

NCPV Hotline — Week of April 7-11, 2008

Weekly News Items

Some of the following news items are available as Adobe Acrobat PDFs. [Download Adobe Reader](#).

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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4-7-08 Orb Energy \$1 Million Award [Damian Miller]

Orb Energy announced that it has received a prestigious award for \$1 million dollars from the US State Department in support of the goals of the Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate. The APP award will assist with the development of Orb's franchise partners who manage and operate its branch network. Orb will also use the award to execute in-country assembly of Swiss-designed inverters, and to enter India's newly emerging grid-connected market for solar. See the news at Orb:

<http://www.orbenergy.com/assets/news/popups/APP%20Award.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/5mcos5>

Orb Energy: <http://www.orbenergy.com/site.html>

APP: <http://www.asiapacificpartnership.org/>

APP Renewable Energy & Distributed Generation Task Force:

<http://www.asiapacificpartnership.org/REDGTFProjects.htm> or <http://tinyurl.com/5r2p5x>

4-7-08 Evergreen Solar Expansion of Manufacturing Facility

Evergreen Solar, Inc. announced the beginning of an 80 MW expansion of its Devens Massachusetts facility. Phase 1 of the Devens site is on schedule to open by mid 2008 and begin its ramp up to 80 MW of production in 2009. Press at Evergreen Solar: <http://www.evergreensolar.com/app/en/investors/> and

<http://tinyurl.com/5f7na4>

<http://tinyurl.com/656e2v>

<http://www.bostonherald.com/business/general/view.bg?articleid=1085540&srvc=rss> or

<http://tinyurl.com/3mat2u>

4-7-08 Dalu Group and Kunic International Polysilicon Supply Contract

Dalu Group and their marketing partner, Kunic International Group, Ltd., have signed a long-term polysilicon supply contract with Space Energy Corporation. Story at Solarbuzz:

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/news/NewsASCO236.htm>

Dalu Group: <http://www.dalutech.com/index.asp>

Space Energy Corporation: <http://www.space-energy.co.jp/>

4-7-08 MMA Renewable Ventures Portfolio

MMA Renewable Ventures, LLC announced that it closed 2007 with approximately 34 MW of solar under operation and development, including more than 20 MW of new renewable energy generation last year alone, an increase of more than 5 times its 2006 portfolio. Story through SolarPlaza

<http://www.solarplaza.com/content/news.php> at: <http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/04-04-2008/0004787012&EDATE=> or

<http://tinyurl.com/4kdts2>

MMA Renewable Ventures: <http://www.mmarenewableventures.com/>

4-7-08 Sunovia – EPIR Technology

Sunovia Energy Technologies, Inc. and EPIR Technologies, Inc. announced the development of new solar cell materials that Sunovia and EPIR believe will rival the most efficient multi-junction solar cell performance in existence today at significantly less cost. More on the approach at:

<http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/080407/clm037.html?v=101>

Sunovia: http://www.sunoviaenergy.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=45&Itemid=53
or <http://tinyurl.com/44yex9>

EPIR Technologies: <http://www.epir.com/>

4-7-08 GroSolar for Marshfield’s “Green Energy Challenge”

GroSolar Inc. has been named the exclusive provider of PV systems for Marshfield’s “Green Energy Challenge”, a \$4 million pilot program sponsored by electric utility NStar and the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative. Story at:

http://www.bizjournals.com/masshightech/stories/2008/04/07/story4.html?ana=from_rss or

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

GroSolar: <http://grosolar.com/>

NStar: http://www.nstaronline.com/about_nstar/green/Default.asp?

Massachusetts Energy Collaborative: <http://www.masstech.org/AgencyOverview/whatwedo.htm>

Marshfield Energy Challenge:

http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2008/03/30/marshfield_to_be_test_site_for_new_energy_saving_plan/ or <http://tinyurl.com/6re548>

4-7-08 Nautilus Solar Energy PV System for Thule Inc., Connecticut

Nautilus Solar Energy has started construction of a 318-kW DC solar PV system at Thule Inc.’s Seymour, Connecticut U.S. headquarters and manufacturing facility. American Capital Energy is designing and installing the Thule system, with the project structured as a PPA, and a grant from the CCEF. More at Solarbuzz:

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/news/NewsNAPR1048.htm>

Nautilus Energy LLC: <http://www.nautilusenergy.com/>

American Capital Energy: <http://www.americancapitalenergy.com/>

Connecticut Clean Energy Fund: <http://www.ctcleanenergy.com/commercial/businesses.php>

4-7-08 Foster’s Wine Estates Solar for 6 Wineries, California

Foster’s Wine Estates plans to install solar energy systems at 6 of its California wineries. SolarNet will install PV panels on the roofs of the wineries over the next 6 months. Story at:

<http://www.environmentalleader.com/2008/04/07/fosters-installs-solar-power-at-6-california-wineries/> or

<http://tinyurl.com/54d74v>

4-7-08 Israel’s Valley of the Sun

According to this story, Arava Power is launching plans to develop distributed grid-connected solar energy fields that, if it spreads to include other kibbutz communities as planned, could scale up to 500 MW and cost as much as U.S. \$2.5 billion to build and put into operation. See “Renewable Energy Comes to Israel’s Valley of the Sun” at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=52065>

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

4-7-08 33rd IEEE Photovoltaic Specialists Conference, Hotel and Registration Deadlines – 5 Days Left for Early Bird Registration [Tim Coutts]

The 33rd IEEE Photovoltaic Specialists Conference hotel, Manchester Grand Hyatt, has only a limited number of reduced-rate rooms left for conference attendees. Otherwise the hotel is completely booked during the week of the conference. The hotel will not support the specially negotiated rates after April 18. Reservations can be made at: <http://tinyurl.com/2kgpn9>. The Early Bird registration deadline for the conference is April 11 (less than 1 week); register before April 11 to save \$100 or more. Register at: <http://tinyurl.com/2ob68s>. April 11 is also the deadline for submission of Late News abstracts.

