

NCPV Hotline — Week of April 14-18, 2008

Weekly News Items

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The National Center for Photovoltaics (NCPV), the National Renewable Energy Laboratory's (NREL's) center for PV research maintains an international communications system called the NCPV Hotline. The Hotline increases knowledge and awareness of PV industry and research happenings. Hotline participants receive important news items via email related to PV activities around the world. The contents have been relatively uncensored, because we depend on the good judgment of the contributors to separate fact from rumor.

(Links may expire)

Current and archived NCPV Hotline issues <link to http://www.nrel.gov/pv/news_hotline.html>

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4-14-08 Trina Solar Decision on Polysilicon Production Facility

Trina Solar Limited announced its decision to discontinue the development of its previously announced 10,000 MT polysilicon production facility having a total estimated cost of \$1 billion. The company also announced that its related equipment supply contract with GT Solar Incorporated, which was subject to final approval by the Boards of both companies, will lapse as a result, with the concurrence of both parties. Stories at: <http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/trina-solar-discontinues-development-of-polysilicon-production-facility,349647.shtml> or <http://tinyurl.com/6ky7xu>
http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080414/trina_solar_plant.html?.v=1 or <http://tinyurl.com/4xy5uo>
<http://malaysia.news.yahoo.com/rtrs/20080414/tbs-trina-7318940.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/496tqm>
Trina Solar: <http://www.trinasolar.com/front/en/home.php>
GT Solar: <http://www.gtsolar.com/>

4-14-08 Hoku Polysilicon Plant Contract Modifications

Hoku Materials has issued change orders under its engineering, procurement and construction management services contract with Stone & Webster and its construction contract with JH Kelly, LLC, to increase the scope of work under each contract for the completion of a polysilicon plant. Details at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/news/NewsNAMA118.htm>
Hoku: <http://www.hokusolar.com/>

4-14-08 MIT-Fraunhofer Center for Sustainable Energy Systems

At the MIT Energy Conference, Foreign Minister of Germany, Frank-Walter Steinmeier, along with MIT President Susan Hockfield and Massachusetts Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs Ian Bowles, participated in the announcement ceremony for founding of the MIT-Fraunhofer Center for Sustainable Energy Systems. Other participants included the Director of the Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems, Professor Eicke Weber, MIT Energy Initiative Co-Director, Professor Ernie Moniz, and Chairman of the Board of the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative, Karl Weiss. An MOU was signed by Moniz and Weber, and Weiss' organization pledged \$5M to fund the start up, while the National Grid committed \$1M over 5 years. Weber also announced that Nolan Browne, Professor Tonio Buonassisi and Professor Roland Schindler will be the Center's founding directors.
More at: <http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/080412/clsa003.html?.v=34>
Cleantech@: <http://media.cleantech.com/2692/mit-fraunhofer-set-up-energy-research-center> or <http://tinyurl.com/5gumup>
Fraunhofer USA: <http://www.fraunhofer.org/>

4-14-08 Dye Solar Cell Efficiency

Researchers from the University of Washington in the U.S. have developed dye-sensitized solar cells with a nanoscale “popcorn-ball design” that can better manipulate light and convert solar energy to electricity with double the efficiency of conventional dye-sensitized solar cells.

More at: <http://www.merid.org/NDN/more.php?id=1362>

[http://www.merid.org/NDN/archive.php?doSearch=1&energy\[\]=Solar](http://www.merid.org/NDN/archive.php?doSearch=1&energy[]=Solar)

4-14-08 More on EuPD Research on Spanish PV Market

EuPD Research says that the PV market in Spain is still growing and that growth will continue even as the country’s feed-in tariff is scaled back. In EuPD’s new report, the group says that the market will continue to grow after September 2008. Story at RenewableEnergyAccess:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=52162>

EuPD Research: <http://www.eupd-research.com/en/studien/>

4-14-08 More on PV in Israel’s Arava Valley

Arava Power Company is working with the government, private investors and other interested stakeholders to make its planned scalable 500-MW solar power plant a reality. More on this story at

RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=52067>

Arava Power Company: <http://www.aravapower.com/>

4-14-08 AT&T Stadium PV System, California

Using a combination of 4 Solectria Renewables inverters and 500 Sharp Solar panels, AT&T Park opened the baseball season as the first MLB stadium featuring a large-scale PV system. Story at

RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?id=52155&src=rss> or <http://tinyurl.com/5ucqad>

Solectria Renewables: <http://www.solren.com/>

Sharp: <http://www.sharppusa.com/>

4-14-08 Motech Results

See the story “Motech net profits eroded by exchange losses in 1Q08” at DigiTimes:

<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PD00000000000000000000000005360&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/5o838g>

Motech: <http://www.corpasia.net/taiwan/6244/irwebsite/>

4-14-08 Suntech Honored

Suntech Power Holdings Co., Ltd. announced it was named Frost & Sullivan’s 2008 Solar Energy Development Company of the Year. Story at:

http://www.ecoreporter.de/index.php?action=,121_n24541

Frost & Sullivan: <http://www.frost.com/prod/servlet/frost-home.pag>

Suntech: <http://www.suntech-power.com/>

4-14-08 ProMOS and Mosel Fund Raising

According to this press ProMOS Technologies chairman ML Chen has been cited as saying that both ProMOS and Mosel Vitelic are preparing fund raisers for the second half of 2008. Press at DigiTimes:

