

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 starts with a CPV efficiency record, and focuses on US policy news, EU tariffs on Chinese PV imports, quarterly solar industry results, and 2013 market forecasts.

Soitec produces 43.6% efficient 4-junction PV cell



This week saw a major technology breakthrough as Soitec announced that it has produced the industry's first 4-junction PV cell, in collaboration with Fraunhofer ISE and CEA-Leti.

The company achieved the 43.6% efficiency at a concentration of 319 suns, and notes that the new cell has demonstrated more than 43% efficiency over a concentration range between 250 and 500 suns. [More](#)

Left: The 4-junction cell is designed for CPV applications

A negotiated solution to punitive EU tariffs on Chinese PV imports?



This Monday, the New York Times reported that trade officials from the US and the EU had entered into negotiations with Chinese trade officials in an effort to avoid the imposition of punitive tariffs in the EU, a move that was applauded by the US Solar Energy Industries Association. [More](#)

And later in the week, the voices resisting tariffs got a powerful new ally, the German Federation of Industry (BDI), which called for a negotiated solution. [More](#)

Left: SEIA notes that trade disputes in one segment affect the entire PV value chain

US policy news: Feed-in tariff advocate becomes LA mayor, RPS repeal efforts fail



Garcetti has called for the city's feed-in tariff to be expanded to 1.2 GW

This week the solar industry in the US state of North Carolina breathed a sigh of relief as two ALEC-backed bills to repeal the state's renewable energy mandate died in the legislature by missing the cross-over date. [More](#)

Another bill to weaken the renewable energy policies in Missouri also failed. [More](#)

Also this week, good news came from Los Angeles, where feed-in tariff advocate Eric Garcetti has been elected mayor. During his campaign, Garcetti promised to increase the size of the city's feed-in tariff for PV 12-fold to 1.2 GW. [More](#)

More good news from the US: New utility-scale PV more than doubles



The US Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has released results for April 2013, reporting that utility-scale PV has more than doubled in the nation to 845 MW in the first four months of 2013. [More](#)

Left: The 30 MW Cimarron PV plant in New Mexico is among the new plants commissioned in 2013

Will the global PV industry hit bottom in 2013?



IHS expects the PV capital equipment spending to begin its rebound in 2014

This week industry analysts released two reports which both predicted a difficult 2013 for the PV industry, but forecast grow over the next five years.

IHS released a report which forecasts that global solar industry capital spending will fall to USD 2.3 billion in 2013, but rebound beginning in 2014. [More](#)

Meanwhile, Lux Research predicts a 35 GW global PV market in 2013, but expects that the market will grow more than 10% annually to 62 GW by 2018, led by the United States, China, Japan and India. [More](#)

Quarterly results: JA Solar, ReneSola shipments boom, Applied Materials sales slump



ReneSola's PV module shipments have increased 259% year-over-year

JA Solar released its first quarter results this week, reporting a boom in shipments and a narrowing of losses, largely due to strong module sales in Japan. [More](#)

ReneSola also reported a strong quarter, with increased PV module sales and a 34% year-over-year increase in revenues, but a -11% operating margin. [More](#)

Finally, Applied Materials reported a 52% year-over-year fall in quarterly revenues in its Energy & Environmental Services Division, and has stated that it will limit operating expenses in the division to USD 25 million each quarter until the market recovers. [More](#)

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

For free subscription, registration and recommendation please visit: www.solarserver.com/registration

Follow Solar Server on twitter like over 3,600 solar stakeholders do: <http://twitter.com/solarserver>

Solar Server: The Gateway to Solar Power around the world: www.solarserver.com.

Solar Daily Insight: Breaking news at: <http://www.solarserver.com/solar-magazine/solar-news.html>

Publisher:

Heindl Server GmbH
Kaiserstraße 137
D - 72764 Reutlingen

Tel.: +49 (0)7121-69681-30
Fax: +49 (0)7121-69681-38

Register of corporations-Nr:
HRB 382398 Handelsregister des Amtsgerichts
Stuttgart

CEO / Editor in Chief: Rolf Hug;
rolf.hug@solarserver.de

Solarserver North America Representation
One Embarcadero Center, Suite 1060
San Francisco, CA 94111

Toll-Free: + 1 877 SUN 7077
or +1 877 786 7077
Fax: +1 415 627 9169

For recommendation / registration please visit
www.solarserver.com/registration

We respect your privacy. If you do not like to receive future e-mails from us, please opt-out by sending an e-mail with re "no newsletter" to: info@solarserver.de