Conference Website: <http://www.33pvsc.org/public/>

4-7-08 Nominations for Karl W. Böer Solar Energy Medal of Merit [Robert Birkmire]

The University of Delaware is accepting nominations until September 3 for the 2009 Karl W. Böer Solar Energy Medal of Merit. The medal, which carries a cash award of \$50,000, is bestowed biennially upon an individual who has made significant pioneering contributions to the promotion of solar energy as an alternate source of energy through research, development or economic enterprise, or to an individual who has made extraordinarily valuable and enduring contributions to the field of solar energy in other ways. See details at: <http://www.udel.edu/PR/UDaily/2008/apr/medal040408.html>

4-7-08 LXE Chairman & CEO Address at Silicon Conference

According to this press, Chairman and CEO Dr. George Xiao of LXE told an audience of over 1000 attendees at the 6th Solar Silicon Conference that it is the reliable TCS technology providers that are helping to change the rules in production of polysilicon, which in turn is opening a wealth of new markets and manufacturing opportunities. Press at:

http://www.businesswire.com/portal/site/google/?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20080407005956&newsLang=en or <http://tinyurl.com/4nzev6>

LXE Solar: <http://www.lxesolar.com/>

See also LXE Solar Contract with Yunnan Metallurgical Group's subsidiary KMYG at:

<http://tinyurl.com/4j6ptd>

4-7-08 Crystalline Silicon Solar Cell Market Growth

The crystalline silicon solar cell market had another robust year according to figures from Gartner, Inc. See the story "Crystalline solar cell market grew 39 percent in 2007, says Gartner" at PVTech:

[http://www.pv-](http://www.pv-tech.org/market_watch/article/crystalline_solar_cell_market_grew_39_percent_in_2007_says_gartner)

[tech.org/market_watch/article/crystalline_solar_cell_market_grew_39_percent_in_2007_says_gartner](http://www.pv-tech.org/market_watch/article/crystalline_solar_cell_market_grew_39_percent_in_2007_says_gartner) or

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

4-7-08 Silicon Hot Topic

See news from the Photovoltaic Technology Show in Munich, Germany – "Silicon Still a Hot Topic at Photon" – at Greentech Media: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/silicon-still-a-hot-topic-at-photon-765.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/4i88z5>

4-7-08 LDK Solar Capital Needs

According to this press, LDK Solar could be facing a shortfall of \$200 million to \$300 million in the capital it needs to finance its planned silicon plants and wafer-production expansion, said CFO Jack Lai. Story at Greentech Media: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/ldk-seeks-big-time-capital-764.html> or

<http://tinyurl.com/3s94vl>

4-7-08 MEMC Sales Guidance Effects

See the story "Sales guidance trim at MEMC to not affect Taiwan OEMs" at DigiTimes:

<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PD00000000000000000000000005266&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/6aj7ly>

4-7-08 Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Projects of State Energy Offices – Update

See the latest issue of the US DOE Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy's Conservation Update, with coverage of the Texas RPS, Colorado renewable resources maps, Connecticut Clean Energy Fund support to two solar installations, Hawaii Costco solar, and much more at:

http://www.eere.energy.gov/state_energy_program/update/

4-7-08 State / Federal RPS Collaborative [Lori Bird]

With the support of the Energy Foundation, the Clean Energy Group has launched a State / Federal Renewable Portfolio Standard Collaborative to further advance the effectiveness of RPS programs nationwide. The Collaborative will facilitate dialogue and learning among RPS stakeholders, with a particular emphasis on state-to-state and state-to-federal discussions. More at:

http://www.cleanenergystates.org/JointProjects/National_RPS.htm

Clean Energy Group: <http://www.cleangroup.org/>

4-7-08 Solar Payback in Colorado - REC Solar Interview

See the interview with Cary Hayes of REC Solar on solar system payback in Colorado at SolarDave: <http://www.solardave.com/index.php/solar-system-payback-in-colorado-video/> or <http://tinyurl.com/6xexqz>
REC Solar: <http://www.recsolar.com/cm/Home.html>
<http://recsolar.com/cm/Local%20Communities/Colorado/denver-boulder-colorado-solar-installers.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/66cw8x>

4-7-08 Solar for Democratic Convention

See "Democratic Convention sparks solar-power opportunities" at:
<http://www.mlive.com/business/ambizdaily/bizjournals/index.ssf?/base/abd-3/120755040645060.xml> or <http://tinyurl.com/6jvb4p>

4-7-08 Solar Farms in Hawaii

Hawaii could see a surge of new solar energy farms under a proposed measure that would open up thousands of acres of state agricultural-zoned land for such facilities. Story at:
http://www.bizjournals.com/pacific/stories/2008/04/07/story17.html?ana=from_rss or <http://tinyurl.com/432gsb>

4-7-08 Tioga Energy VP of Sales

Tioga Energy announced the appointment of Marc Roper as a new Vice President of Sales. Press at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/news/newsNACO737.htm>
Tioga Energy: <http://www.tiogaenergy.com/>

4-7-08 Dr. Carraher, Jr. on Board of Advisors

BioSolar™, Inc. announced that Dr. Charles Carraher, Jr. has joined the company's Board of Advisors. Story at: <http://biz.yahoo.com/iw/080407/0384043.html>
BioSolar: <http://www.biosolar.com/>

In related solar news...