<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PB00000000000000000000000003604&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/5alfwd>

4-14-08 PV Annual 2008

Greentech Media’s newest event, PV Annual 2008, is set for 28 May in Boston, Massachusetts. Details at: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/events/live/boston0508/pvannual.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/5vckza>

Agenda: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/events/live/boston0508/pvannual-agenda.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/5n8z37>

Speakers: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/events/live/boston0508/pvannual-speakers.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/5v75xg>

4-14-08 Fundamentals of Power Purchase Agreements

EUCI's "Fundamentals of Power Purchase Agreements" is set for 14 May 2008. Information at: https://www.euci.com/web_conferences/0508-ppa/agenda.php

4-14-08 DOE Loan Guarantees / Solicitations

The U.S. Department of Energy announced plans to issue loan guarantee solicitations in two stages this summer for up to \$38.5 billion for projects that employ advanced technologies that avoid, reduce or sequester emissions of air pollutants and greenhouse gases. Prior to the issuance of an upcoming \$10 billion solicitation for projects in energy efficiency, renewable energy and electric transmission areas, the Department intends to issue a Request for Information to solicit input from stakeholders concerning areas of particular technology focus and interest.

DOE press at: <http://www.energy.gov/news/6152.htm>

Loan Guarantee Program: <http://www.lgprogram.energy.gov/>

Loan Guarantee Program Implementation Plan (pdf):

http://www.energy.gov/media/Loan_Guarantee_Program-Implementation_Plan_April_2008.pdf or

<http://tinyurl.com/5n6mbt>

4-14-08 More on Solar Impulse

See the story "Solar Impulse aircraft demonstrates clean mobility" at CORDIS:

http://cordis.europa.eu/fetch?CALLER=EN_NEWS&ACTION=D&RCN=29323 or <http://tinyurl.com/6allfn>

Solar Impulse: <http://www.solarimpulse.com/en/index.php>

In related solar news...

4-14-08 Solar Millennium Round-the-Clock Solar Thermal Hybrid

Solar Millennium AG has entered into an agreement with Blue Tower GmbH to use Blue Tower's conversion technology at its solar thermal plants. The goal is for Solar Millennium's solar thermal power plants to work in hybrid operation around the clock. Solar Millennium has bought a 76% stake on Blue Tower. Story at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=52160>

Solar Millennium: http://www.solarmillennium.com/start_en.php

Blue Tower:

<http://213.146.113.132/verwertung/page/main.php?Lang=English&Menu=2&SubMenu=0&SubMenu2=0>

or <http://tinyurl.com/5ltjk2>

4-14-08 Solar Thermal Electric Perspective

See the story "The technology that will save humanity" featuring solar thermal electric by Joseph Romm at: http://www.salon.com/news/feature/2008/04/14/solar_electric_thermal/ or <http://tinyurl.com/3tnhh7>

4-15-08 Sencera Financing

Sencera International Corporation announced that it has secured a \$3.6 million equity investment. Funds will be used to accelerate increases in cell efficiency and to complete process integration of the Viper™ manufacturing platform. More at: <http://www.tradingmarkets.com/site/news/Stock%20News/1367215/>
Sencera: <http://www.sencera.com/>

4-15-08 Ascent Solar Technologies – Icopal SAS Cooperation Agreement [Brian Blackman]

Ascent Solar Technologies, Inc. announced a definitive cooperation agreement with Icopal SAS of France. The agreement focuses on the development of new building-integrated roofing products to be distributed by Icopal into the European market. Press from Ascent Solar Technologies:

<http://www.ascentsolar.com/view.php?tg=press&id=62>

Icopal: <http://www.icopal.com/>

4-15-08 ReneSola Contracts

ReneSola Ltd. has signed 6-year solar wafer supply contracts with Ningbo Solar Electric Power Ltd. and Eoplyly New Energy Technology Co. Ltd. Stories at:

<http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/newstex/AFX-0013-24509733.htm> or
<http://tinyurl.com/4woam4>

<http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/080415/cntu023.html?.v=34>

ReneSola: <http://www.renesola.com/>

Ningbo: http://www.nbsolar.com/web/english01_3.aspx

Eoplyly: <http://www.eoplyly.com/english/Main.asp>

4-15-08 LDK Solar Contract with Fluor

Fluor Corp. said it received a contract from LDK Solar Co. to provide engineering, procurement and construction management services for a new polysilicon plant in China. Stories at:

<http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9028FAG0.htm>

<http://www.pv->

tech.org/materials/article/fluor_given_epcm_services_contract_on_ldk_solars_1_billion_polysilicon_plan

or <http://tinyurl.com/4rgds8>

Fluor: <http://www.fluor.com/>

LDK Solar: <http://www.ldksolar.com/>

4-15-08 Photovoltaic Solar Cells Dutch Auction

Photovoltaic Solar Cells announced a Dutch auction for 700,000 shares of its investment securities.

