 32 million to a utility-scale PV project in the West African nation of Burkina Faso. [More](#)

## Consolidation: GT buys Twin Creeks, NSP joins forces with DeSolar



*Twin Creeks' Hyperion wafer production system allows for the production of ultra-thin, kerfless wafers*

Late last week GT Advanced Technologies announced the purchase of the capital assets and intellectual property of Twin Creeks Technologies, related to the company's Hyperion ion implanter and patent portfolio. [More](#)

Also, Neo Solar Power and Delta Electronics announced a strategic cooperation, which will enable them to create the largest PV cell producer in Taiwan, with an annual production capacity of 1.9 GW. [More](#)

## PV market updates: Italy, Japan, Flanders, UK



*While Japan's utility PV sector is growing rapidly, 71% of demand during the quarter came from the nation's residential market*

This week Solar Server uncovered figures for PV markets and production in several geographies. Italian grid operator Terna has released system information for October 2012, reporting that PV supplied more than 6% of the nation's electricity generation at 1.36 GWh. [More](#)

Japan reported an installation boom during the most recent quarter to 627 MW, with combined cell and module imports rising 300% year-over-year. [More](#)

However, Flanders reports a sharp decline in its PV market, with only 246 MW of new PV in 2012, a 2/3 fall from 2011 levels. [More](#)

Finally, as UK PV installation figures stayed below 100 MW for the period of August through October, the nation's feed-in tariff will not degress on January 1st, 2012. [More](#)

## Quarterly results: Applied Materials, Trina, JinkoSolar



*Applied Materials announced an initiative to reduce its global workforce by 900 to 1,300 positions in October 2012*

This week more financial results rolled in from the third quarter of 2012. Revenues have fallen further in Applied Materials' EES division, which reported a heavy loss largely due to goodwill impairment charges, however orders in the division are beginning to bounce back from a low in the second quarter. [More](#)

Also this week Trina Solar reported another quarter of difficulties, with sales falling to USD 298 million and its operating margin slipping to -26%. [More](#)

Finally, JinkoSolar reported incremental improvement in its 3Q 2012 results, with sales a 22% year-over-year decline, but shipments and margins improving. [More](#)

## PACE lives: An interview with Clean Fund Co-Founder and Managing Director Derek Brown



Derek Brown

Also this week, Prologis announced that it would host a PV installation and energy efficiency upgrade at its headquarters with financing through San Francisco, California's new commercial PACE program.

PACE is a novel, property tax-based financing device which in the past has shown great promise for residential PV, and is being resurrected for commercial properties. To further explore this issue, this week Solar Server brings you an interview with Derek Brown, co-founder and managing director of Clean Fund, a firm that specializes in commercial PACE and was the capital provider for the Prologis project. [More](#)

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

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