4-7-08 King Mohamed VI Launch of Thermo-Solar Energy Plant, Morocco

King Mohamed VI laid the foundation stone of the Ain Beni Mathar thermo-solar electricity plant at a ceremony. Story at: <http://allafrica.com/stories/200804060020.html>

4-8-08 Iberinco 20 MW PV Project

IBERDROLA Ingeniería y Construcción has won contracts for the 2nd of 2 phases of a 20-MW PV plant in the Spanish province of Cáceres. The project, called Abertura FV, was awarded by Aliwin Plus to the engineering unit of Spain's IBERDROLA utility group. More at Solarbuzz:

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEUPR463.htm>

IBERDROLA:

<http://www.iberdrola.es/wcorp/corporativa/iberdrola?IDPAG=ESINICIO&codCache=12076033390982876> or <http://tinyurl.com/53xcln>

4-8-08 DC Chemical Polysilicon Order from Wafer Works Corporation

DC Chemical Co said it won a 233.0 billion won (\$239.3 million) order to supply polysilicon to Taiwan's Wafer Works Corporation covering the period between January 2009 and December 2016. Press through Solarbuzz <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/Newspage.asp> at:

<http://sg.news.yahoo.com/rtrs/20080407/tbs-dcchemical-taiwan-b8dd11d.html> or

<http://tinyurl.com/63mwt4>

DC Chemical: <http://www.dcchem.co.kr/eng/main.asp>

Wafer Works Corp.: http://www.waferworks.com/index_en.php

4-8-08 Neo Solar Power, More on Wafer Works Polysilicon

The two solar subsidiaries of Powerchip Semiconductor Corporation, Neo Solar Power and Wafer Works, are showing progress in securing polysilicon, with Neo Solar announcing it would invest in a polysilicon maker and Wafer Works securing new supply. Story at DigiTimes:

<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PD00000000000000000000000005275&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/5qm7oc>

DC Chemical: <http://www.dcchem.co.kr/eng/main.asp>

Wafer Works Corp.: http://www.waferworks.com/index_en.php

Neo Solar Power: <http://www.neosolarpower.com/>

4-8-08 LDK Solar Annual Report, Senior Convertible Notes

LDK Solar Co., Ltd. announced that its Annual Report has been filed with the SEC. Story at:

<http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/080407/aqm097.html?v=41>

LDK Solar also said it plans to offer about \$300 million aggregate principal amount of senior convertible notes due 2013. Stories at: <http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/newstex/AFX-0013-24341379.htm> or <http://tinyurl.com/6al2wp>

Cleantech™: <http://media.cleantech.com/2671/ldk-raising-cash-after-sec-drops-investigation> or <http://tinyurl.com/3v7eds>

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

4-8-08 Sumco Forecast

Sumco Corp. expects sales of wafers for solar cells to rise 11-fold. Story at Bloomberg.com:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601101&sid=aScvYXNPYjFk&refer=japan> or

<http://tinyurl.com/5wua2h>

Sumco Corp.: <http://www.sumcosi.com/english/>

4-8-08 Mospec Semiconductor Ingots

Mospec Semiconductor put out its first solar grade monocrystalline silicon ingots, marking a major move toward the company's development for solar wafer production. Press at DigiTimes:

<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PD00000000000000000000000005269&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/6lbsux>

Mospec Semiconductor: <http://www.mospec.com.tw/>

4-8-08 Clear Skies Solar Agreement, India

Clear Skies Solar, Inc. announced a \$20 million agreement, subject to financing, with Power Cube, a company located in Uttar Pradesh, India, to develop and construct the first of several solar energy projects in India. Story at:

http://www.businesswire.com/portal/site/google/?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20080408005221&newsLang=en or <http://tinyurl.com/5aewu5>

Clear Skies Solar: <http://www.clearskiesgroup.com/>

4-8-08 Green Power Labs SOLARSATDATA

Green Power Labs Inc. has completed the development of SolarSatData – a toolset for high-resolution solar resource mapping based on the analysis of current weather satellite data. The technology allows for creating hourly, daily and monthly maps of solar resource and analyzing temporal and spatial variability in solar radiation due to changing weather patterns and climate. Story at

RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?id=52114>

Green Power Labs: <http://www.greenpowerlabs.com/>

4-8-08 EMCORE Split

EMCORE Corp plans to split into two companies with its fiber-optics business providing the focus for one and its PV operations serving as the foundation of the other. More developments at:

http://lw.pennnet.com/Articles/Article_Display.cfm?Section=ONART&PUBLICATION_ID=13&ARTICLE_ID=325051&C=NNEWS&dcmp=rss or <http://tinyurl.com/4daz8b>

http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080407/emcore_mover.html?v=2

EMCORE: <http://www.emcore.com/>

4-8-08 More on Orb Energy \$1 Million Award

Orb Energy received a \$1 million award from the US State Department in support of the Asia-Pacific Partnership (APP) on Clean Development and Climate.