Story at: <http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/04-15-2008/0004792734&EDATE> or <http://tinyurl.com/66fw4y>

Photovoltaic Solar Cells Inc.: <http://www.photovoltaicsolarcells.com/>

4-15-08 SOLON Power Plants in Spain

SOLON AG has sold several large-scale power plants to Spain to expand on the Company's position in the Spanish market. Press from SOLON AG: <http://www.solonag.com/> (see News)

Additional press (Meinl International): <http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/newstex/AFX-0013-24511346.htm> or <http://tinyurl.com/5dkklh>

4-15-08 Day4Energy Module Performance

Day4Energy Inc. announced that international third party testing has confirmed Day4Energy's 48MC solar panels consistently offer industry-leading efficiency and field performance under a variety of weather conditions. Monitoring at Germany's Albstadt-Sigmaringen University occurs in real time and tracks power output, density, and module efficiency throughout the course of the day for monocrystalline, multicrystalline, and thin-film solar panels. More at:

http://biz.yahoo.com/cnw/080415/day4_energy_ranks.html?.v=1

Day4Energy: <http://www.day4energy.com/>

Albstadt-Sigmaringen: <http://www.wiw.fh-albsig.de/solar/>

4-15-08 Conergy Solar Cell Fab

Conergy has said that its initial ramp of its new €250 million integrated solar cell fab in Frankfurt (Oder), Germany, now has approximately 90% of the production tools installed and is qualified for production.

Story at PVTech: <http://www.pv->

tech.org/solar_cell/article/conergy_expects_frankfurt_oder_fab_to_be_at_full_capacity_by_2h09 or

<http://tinyurl.com/5kagve>

4-15-08 Electron Solar Energy Results

Electron Solar Energy announced results for the quarter ended 31 December 2007.

Press at: <http://www.pinksheets.com/pink/quote/quote.jsp?symbol=esrg&tabValue=1> or

<http://tinyurl.com/3nywod>

Electron Solar Energy: <http://www.electronsolarenergy.com/>

4-15-08 Colorado Solar Residential Program Partners

Colorado Governor Bill Ritter announced that 22 Solar Residential Program partners have been selected to promote the installation of residential solar electric and solar domestic hot water systems statewide. The Governor's Energy Office has committed \$550,000 of Clean Energy Funds and created a total program budget of \$1 million to advance solar investment in the state. Story at Solarbuzz:

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAGO358.htm>

Governor's Energy Office: <http://www.colorado.gov/energy/>

Governor's Office press:

<http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite?c=Page&cid=1208165487657&pagename=GovRitter%2FGOVLayout> or <http://tinyurl.com/62f8cl>

4-15-08 New York Sustainability Initiatives

New York Governor David A. Paterson joined the New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority Executive Director and CEO Elliot G. Sander and Chairman H. Dale Hemmerdinger to announce a series of sustainability initiatives that the Authority will pursue to further reduce its impact on the environment, including its carbon footprint. See more on the solar recommendations at Solarbuzz:

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAPR1055.htm>

Story at the New York Times: <http://www.nytimes.com/2008/04/15/nyregion/15energy.html?ref=nyregion> or <http://tinyurl.com/5ojyzt>

Metropolitan Transportation Authority: <http://www.mta.info/>

4-15-08 German FIT

See the story "The German FIT for Renewable Energy – A Bargain!" by Marcus Maedl at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/reinsider/story?id=52156> or <http://tinyurl.com/6p4o8t>

4-15-08 Italy's PV Incentive

Italy's installed capacity of PV power from a government incentive program has topped 100 MW. Story at: <http://tinyurl.com/62b2sf>

4-15-08 More on 2008 Eni Award

Senior Research Fellow Arthur J. Nozik of the U.S. DOE's National Renewable Energy Laboratory won the 2008 Eni Award in the science and technology category. It honors his revolutionary work leading a large NREL team that is exploring future generation concepts for solar conversion. See the NREL Press at: <http://www.nrel.gov/news/press/2008/584.html>

Eni Award 2008: http://www.eni.it/en_IT/media/press-releases/2008/02/2008-02-18-eni-award.shtml or <http://tinyurl.com/5hotf6>

4-15-08 PV Giants

See the 2nd in a two-part series looking at the world's most influential PV players, "Land of giants: PV majors making waves" by David Appleyard at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/reworld/story?id=52027> or <http://tinyurl.com/6ojgfg>

4-15-08 Solar Park in Bulgaria

Bulgaria-based Solar Energy Group and its Spanish partner Helium Energy have laid out plans to build a BGL30 million solar park in the Bulgarian town of Pazardzhik. The companies are also planning to build a factory to manufacture PV panels close to the solar park. Story at: http://www.energy-business-review.com/article_news.asp?guid=2FF25FA7-8342-4B7B-9C96-E60C5EEA2DDB or

<http://tinyurl.com/6opjmw>

4-15-08 PHOTON International April 2008 Contents

For the table of contents for the April 2008 issue of PHOTON International, see the Website at:

<http://www.photon-magazine.com/photon/index.htm>. See also several live links for some April 2008 articles at PHOTON International: <http://www.photon-magazine.com/>

4-15-08 More on ASU's Photovoltaic Testing Laboratory Solar Grant

PTL recently was awarded an \$800,000 grant through the DOE's Solar America Initiative to test new solar energy modules. Story at: <http://www.photoniconline.com/content/news/article.asp?docid=0fe2ca98-b3a2-4e04-bbdf-f1faff88c4b1&atc~c=771+s=773+r=001+l=a> or <http://tinyurl.com/62x4pr>
ASU PTL: <http://www.poly.asu.edu/ptl/>
Solar America Initiative: http://www.eere.energy.gov/solar/solar_america/about.html or <http://tinyurl.com/26yr7t>

4-15-08 Cleantech Investments

According to Greentech Media, recent reports show that cleantech investments in ethanol, wind and solar are slowing down, though heavy investment this week shows the sector is still going strong. See the story "Funding Roundup: Dancing on the Edge of a Bubble?" at Greentech Media: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/funding-roundup-dancing-on-the-edge-of-a-bubble-782.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/4lgzar>

4-15-08 Polysilicon Supply Perspective

See the story "Trina Cancels \$1B Silicon Plant ... Is Shortage Ending?" at Greentech Media: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/trina-cancels-1b-silicon-plant--is-shortage-ending-781.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/3rszjy>

4-15-08 Community Solar Discount Program, California

For more on the GoSolarMarin Community Discount Program results, see the press from SPG Solar at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?id=52178>
SPG Solar: <http://www.spgsolar.com/>

4-15-08 SolarCity Solar-Leasing

SolarCity is offering solar roof panels to San Jose residents for no money down. Story at: http://www.mercurynews.com/valley/ci_8929271
More details at the website: <http://www.solarcity.com/>

4-15-08 Silver Conductive Inks

According to this article at PVTech, the market for silver conductive inks will almost triple over the next 8 years to reach \$2.4 billion by 2015. See more on the NanoMarkets report "Silver Inks and Pastes for Printable Electronics: 2008-2015" at: http://www.pv-tech.org/materials/article/silver_conductive_inks_back_on_the_agenda_for_manufacturing or <http://tinyurl.com/5okown>

4-15-08 Solar Energy Index

Claymore Securities Inc. announced the launch of the Claymore/MAC Global Solar Energy Index ETF on NYSE Arca. "The availability of this product acknowledges the maturing of the solar energy industry and investor interest in funding solar power development," said Christian Magoon, President of Claymore Securities, Inc. Press at: <http://www.centredaily.com/business/story/525431.html>
Claymore: <http://www.claymore.com/tan/>

4-15-08 Organic Photovoltaics 2008

Organic Photovoltaics 2008 is set for 21-23 April in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Event Website: <http://www.intertechpira.com/events.asp?step=2&eventID=4A743AA175BAE4788C4E175BAE46130A0175BAE|28D689|117ADB> or <http://tinyurl.com/4992go>

In related solar news...

4-15-08 Solar Energy Storage

See the story "New Ways to Store Solar Energy for Nighttime and Cloudy Days" at The New York Times: <http://www.nytimes.com/2008/04/15/science/earth/15sola.html?ref=business> or <http://tinyurl.com/63tnnc>

4-15-08 Technology Race

See the story "The Race Between Two Forms of Sunlight" at The New York Times:
<http://dotearth.blogs.nytimes.com/2008/04/15/the-race-between-two-forms-of-sunlight/> or
<http://tinyurl.com/3pbquy>

4-16-08 SILFAB Polysilicon Plant, Italy

Production of solar grade polysilicon in Italy is set to commence with the establishment of SILFAB SpA, which intends to produce some 2,500 tons of polysilicon annually starting in 2009, with plans to double production capacity to 5,000 tons in 2010. Story at RenewableEnergyAccess:
<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=52189>
SILFAB: <http://www.silfab.eu/en/>

4-16-08 Solar JV in Italy

Italy's retail bank Intesa Sanpaolo and engineering group Pramac have set up a joint venture to move into the PV energy business. The new company, Solar Express, will be 60% owned by Pramac with the rest held by Intesa Sanpaolo. It aims to install 11 MW of PV systems in the first year of operations. Story at:
<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssFinancialServicesAndRealEstateNews/idUSL1689818720080416> or
<http://tinyurl.com/5smbyt>
Intesa Sanpaolo: http://group.intesasanpaolo.com/script/lsir0/isInvestor/eng/home/eng_index.jsp or
<http://tinyurl.com/683lz8>
Pramac Group: <http://www.pramac.com/>

4-16-08 Mitsubishi Modules for 1-MW PV System, Italy

Mitsubishi Electric has supplied the Maccaferri Industrial Group with PV modules for its Celano factory in Abruzzo. Built in conjunction with Enerray, the installation has a peak capacity of approximately 1 MW. Story and photo at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEUPR465.htm>
Mitsubishi Electric: <http://www.mitsubishielectric.it/>
Enerray: http://www.enerray.com/nqcontent.cfm?a_id=964

4-16-08 Space Energy Corp. Contract with Hitachi Ltd.

Space Energy Corp. has signed a contract with Hitachi Ltd., for the sale of Hitachi's solar cell and manufacturing facility along with the transfer of technology and knowledge. Under the terms of the contract, Hitachi will sell its bi-facial PV assets and provide related technology support to allow SEC to diversify its business into the cell and module manufacturing fields.
More at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=52191>
Hitachi: http://www.hitachi.com.sg/cat_index_198.shtml
Space Energy Corp.: <http://www.space-energy.co.jp/UK/index2.html>

4-16-08 Dyesol Milestone Met

Dyesol has met the second last milestone in the contract with Defence Science and Technology Organisation for the development and demonstration of light weight flexible camouflage solar panels. Press from Dyesol at: <http://tinyurl.com/4hvnun>
Deysol: <http://www.dyesol.com/index.php?page=Home>

4-16-08 HelioVolt Funds from Texas Job Creation Fund

HelioVolt Corp. is getting \$1 million from the state's job creation fund for construction of a 125,000-square-foot manufacturing plant and testing space for thin-film solar cells.
Story at: <http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/ap/tx/5702559.html>
HelioVolt: <http://www.heliovolta.net/>

4-16-08 Spire Contract with Alpex Exports Pvt. Ltd.