Press at: <http://www.calcuttanews.net/story/346045>

Orb Energy: <http://www.orbenergy.com/site.html>

APP: <http://www.asiapacificpartnership.org/>

APP Renewable Energy & Distributed Generation Task Force:

<http://www.asiapacificpartnership.org/REDGTFProjects.htm> or <http://tinyurl.com/5r2p5x>

4-8-08 More on Thule Solar Installation, Connecticut

The Connecticut Clean Energy Fund board of directors announced approval of a \$1.3 million grant for a 318-kW DC PV system at Thule Inc.'s Seymour, Connecticut U.S. headquarters facility. More at

RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?id=52102>

Connecticut Clean Energy Fund: <http://www.ctcleanenergy.com/about/about.php>

4-8-08 enXco Solar Farm Project, New Jersey

enXco, an EDF EN Company, announced the completion of development and construction of the 143-kW solar project located on the grounds of the Black River Farm equestrian training facility in Ringoes, New Jersey. The project consists of 63 kW of roof mounted and 80 kW of ground mounted Evergreen Solar panels, and features a Sunflow Monitor provided by Noveda Technologies. enXco serves as the owner, financier, and co-developer. Atlantic Solar Assets, a subsidiary of Clean Energy Holdings, co-developed the project with Vanguard Energy Partners, LLC / New Jersey Solar Solutions as installer.

Story at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?id=52066>

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

EDF Energies Nouvelles: http://www.edf-energies-nouvelles.com/english/index_gb.asp

Atlantic Solar Assets: <http://www.atlanticsolarassets.com/>

Vanguard Energy Partners, LLC: <http://www.vanguardenergypartners.com/>

4-8-08 Potential RIL-BHEL Joint Venture

Reliance Industries Ltd. and BHEL are reportedly in talks to form a joint venture for setting up solar fab units. Story at: <http://www.indiaonline.com/news/innernews.asp?storyId=64016&lmn=1> or

<http://tinyurl.com/6oc8nn>

4-8-08 Solar City, India

Chandigarh is preparing to become the First Solar City of the country by 2012. Story at:

http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/Planet_SOS/Chandigarh_to_become_first_Solar_City_by_2012/articleshow/2935072.cms or <http://tinyurl.com/55hmtz>

4-8-08 Solar Balloons

See the story "FEATURE-Solar balloons to power remote areas?" with coverage of a concept from a team at the Technion Institute of Technology, at Reuters:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/latestCrisis/idUSL03913641>

4-8-08 Green-energy VC Investments

Greentech Media reports that green-energy VC investments for the first quarter of 2008 are on a record pace. See the "Funding Roundup" at: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/funding-roundup-greentech-sees-988m-in-q1--767.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/49gf4g>

4-8-08 Renewable Energy Jobs in Germany

According to government figures, as many as 400,000 people could be employed in the renewable energy industry in Germany by 2020. See "Renewable Energy Jobs Soar in Germany" at

RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=52089>

4-8-08 NanoMarkets Thin-film Solar Energy Market Report

NanoMarkets announced a new addition to its reports covering the thin-film solar energy market. The report, "Thin Film Photovoltaics Markets: 2008 and Beyond" is scheduled to be released in late Q2 of 2008. Information at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?id=52105>

NanoMarkets: <http://www.nanomarkets.net/>

4-8-08 Photovoltaics Conference, France

See the story "France presents its first Photovoltaics conference" at PVTech: http://www.pv-tech.org/market_watch/article/france_presents_its_first_photovoltaics_conference or <http://tinyurl.com/48nukb>

Event Website: <http://photovoltaique.lagoacommunication.com/>

4-8-08 EUCI Conferences

See information on "Grid Integration and Storage Strategies for Renewable Energy", 22 May 2008 at:

<http://tinyurl.com/5fxzpy> and "

Interconnection of Small-Scale Grid-Tied PV Systems" 26 June 2008 at: <http://tinyurl.com/3bu6hs>

4-8-08 IREC Telephone Seminar

The next IREC Telephone Seminar – Fire Safety Guidelines for PV Systems – is set for 30 April.

Information and pre-registration at: <http://firesafety.eventbrite.com/>

IREC: <http://www.irecusa.org/>

4-8-08 SEMICON West 2008

SEMICON West 2008 is set for 15-17 July in San Francisco, California. Information at

RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/events/view?id=45427>

Event Website: <http://www.semiconwest.org/index.htm>

4-8-08 Northwest Solar Expo 2008

The Northwest Solar Expo 2008 is set for 16-20 April in Portland, Oregon. More at

RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/events/view?id=45297>

Event Website: <http://www.NWSolarExpo.com/>

Oregon SEIA: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner?cid=6361>

4-9-08 China Nuvo Solar Energy CIGS Technology

China Nuvo Solar Energy, Inc. announced that it will be developing a low-cost solar cell based on thin-film CIGS technology with its collaboration partner, Pioneer Materials, Inc. Story at:

http://www.businesswire.com/portal/site/google/?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20080409005268&newsLang=en or <http://tinyurl.com/5xuskd>

Pioneer Materials, Inc.: <http://www.pioneer-materials.com/>

4-9-08 Translucent Progress on Solar Energy Project

Silex Systems announced that Translucent Inc., a 71% subsidiary of the company, reported that it is making progress on its solar energy project. Results to date from the in-house testing of initial solar cell samples are encouraging, confirming that Translucent is moving closer to achieving its goal of materials innovation in solar cell technology. Story at: <http://au.biz.yahoo.com/080408/38/1ou53.html>

Silex Systems (see announcements): <http://www.silex.com.au/>

Translucent: <http://www.translucentinc.com/>

4-9-08 Conergy Repositioning, Planned Sales

Five months after the start of its restructuring program, Conergy AG says that the company is significantly more tightly and efficiently organized and is making good progress with its strategic repositioning. More on results and the future at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEU0533.htm>

Conergy press: http://www.conergy.de/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-182/271_read-8909/ or

<http://tinyurl.com/4w3zu9>

4-9-08 Solsonica Gas Abatement Technology from Edwards

Solsonica has selected gas abatement technology from Edwards that will be used for abatement during silicon nitride deposition in its polysilicon solar cell manufacturing operations.

More at PVTech: http://www.pv-tech.org/fab_and_facilities/article/tool_order_solsonica_selects_gas_abatement_technology_from_edwards or <http://tinyurl.com/686xgs> and

RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?id=52127> or <http://tinyurl.com/5mcwaf>

Solsonica: <http://www.solsonica.com/>

Edwards: <https://www.edwardsvacuum.com/Homepage.aspx>

4-9-08 PSE&G Solar Investment Program, New Jersey

Public Service Electric and Gas Company received approval from state regulators to begin offering \$105 million in loans to help finance the installation of solar systems on homes, businesses and municipal buildings throughout its electric service area. Story at Solarbuzz:

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAGO355.htm>

PSE&G Press: http://www.pseg.com/media_center/pressreleases/articles/2008/2008-04-08.jsp or <http://tinyurl.com/5b5ufu>

Other press: http://www.nj.com/business/index.ssf/2008/04/pseg_gets_ok_on_solar_pilot_pr.html or <http://tinyurl.com/5lutte>

4-9-08 Spanish PV Industry

See the story "The Spanish government ensures continuity for the solar PV industry" through SolarPlaza

<http://www.solarplaza.com/content/news.php> at:

<http://www.renewableenergymagazine.com/paginas/ContenidoSecciones.asp?id=2442> or

<http://tinyurl.com/49btcv>

4-9-08 Solar RFP, New York

New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg announced that the City Department of Administrative Services would issue an RFP for private solar developers to purchase, install, own and maintain solar panels on city-owned buildings in all 5 boroughs as part of PlanNYC, which would more than double the City's current solar electric capacity. Story, including reference to the New York City Solar America Initiative, at Solarbuzz:

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAPR1051.htm>

PlanNYC: <http://www.plannyc.org/>

Solar America Cities: <http://www.solaramericacities.org/Cities.aspx?City=New%20York%20City> or <http://tinyurl.com/6msawu>

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

http://www.eere.energy.gov/solar/solar_america/solar_america_cities_web.html or

<http://tinyurl.com/yo8e79>

4-9-08 DOE Investment in Basic Research, Including Solar

The U.S. Department of Energy announced it will invest up to \$5.2 million in basic research projects with 12 universities across the country. These research projects, ranging from advanced solar cells to hydrogen energy systems, are part of DOE's Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research.

DOE Press at: <http://www.energy.gov/news/6148.htm>

4-9-08 Solar Initiative, Boston, Massachusetts

A \$550,000 initiative to increase Boston's solar energy output 50-fold by 2015 was unveiled today by top city and federal officials at Fenway Park, where a solar heating system will be installed in May. Story at:

http://www.boston.com/news/local/breaking_news/2008/04/550000_initiati.html or

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

<http://austin.bizjournals.com/austin/othercities/boston/stories/2008/04/07/daily34.html> or

<http://tinyurl.com/3f9tx8>

DOE Media Advisory: <http://www.energy.gov/news/6149.htm>

4-9-08 Solar Initiative, California

See the story "A US Solar Initiative: Shining on California's Commercial Rooftops" with coverage of a 2.2 MW PV project at ProLogis' Kaiser Distribution Park in Fontana, California, at:

<http://www.eprop.co.za/news/article.aspx?idArticle=10063>

4-9-08 Green Energy Technology Growth, Capacity

According to this press, while Green Energy Technology projects a positive sequential sales growth in the first quarter of 2008, considerable capacity jump in ingot production is also anticipated. Story at DigiTimes:

<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PD00000000000000000000000005295&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/6eo8hr>

Green Energy Technology: <http://www.getinc.com.tw/>

4-9-08 Worldwide Energy and Manufacturing Solar Module Shipment

Worldwide Energy and Manufacturing USA, Inc. announced that the company received a solar module contract from one of Europe's biggest end-users of solar energy products. Worldwide Energy and Manufacturing also announced that it successfully completed a first shipment of 6 containers of modules for this customer. Story at: <http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/marketwire/0385132.htm> or <http://tinyurl.com/5yktct>

Worldwide: <http://www.wwmusa.com/>

4-9-08 Solar Incentives, Germany

See "Speculated incentives cut may spur solar-power system demand in Germany" at DigiTimes:

<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PD00000000000000000000000005301&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/653v7c>

4-9-08 Solar Park, Bulgaria

See "Eastern Europe's Biggest Solar Park to be Built in Bulgaria" at:

http://international.ibox.bg/news/id_490361042

4-9-08 EERE Network News [Kevin Eber]

The latest issue of EERE Network News [Kevin Eber], including coverage of large-scale solar thermal power projects planned for California, and a California solar homes deal, is available at:

<http://www.eere.energy.gov/news/enn.cfm>

4-9-08 Solar and Clean Energy Act

See the story "The Solar and Clean Energy Act Engenders Much Debate" by Tam Hunt, a lecturer in renewable energy law and policy at the Bren School of Environmental Science & Management at UC Santa Barbara, and Energy Program Director and Attorney for the Community Environmental Council in Santa Barbara, at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/recolumnists/story?id=51785> or <http://tinyurl.com/455tf6>

4-9-08 Ghana Solar Energy Exports

Ghana is to export solar energy products to other African countries by the end of this year. See more on the Ghana Solar Energy Association plans at: <http://www.modernghana.com/news/162169/1/Ghana-exports-solar-products> or <http://tinyurl.com/5y62e4>