Spire Corporation announced that it has received a contract from Alpex Exports Pvt. Ltd. to provide a PV module assembly line for that company's operations in New Delhi, India.

Press at:

http://www.businesswire.com/portal/site/google/?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20080416005603&new_sLang=en or <http://tinyurl.com/5pjmxx>

Spire: <http://www.spirecorp.com/index.php>

Alpex: <http://www.alpexonline.com/index1.html>

4-16-08 SAS Expected Orders

According to this press, amid ARISE Technologies' recent announcement about boosting polysilicon output, its solar wafer OEM Sino-American Silicon Products is expected to gain more orders from ARISE. Press at DigiTimes:

<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PD0000000000000000000000005383&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/5totzn>

Sino-American Silicon Products: http://saswafer.com/index/index_tw.aspx

ARISE: <http://www.arisetech.com/>

4-16-08 Krannich Solar Flat-roof Mounting System

Krannich Solar USA introduced the K2 Flat-Roof Mounting System into its product portfolio.

Press at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?id=52195>

Krannich Solar: <http://cms.krannich-solar.com/usa/english/products/mounting-systems/>

4-16-08 Solar Energy Outlook

See the story "Rising Oil Brightens Solar Energy Outlook" at CNNMoney:

<http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/newstex/IBD-0001-24526301.htm> or

<http://tinyurl.com/5ucdjh>

4-16-08 Corporate Energy Efficiency, Solar

According to 1,400 respondents to a ChangeWave energy efficiency survey, more than one-in-four report their company has used less energy than normal over the past 6 months. See the section "The Race Toward Corporate Energy Efficiency: Solar Leads the Charge" in the article at:

<http://www.prweb.com/releases/2008-ChangeWave/Energy-Efficiency/prweb859334.htm> or

<http://tinyurl.com/4uxuq6>

Details at ChangeWave: http://blog.changewave.com/2008/04/huge_shift_corporate_energy_use.html or

<http://tinyurl.com/42qp5c>

4-16-08 Solar Energy Market Report

Information about "The U.S. Solar Energy Market" is available from Reportlinker.com at:

<http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/learn-about-the-us-solar-energy-market.353907.shtml> or

<http://tinyurl.com/5jztdc> <http://www.reportlinker.com/p087192/The-US-Solar-Energy-Market.html> or

<http://tinyurl.com/6l5g2e>

4-16-08 Greentech Media Q&A with Fred Krupp, EDF

In a discussion about his book, "Earth: The Sequel", Environmental Defense Fund President Fred Krupp talks about a U.S. cap-and-trade system, the role of green technology, and why he is hopeful. See Greentech Media Q&A "Predicting an Energy Revolution" at:

<http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/predicting-an-energy-revolution-784.html> or

<http://tinyurl.com/5rfgwy>

Environmental Defense Fund: <http://www.edf.org/page.cfm?tagID=65>

4-16-08 Solar Stalls at San Diego-area Campuses, California

The solar movement at San Diego area campuses has stalled because of higher electricity bills. Story at:

<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/education/20080416-9999-1n16solar.html> or

<http://tinyurl.com/4ukwph>

4-16-08 Solar Branding

See the story "The Solar Industry Needs Branding To Foster Mainstream Acceptance" by Dr. Isabelle Christensen at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/recolumnists/story?id=52090> or <http://tinyurl.com/5bkyvs>

4-16-08 More on New York Transit Going Green

New York's Metropolitan Transit Authority has unveiled preliminary plans for a wide range of cleantech initiatives including solar and wind power. Story at cleantech@: <http://media.cleantech.com/2699/new-york-transit-going-green>

4-16-08 European Photovoltaic Solar Energy Conference & Exhibition

The 23rd European Photovoltaic Solar Energy Conference and Exhibition will be held in Valencia, Spain 1-5 September 2008. Details at the Website: <http://www.photovoltaic-conference.com/>

4-16-08 Photovoltaics Summit 2008

The "Photovoltaics Summit 2008" is set for 18-20 June in San Diego, California. For details, visit the Website at:

<http://www.intertechpira.com/events.asp?step=2&eventID=532B90F1A17B54FE89A51A17B54FE89A51A17B5|35A1E0|1B8A2B> or <http://tinyurl.com/68kz93>

4-16-08 Solar Innovations & Investment Summit [Matthew Probyn]

The Solar Innovations & Investment Summit is set for 21-23 May 2008 in London, England. Website information at: http://www.greenpowerconferences.com/renewablesmarkets/sii_london.html or <http://tinyurl.com/23h2n4>

4-17-08 WACKER SCHOTT Wafer Production

WACKER SCHOTT Solar GmbH officially commissioned a new factory in Jena, Germany for the production of silicon wafers for the solar industry. After just 6 months of construction, WACKER SCHOTT has commenced wafer production and plans to ramp up to an annual capacity of 50 MW by fall 2008.