4-9-08 Solar Impulse Presented to European Parliament

"Solar Impulse", the Swiss solar-powered aeroplane project, was presented to the European Parliament in Brussels within the framework of "Towards a more sustainable aviation" seminar. More at:

http://www.avionews.com/index.php?corpo=see_news_home.php&news_id=1088202&pagina_chiamante=corpo%3Dindex.php or <http://tinyurl.com/4wwdgv>

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

4-9-08 European Solar Days, Other Events [Tomasz Slusarz]

The aim of the European Solar Days is to raise awareness and promote the possibilities of solar power – solar thermal and PV – among decision makers and the general public. Information on the 1st European Solar Days, 16-17 May 2008, at: <http://tinyurl.com/5b2qwk>
3rd General Assembly of the EU PV Technology Platform, 6 June, Ljubljana, Slovenia:
<http://www.eupvplatform.org/index.php?id=155>
Other EPIA Upcoming Events: <http://www.epia.org/>

4-9-08 Photovoltaics Beyond Conventional Silicon

See information on “Photovoltaics Beyond Conventional Silicon, 17-18 June 2008 in Denver, Colorado at: <http://printedelectronics.idtechex.com/photovoltaicsusa08/en/>

4-9-08 TechConnect Summit 2008

The TechConnect Summit 2008 is set for 3-5 June 2008 in Boston, Massachusetts. Information at: <http://www.techconnect.org/Summit2008/participate/showcase/>

4-9-08 Renewables Tax Credits

The Senate may approve the addition of renewable energy and energy efficiency tax credit extensions to housing legislation that is currently on the Senate floor. The House is working on its own housing legislation.

In related solar news...

4-9-08 Fresnel Technology in CSP

See the story “Ahead of the curve? Fresnel technology in CSP” by Daniel Reinhardt, MAN Ferrostaal, at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/reworld/story?id=52024> or <http://tinyurl.com/55qmoe>
MAN Ferrostaal: http://www.manferrostaal.us/equipment_technology.html

4-10-08 ARISE PV Cell Production, Silicon Plant

ARISE Technologies Corporation announced that it is increasing by 56% its 2012 production target for PV cells at its new plant in Bischofswerda, Germany to 560 MW. The company also announced that it plans to establish a high-purity silicon plant in Canada in 2011 that will ramp up to an output rate of 10,000-tonnes per year. Stories at: http://biz.yahoo.com/cnw/080410/arise_silicon_plant.html?.v=1
<http://media.cleantech.com/2683/arise-to-boost-pv-production-build-new-silicon-plant> or <http://tinyurl.com/6xn2yw>
http://www.pv-tech.org/solar_cell/article/arise_technologies_ups_pv_cell_production_plans_10000_ton_polysilicon_plant or <http://tinyurl.com/6349wa>
ARISE Technologies Corporation: <http://www.arisetech.com/>

4-10-08 LDK Solar Convertible Senior Notes

LDK Solar Co., Ltd. announced the pricing of \$400 million of Convertible Senior Notes due 2013. Story at: <http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/04-10-2008/0004790073&EDATE> or <http://tinyurl.com/6k9lkk>
LDK Solar: <http://www.ldksolar.com/>

4-10-08 Ascent Solar BIPV Agreement with Giscosa [Brian Blackman]

Ascent Solar Technologies, Inc. is entering into a definitive cooperation agreement with Giscosa Sociedad Limitada of Spain. The agreement focuses on the development of building-integrated PV roofing products to be distributed by Giscosa into the European market. Press at: <http://www.pr-inside.com/ascent-solar-and-giscosa-sign-cooperation-r529844.htm> or <http://tinyurl.com/3sgxop>
<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/ap/fn/5689657.html>
Ascent Solar: <http://www.ascentsolar.com/>
Giscosa: <http://www.giscosa.com/eng/index.htm>

4-10-08 EMCORE CPV Systems for XinAo Group

EMCORE Corporation announced that it has agreed to supply CPV systems to XinAo Group in China. In addition, XinAo intends to build a manufacturing plant in China, jointly owned by EMCORE, to manufacture CPV systems designed and certified by EMCORE for the Chinese market. More at:

<http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/prnewswire/NYTH06210042008-1.htm> or

<http://tinyurl.com/6plz2o>

EMCORE: <http://www.emcore.com/>

XinAo Group: <http://www.xinaogroup.com/en/about/index5.html>

4-10-08 More on Standard Renewable Energy Funding

Standard Renewable Energy has received \$7 million in Series B funding, adding to the \$8 million it received less than 12 months ago in its Series A round. The Series B funding was led by The Quercus Trust of California. In conjunction with its capital raise, the company is adding 3 new members to its Board. Story at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNACO738.htm>

Standard Renewable Energy: <http://www.sre3.com/>

4-10-08 Pacific Power Management PV System for Auburn Honda, California

Pacific Power Management, LLC has completed the design and installation of a 198-kW solar electric system for Auburn Honda, with 1,397 SHARP modules. Pacific Gas and Electric Company awarded a rebate through the Self-Generation Incentive Program. Story and photo at Solarbuzz:

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAPR1053.htm>

Pacific Power Management: <http://www.pacpower.biz/>

Self-Generation Incentive Program: <http://www.pge.com/selfgen/>

4-10-08 More on Renewables in Massachusetts

Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick and Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs Ian A. Bowles attended a ceremony held at MWRA's Deer Island Treatment Plant to announce two initiatives relative to renewable energy in Massachusetts – a 2nd phase of expansion by Evergreen Solar at its manufacturing facility in Devens, and a year's worth of progress with state agencies adopting renewable energy under the Governor's "Leading by Example" Executive Order.

Story at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?id=52118>

Renewable Energy at Deer Island: <http://www.mwra.com/03sewer/html/renewableenergydi.htm>

Leading by Example: <http://tinyurl.com/6zqk9r>

4-10-08 Xantrex Order from relatio

Xantrex Technology has received an order valued at approximately US\$16 million from relatio PV GmbH & Co. KG for Xantrex's 3-phase solar grid-tie inverters for several projects in Spain and Germany.

Story at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEU534.htm>

Xantrex: <http://www.xantrex.com/>

relatio PV: <http://www.relatiopv.de/>

4-10-08 Green Energy Orders

Green Energy announced that it has landed more orders worth NT\$17.5 billion (US\$57.4 million). Story at DigiTimes:

<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PD00000000000000000000000005311&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/5nb82f>

Green Energy Technology: <http://www.getinc.com.tw/>

4-10-08 Polysilicon Quotes

See the story "Polysilicon quotes rocket high following sharp supply cut by MEMC" at DigiTimes:

<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PD00000000000000000000000005311&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/6j9rcn>

4-10-08 Solar Panel Cleaning Formula [Annett Eiffert]

SolarFrameWorks announced the introduction of its solar panel cleaning formula, PowerBoost®. Press from SolarFrameWorks: <http://www.solarframeworks.com/>

4-10-08 April 11 Final Day for PVSC33 Reduced Rate Registration [Tim Coutts]

April 11 is the deadline for Early Bird registration for the 33rd IEEE Photovoltaic Specialists Conference. See registration at <http://tinyurl.com/2ob68s> and the event website at <http://www.33pvsc.org/public/>. One week remains (deadline April 18) to get a reduced-rate room at the conference site hotel, the Manchester Grand Hyatt, <http://tinyurl.com/2kgpn9>. Visit the Social Program site for information on Receptions, the Conference Luncheon (where several researchers and engineers will discuss memories of their work on the historic Vanguard satellite) & Dinner (aboard the USS Midway aircraft carrier), and Sun Run, including information on tickets and the Companions' Program activities and sign-up at <http://tinyurl.com/3onwb3>.

4-10-08 More on European Solar Days [Marie Latour]

For more on "European Solar Days, 16-17 May 2008, visit: <http://www.solarday.eu/>
EPIA, Upcoming Events: <http://www.epia.org/>

4-10-08 EUCI Clean Energy Event

For information on "Clean Energy: An In-Depth, No-Hype Introduction", 24-25 June in Alexandria, Virginia, including Solar, see the event website at: <https://www.euci.com/conferences/0608-clean-energy/agenda.php>

4-10-08 Greentech "Early Stage Gap"

See "Filling Greentech's 'Early Stage Gap'" at Greentech Media:
<http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/filling-greentech-772.html>

4-10-08 RPS in the U.S., New Report [Ryan Wiser]

The Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory released a new report "Renewables Portfolio Standards in the United States: A Status Report with Data through 2007" providing a comprehensive overview of early experience with RPS in the U.S.

Report (pdf) at: <http://eetd.lbl.gov/ea/ems/reports/lbnl-154e.pdf>

PowerPoint Presentation (pdf): <http://eetd.lbl.gov/ea/ems/reports/lbnl-154e-ppt.pdf>

Electricity Markets and Policy: <http://eetd.lbl.gov/EA/emp/re-pubs.html>

4-10-08 ENF Industry Directory

Research and Markets announced the addition of ENF Industry Directory, with a database of almost 4,000 PV companies, to their offering. See ENF.cn at: http://www.enf.cn/industry_directory.html

More at: <http://biz.yahoo.com/bw/080409/20080409005527.html?v=1>

<http://www.researchandmarkets.com/reports/c88143>

4-10-08 JA Solar CFO

JA Solar Holdings Co., Ltd. announced that it has appointed Mr. Daniel Lui as the new Chief Financial Officer. Story at: <http://www.primenewswire.com/newsroom/news.html?d=139864>

JA Solar: <http://www.jasolar.com/Web/index-en.asp>

4-10-08 Renewables Tax Credits

The Senate voted to include renewable energy and energy efficiency tax credits in a major housing bill, but it is uncertain what will happen with the House of Representatives.

In related solar news...

4-10-08 Solar Thermal Perspective

See the story "Did Archimedes Solve Our Energy Crisis" by John Perlin at: <http://www.miller-mccune.com/article/289>

Miller-McCune: <http://www.miller-mccune.com/>

4-10-08 CSP Report

Research and Markets has announced the addition of "Analyzing the Emerging Technology of Concentrated Solar Power" to their offering. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/4ey4ho>

<http://www.researchandmarkets.com/reports/c88219>

4-10-08 More on Solar Thermal in Morocco

The African Development Bank has granted Morocco a 20-year, \$238 million loan to build a thermo-solar power plant. Press at:

http://www.upi.com/International_Security/Energy/Briefing/2008/04/09/morocco_gets_funds_for_thermo-solar_plant/9974/ or <http://tinyurl.com/3gdghv>

4-11-08 Renewable Energy Corporation Strategic Investment in Mainstream Energy Corporation [Natalie Rozier]

Renewable Energy Corporation ASA has bought a 20% stake in Mainstream Energy Corporation for \$40 million. Press at Mainstream Energy: <http://www.mainstreamenergy.com/news.html>