More at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEUMA219.htm>

WACKER: <http://www.wacker.com/cms/en/home/index.jsp>

SCHOTT: <http://www.schott.com/english/us.html?target=/english/index.html>

4-17-08 SunPower Results, Plans

In announcing financial results for the first quarter of 2008, SunPower Corporation stated that it would be increasing solar cell capacity by 150% in 2008 compared to capacity levels in 2007. The company also said that nearly half of its cell production was its "Gen2" solar cell technology. Press at PVTech:

http://www.pv-tech.org/solar_cell/article/sunpower_increasing_solar_cell_capacity_by_150_percent_in_2008 or <http://tinyurl.com/6gjflj>

See also "SunPower to migrate solar cell production to 145 micron thickness in 2008" at PVTech:

http://www.pv-tech.org/solar_cell/article/sunpower_to_migrate_solar_cell_production_to_145_micron_thickness_in_2008 or <http://tinyurl.com/6l4ugj>

SunPower: <http://www.sunpowercorp.com/>

<http://investors.sunpowercorp.com/>

4-17-08 Sunwell Technology Production

Sunwell Technology has produced its first thin-film solar cell module and will move forward to volume production in July. Story at DigiTimes:

<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PB000000000000000000000000003611&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/3wgdhf>

CMC / Sunwell: http://www.cmcnet.com.tw/eng/newsdetail_eng.asp?news_no=275 or

<http://tinyurl.com/2by96g> (11-14-07)

4-17-08 Day4Energy Production Expansion

Day4Energy announced that it secured over 90,000 square feet of production space and expects to increase its production to 90 MW by the end of 2008. Story at cleantech@: <http://media.cleantech.com/2711/day4-energy-to-expand-with-new-facility> or <http://tinyurl.com/6pkep9>
Day4Energy: <http://tinyurl.com/6pkep9>

4-17-08 Polysilicon Production

Of the anticipated 51,000 metric tons of global polysilicon production for 2008, THT Research expects 2,000 metric tons of that figure to be contributed by China. Story at PVTech: http://www.pv-tech.org/materials/article/tht_research_predicts_chinese_polysilicon_output_to_reach_2000_tons_in_2008 or <http://tinyurl.com/6xmk3d>
THT Research: <http://www.thtresearch.com/>
<http://biz.yahoo.com/pnews/080416/lnw001.html?.v=4>

4-17-08 Spectrolab Contract

Boeing subsidiary Spectrolab Inc. has received a third multimillion-dollar contract award from Solar Systems Pty Ltd for concentrator PV cell assemblies. Story at: http://www.semiconductor-today.com/news_items/2008/APRIL/spectrolab_160408.htm or <http://tinyurl.com/6amqez>
Spectrolab: <http://www.spectrolab.com/>
Solar Systems: <http://www.solarsystems.com.au/>

4-17-08 Fab City, India

See the story "Fab City: Solar units rule the roost" at The Times of India: http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/Hyderabad/Fab_City_Solar_units_rule_the_roost/articleshow/2957644.cms or <http://tinyurl.com/4au776>

4-17-08 E-ton Solar Material Costs

E-ton Solar Tech expects reduced overall material costs in the 2nd quarter of 2008. Story at: <http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PD00000000000000000000000005398&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/4yv3g9>
E-ton Solar: <http://www.e-tonsolar.com/>

4-17-08 University PV System, California

Point Loma Nazarene University is planning to build a 450-kW PV system on its campus. SPG Solar, Inc. was selected to design and install the system, which will use Kyocera modules. The University was able to finance the system through a Power Purchase Agreement provided by Solar Power Partners, Inc. Stories at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAPR1058.htm> and RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?id=52210>
SPG Solar: <http://www.spgsolar.com/>
Solar Power Partners: <http://www.solarpowerpartners.com/>

4-17-08 PermaCity Solar Acquisition of New Millennium Power

PermaCity Solar, Inc. has acquired New Millennium Power, Inc. Story at: <http://www.sustainablebusiness.com/index.cfm/go/news.display/id/15814> or <http://tinyurl.com/6zlsda>
PermaCity Solar: <http://www.permacity.com/>
New Millennium Power: <http://www.newmillenniumpower.com/>

4-17-08 VC Investment in Renewable Energy

According to newly released data from Greentech Media's Venture Power Report, venture capital investment in renewable energy reached an unprecedented level of more than a billion dollars in Q1 2008. Story at Greentech Media: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/venture-capital-investment-reaches-unprecedented-level-in-q1-2008-794.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/58negu>

4-17-08 Interstate Renewable Energy Council Newsletter [Jane Pulaski]

The latest issue of IREC's State & Stakeholder Newsletter with coverage of national news, state & local news, grants/RFPs, upcoming events, and other news is available at:

<http://www.irecusa.org/index.php?id=11>

4-17-08 Solar Success! Training Event, Dealer/Installer Trainings

For information on the "Solar Success! Training Event" offered by the American Solar Energy Society and Conergy and co-located at SOLAR 2008 in San Diego, 3-8 May, see

RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?id=52198>

ASES: <http://www.ases.org/solar2008/training/success.htm>

<http://www.ases.org/>

Conergy: <http://www.conergy.com/>

Dealer/Installer Trainings: <http://www.ases.org/solar2008/training/trainings.htm>

4-17-08 DTE Energy Renewables RFP [The Green Power Network]