Reuters: <http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSL1142956320080411> or <http://tinyurl.com/3rb9lp>

REC Group:

http://www.recgroup.com/default.asp?V_ITEM_ID=611&xml=/R/136555/PR/200804/1208462.xml or <http://tinyurl.com/5xuksd>

PV Tech: [http://www.pv-](http://www.pv-tech.org/market_watch/article/renewable_energy_corp_invests_40_million_in_us_solar_firm)

[tech.org/market_watch/article/renewable_energy_corp_invests_40_million_in_us_solar_firm](http://www.pv-tech.org/market_watch/article/renewable_energy_corp_invests_40_million_in_us_solar_firm) or <http://tinyurl.com/4qtdm2>

REC Group: <http://www.recgroup.com/>

Mainstream Energy: <http://www.mainstreamenergy.com/>

4-11-08 Gintech Goals

Gintech Energy said it plans to construct one solar cell plant each year through 2015. The company aims to be the third-largest solar cell maker in three years. Story at DigiTimes:

<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PD00000000000000000000000005346&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/4ngokv>

Gintech: <http://www.gintech.com.tw/home.html>

4-11-08 Kensington Investment in OptiSolar

Kensington announced an investment of \$2,999,975 by the Kensington Global Private Equity Fund in OptiSolar Inc. Press at: <http://www.canadait.com/cfm/index.cfm?It=106&Id=26228&Se=0&Sv=&Lo=2> or <http://tinyurl.com/4rvw5t>

Kensington: <http://kcpl.ca/home/home>

OptiSolar: <http://www.optisolar.com/>

4-11-08 Global Solar Featured

See the story "Thin is in for Tucson solar energy firm" featuring Global Solar at:

<http://www.tucsoncitizen.com/daily/local/82278.php>

Global Solar: <http://www.globalsolar.com/>

4-11-08 Clean Energy Angel Fund

Susan Preston, general partner for the California Clean Energy Fund's new Clean Energy Angel Fund, says more angels are needed to fund greentech investments of between \$500,000 and \$5 million. Story (Q&A) at Greentech Media: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/qs-new-angel-776.html>

California Clean Energy Fund: <http://www.calcef.org/>

Clean Energy Angel Fund:

http://www.businesswire.com/portal/site/google/?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20080409005483&new_sLang=en or <http://tinyurl.com/4n5ah5>

4-11-08 Solar City in China

According to this press, China and Australia have agreed to conduct a feasibility study into building the largest solar city in the world in northeast China. Stories at:

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2008/04/11/2214659.htm?section=justin> or <http://tinyurl.com/45w5zx>
<http://au.news.yahoo.com/080411/2/16fqh.html>

4-11-08 Cleantech Deals

For information on recent cleantech deals, including solar, see the cleantech® article at:

<http://media.cleantech.com/2686/two-funds-expand-cleantech-plans> or <http://tinyurl.com/5f9rtb>

4-11-08 Inverter Performance

According to this press, SemiSouth Laboratories, Inc. and the Center for Advanced Vehicle Systems at Mississippi State University have demonstrated that SemiSouth's enhancement-mode silicon carbide Junction Field Effect Transistor reduced an off-the-shelf solar inverter energy loss by as much as 50%.

Story at PVTech: [http://www.pv-](http://www.pv-tech.org/pv_modules/article/semisouth_laboratories_announce_direct_replacement_sic_jfet_for_solar_inverter)

[tech.org/pv_modules/article/semisouth_laboratories_announce_direct_replacement_sic_jfet_for_solar_inver](http://www.pv-tech.org/pv_modules/article/semisouth_laboratories_announce_direct_replacement_sic_jfet_for_solar_inverter) or <http://tinyurl.com/52rkax>

SemiSouth: <http://www.semisouth.com/>

4-11-08 Renewables Tax Credits

The U.S. Senate voted to extend tax credits for wind-power and solar-energy projects, but the measure is unlikely to become law in its current form due to concern that it would add to the nation's deficit.

Story through Solarbuzz <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/Newspage.asp>

at CNMMoney:

http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/djf500/200804101159DOWJONESDJONLINE000914_FORTUNE5.htm or <http://tinyurl.com/5jjsdc>

See also story at RenewableEnergyAccess:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=52144>

4-11-08 ICP Solar Regional VP of Sales

ICP Solar Technologies Inc. expanded its sales team with the addition of Bill Kilduff as Eastern Regional Vice President of Sales. Press at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?id=52152>

ICP Solar: <http://www.icpsolar.com/>

4-11-08 Cleantech Investment

See the story "Biofuel, wind and solar investment waves over?" at cleantech®:

<http://media.cleantech.com/2677/biofuel-wind-and-solar-investment-waves-over> or

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

4-11-08 California Clean Innovation

See information on "California Clean Innovation 2008: Driving Technology, Business, & Policy Innovation", 9 May 2008 at the University of California Los Angeles, through Inside Cleantech:

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

4-11-08 Builder's Conference

PCBC® 2008 is set for 24-27 June in San Francisco, California. See the Builder-to-Builder Green Forum at: <http://www.pcbc.com/b2bgreen/>

PCBC® 2008: <http://www.pcbc.com/>

In related solar news...

4-11-08 China Solar & Clean Energy Solutions Results

China Solar & Clean Energy Solutions announced 4th quarter and 2007 year-end results. Story at:

<http://news.moneycentral.msn.com/provider/providerarticle.aspx?feed=PR&date=20080411&id=8472706>

or <http://tinyurl.com/3l8mse>

Cn-cse.com: <http://www.cn-cse.com/>