DTE Energy's RFP seeks up to 150,000 MWh of Michigan-based eligible renewable energy resources or Renewable Energy Certificates for the GreenCurrents program. Information at:

<http://dteenergy.com/supplyChain/rfp.html>

GreenCurrents(SM): <http://my.dteenergy.com/products/greenCurrents/index.html>

The Green Power Network: <http://www.eere.energy.gov/greenpower/financial/>

4-17-08 PV Annual 2008

Inquire about early bird rates for "PV Annual 2008: Shedding Light on Solar", 28 May in Boston, Massachusetts, at: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/events/live/boston0508/pvannual.html> or

<http://tinyurl.com/5vckza>

4-17-08 Printed Electronics

See "Analysis of printed electronics forecasts in 2008" at IDTechEx:

<http://www.idtechex.com/products/en/articles/00000870.asp>

4-17-08 RPS Symposium Proceedings

For access to the EUCI Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS) Symposium Proceedings, go to:

https://www.euci.com/proceedings/0308-rps/register.php?q=rpspro&c=rpspro_0103 or

<http://tinyurl.com/6bhbn> <https://www.euci.com/proceedings/0308-rps/> (held March 2008)

4-17-08 NASA STTR Awards

NASA announced Phase 2 STTR awards. See "InN-Based Quantum Dot Solar Cells" at:

[http://sbir.gsfc.nasa.gov/SBIR/abstracts/06/sttr/phase2/STTR-06-2-T3.01-](http://sbir.gsfc.nasa.gov/SBIR/abstracts/06/sttr/phase2/STTR-06-2-T3.01-9844.html?solicitationId=STTR_06_P2)

[9844.html?solicitationId=STTR_06_P2](http://sbir.gsfc.nasa.gov/SBIR/abstracts/06/sttr/phase2/STTR-06-2-T3.01-9844.html?solicitationId=STTR_06_P2) or <http://tinyurl.com/5kxtfr>

<http://sbir.gsfc.nasa.gov/SBIR/sttr2006/phase2/awards/index.html>

4-17-08 The first "Floatovoltaic" Solar Array

Napa wine producer Far Niente found that a conventional solar installation would have taken up valuable growing land, and a Floatovoltaic solution came from collaboration between Far Niente and SPG Solar.

See the article and photo at: <http://www.wine.co.za/News/news.aspx?NEWSID=11640&Source=News> or

<http://tinyurl.com/5k3s8w>

SPG Solar: <http://www.spgsolar.com/>

Far Niente: <http://www.farniente.com/index-flash.html>

See "A Winery's Solar Solution" at:

http://www.farniente.com/PressTrade/reviews_articles/articles/07_1209_PressDemocrat.pdf or

<http://tinyurl.com/5law7l>

In related solar news...

4-17-08 Stirling Energy Systems – NTR plc Agreement

Stirling Energy Systems, Inc. announced an agreement for NTR plc to invest \$100 million and take a controlling interest in the company. SES is developing two of the world's largest solar generating projects in the Imperial Valley and Mojave Desert, and the partnership with NTR provides SES with the financial strength and commercial expertise to deliver these projects. Press at SES:

[http://www.stirlingenergy.com/downloads/17-April-2008-Stirling-Energy-Systems-Announces-\\$100-Million-Investment-by-NTR-plc.pdf](http://www.stirlingenergy.com/downloads/17-April-2008-Stirling-Energy-Systems-Announces-$100-Million-Investment-by-NTR-plc.pdf) or <http://tinyurl.com/3lmsd9>

SES: <http://www.stirlingenergy.com/>

NTR plc: <http://www.ntr.ie/news-and-highlights/press-releases/ntr-plc.asp>

4-18-08 Evergreen Solar Results

Evergreen Solar Announced 1st quarter 2008 results. Press at Evergreen:

<http://www.evergreensolar.com/app/en/investors/>

Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNACO743.htm>

4-18-08 ReneSola Production and Revenue Guidance

ReneSola is increasing its previously issued full-year production output and revenue guidance for 2008. Full-year production output for 2008 is now expected to be in the range of 310 MW to 320 MW, up from the company's previously issued guidance of 300 MW. Net revenues are expected to be in the range of US\$530 million to US\$550 million. \

Story at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsASCO243.htm>

ReneSola: <http://www.renesola.com/>

4-18-08 SAS and Wafer Works Results

According to this press, Sino-American Silicon Products and Wafer Works both saw profits in the first quarter eroded by exchange rate losses. Press at DigiTimes:

<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PD000000000000000000000000005422&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/5r79ks>

SAS: http://saswafer.com/index/index_tw.aspx

http://saswafer.com/index/index_en.aspx

Wafer Works: http://www.waferworks.com/english/01_about/01detail.php

4-18-08 Real Goods IPO

Real Goods Solar Inc. disclosed the proposed terms of its initial public offering in a Securities and Exchange Commission filing. Stories at: <http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2008/04/18/ap4906668.html>

http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080418/real_goods_solar_ipo.html?.v=1

<http://media.cleantech.com/2716/real-goods-solar-sets-ipo-terms>

Real Goods Solar: <http://www.realgoodssolar.com/>

4-18-08 Solar Thin Films Order from Grupo Unisolar, S.A.

Solar Thin Films, Inc. announced that it has received an order from Grupo Unisolar, S.A. to build a 5-MW turnkey a-Si PV module manufacturing plant in Spain. The company also agreed to provide certain installation and testing services to Grupo Unisolar.

Story at: <http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/marketwire/0387888.htm> or <http://tinyurl.com/4w3da2>

Solar Thin Films: <http://www.solarthinfilms.com/>

Grupo Unisolar, S.A. (pdf): <http://www.grupounisolar.com/docs/Grupo%20Unisolar%20-%20Corporate%20brochure%20v2007-10-03.pdf> or <http://tinyurl.com/4nc8sl>

4-18-08 ARISE Plant Producing PV Cells, Germany

ARISE Technologies Corporation announced that its new plant in Bischofswerda, Germany has begun producing PV cells. Story at: http://biz.yahoo.com/cnw/080417/arise_tech_pv_cells.html?.v=1

ARISE Technologies: <http://www.arisetech.com/>

4-18-08 More on Popcorn-Ball Design for Dye-sensitized Solar Cells

The University of Washington claims that its popcorn-ball design for dye-sensitized solar cells yields more than double the efficiency levels of previous DSCs. Stories at PVTech: http://www.pv-tech.org/r_and_d/article/university_of_washingtons_popcorn_ball_design_claims_double_efficiency_of_d or <http://tinyurl.com/457e8q> and

RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=52197> or <http://tinyurl.com/3nyrse>

University of Washington: <http://uwnews.org/uweek/uweekarticle.asp?articleID=40932>

4-18-08 SMUD SolarShares Program

The Sacramento Municipal Utility District awarded a contract to enXco to build a 1-MW solar panel array, the power from which SMUD will buy and then sell to interested customers through its SolarShares pilot program. The array will feature a fixed-tilt system using First Solar modules. More on this program at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAPR1059.htm>

SMUD: <http://www.smud.org/>

<http://www.smud.org/community-environment/solar/index.html>

enXco: <http://www.enxco.com/>

First Solar: <http://www.firstsolar.com/>

4-18-08 EPOD Solar Grid-Connected PV, Germany

EPOD International Inc. announced that its successor company, EPOD Solar, has connected one of its solar installations comprising 235 kW to the electric grid in Falkenau, Germany. The installation is now generating electricity and selling it through the electric grid under a 20-year power purchase agreement.

Story at: <http://biz.yahoo.com/pz/080418/140402.html>

EPOD Solar: <http://www.epodsolar.com/site.php>

4-18-08 More on Texas Investment in HelioVolt

The state of Texas will invest \$1 million in HelioVolt Corp. for the construction of a 125,000 square foot manufacturing facility and development space to test and produce the company's thin-film product. Story at Environment News Service: <http://www.ens-newswire.com/ens/apr2008/2008-04-17-091.asp>

HelioVolt: <http://www.heliovolta.net/>

4-18-08 Greentech Media's Top Ten Startups

See "Greentech Media's Top Ten Startups", and coverage of Suniva BrightSource, and others, at:

<http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/greentech-medias-top-ten-startups-796.html> or

<http://tinyurl.com/667rxz> <http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/map-of-greentech-media-top-ten-startups-807.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/666dxy>

Suniva: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/9-suniva-805.html>

<http://www.suniva.com/>

BrightSource: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/4-brightsource-800.html>

<http://www.brightsourceenergy.com/>

4-18-08 Solar Industry Uncertainties in 2009

A credit crunch that may stall the fund-raising plans of polysilicon makers, as well a changes in incentive programs for the installation of solar energy systems, will cause uncertainties in the solar industry in 2009 said Simon Tsuo, CEO and chairman of Motech Industries, during a DigiTimes 10th year anniversary event. Press at DigiTimes:

<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PD00000000000000000000000005420&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/6plvyc>

Motech: <http://www.motech.com.tw/management.asp>

4-18-08 Renewable Energy in India

According to the 11th New and Renewable Energy 5-year plan recently proposed by the government of India, from 2008 to 2012 the renewable energy market in India will reach an estimated US\$19 billion.

Story at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=52214>

4-18-08 Solar ABCs Referenced Events

For information events highlighted by the Solar America Board for Codes and Standards, see the Events Calendar at Solar ABCs Website: <http://www.solarabcs.org/>

4-18-08 SolarWorld Racer [Annegret Schneider]

The solar racer SolarWorld No.1 sponsored by Solarworld AG is headed for the racetrack for the 34th Toyota Grand Prix in Long Beach, California.

Press at SolarWorld: <http://www.solarworld.de/Corporate-News.78.0.html?&L=1>

4-18-08 Solar Energy Asia 2008

“Solar Energy Asia 2008” is set for 7-10 October in Singapore. Information at:

<http://www.terrapinn.com/2008/solar/>

Clean Energy Asia 2008: <http://www.terrapinn.com/2008/clean/>

4-18-08 California Clean Innovation 2008

“California Clean Innovation 2008: Driving Technology, Business, & Policy Innovation” is set for 9 May at the University of California Los Angeles. Information at: <http://www.cacleaninnovation.com/>

In related solar news...

4-18-08 More on Stirling Energy Systems – NTR Deal

For more on the \$100 million investment by NTR in Stirling Energy Systems, and future plans, see:

<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/business/20080418-9999-1b18solar.html> or

<http://tinyurl.com/5qoq3c>

Stirling Energy Systems: <http://www.stirlingenergy.com/>

NTR plc: <http://www.ntr.ie/>