

NCPV Hotline — Week of February 25-29, 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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2-25-08 PV Power Station, Australia

Construction of a 154 MW PV power station in northern Victoria will commence in 2009 following the signing of a \$290 million Development Agreement between Solar Systems and TRUenergy. TRUenergy has provided \$40 million to Solar Systems in return for a 20% ownership interest. In addition, TRUenergy will contribute \$7 million to the development of a 2 MW heliostat concentrated PV pilot plant. Stories at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsASCO212.htm> and <http://news.theage.com.au/victoria-to-get-solar-power-plant/20080225-1ui4.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/yub2tu>

TRUenergy: <http://www.truenergy.com.au/index.xhtml>

<http://www.truenergy.com.au/About/News/News.xhtml?newsitem=194> or <http://tinyurl.com/22x9su>

Solar Systems: <http://www.solarsystems.com.au/>

<http://www.solarsystems.com.au/154MWVictorianProject.html>

2-25-08 Timminco Capacity Expansion for Solar Grade Silicon

Timminco Limited has approved capacity expansion plans for the production of solar grade silicon at its wholly owned subsidiary, Becancour Silicon Inc. in Quebec, which is expected to raise the total annual production capacity of its solar grade silicon facilities to 14,400 metric tons from 3,600 metric tons. Story at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/news/NewsNAMA109.htm>

Timminco: <http://www.timminco.com/>

2-25-08 CMO Subsidiary Solar Cell Production

Following the establishment of a solar cell subsidiary in late January, Chi Mei Optoelectronics will begin production at the subsidiary in the first quarter of 2009. Story at DigiTimes:

<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PB00000000000000000000000003515&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/37ydon>

Chi Mei Optoelectronics: http://www.cmo.com.tw/opencms/cmo/index.html?_locale=en

2-25-08 Yingli Polysilicon Agreements with DC Chemical

Yingli Green Energy Holding Company Limited announced that it has signed two polysilicon supply agreements with DC Chemical Co., Ltd. Stories at:

<http://www.centredaily.com/business/story/423307.html>

and Cleantech@: <http://media.cleantech.com/2502/yingli-to-get-polysilicon-from-dc-chemical> or

<http://tinyurl.com/286uoy>

Yingli: <http://www.yinglisolar.com/enmain/user/index.asp>

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

2-25-08 Hoku Scientific Private Placement

Hoku Scientific, Inc. announced it has entered into a securities purchase agreement to raise approximately \$25 million through issuance of shares of common stock. More at:

<http://biz.yahoo.com/iw/080225/0366067.html>

<http://biz.yahoo.com/biz/080225/1596118.html?v=2>

Hoku Scientific: <http://www.hokuscientific.com/>

2-25-08 Würth PV System for Lackwerke Peters, Germany

Lackwerke Peters GmbH + Co KG has commissioned an 86.4 kWp PV system on their recent extension to their storage facility, constructed using CIS modules from Würth Solar. Würth Solergy was the system provider and main contractor. Story at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/news/NewsEUPR449.htm>

Lackwerke Peters: <http://www.peters.de/>

Würth Solergy: <http://www.we-online.de/website/frames.LA.DE.php>

2-25-08 PV System at London's City Hall, United Kingdom

London's City Hall now has a 67 kW rooftop PV system with made-to-measure trapezoidal panels allowing the 617 panels to be arranged in concentric circles around the roof. Story at Solarbuzz:

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/news/NewsEUPR450.htm>

2-25-08 First Solar Performance

See the story "Best 1-Year Performer: First Solar" at The Wall Street Journal [subscription]:

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB120370991862786355.html?mod=googlenews_wsj or

<http://tinyurl.com/2g7gyt>

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

2-25-08 Prism Solar Technologies' Growth Preparations [Rick Lewandowski]

See "Manufacturing Case Study: Solar Tech Manufacturer Braces for Market Explosion" featuring Prism Solar Technologies at: <http://www.industryweek.com/ReadArticle.aspx?ArticleID=15836> or

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

Prism Solar Technologies: <http://www.prismsolar.com/>

More on Prism Solar Technologies in The Solar Energy Consortium:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?id=51654> or <http://tinyurl.com/2uld5x>

2-25-08 IMEC Solar Cell Efficiency

IMEC says it has achieved a record conversion rate of 24.7% for a single-junction GaAs solar cell on a Ge substrate. The cell was made under the ESA-IMAGER project. Press at EETimes:

<http://www.eetimes.com/news/latest/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=206801636> or <http://tinyurl.com/2nhv8m>

IMEC: <http://www.imec.be/>

2-25-08 Polymer Solar Cells

See the story "Green invention special: Long-life solar cells" featuring polymer solar cell research at

UCLA: <http://technology.newscientist.com/article/dn13372-green-invention-special-longlife-solar-cells.html>

or <http://tinyurl.com/2ythou>

2-25-08 Sunovia and EPIR CdTe Solar Cells

According to this press, Sunovia Energy Technologies, Inc. and EPIR Technologies, Inc. are in the process of developing the most advanced CdTe solar cells. Press at:

<http://www.centredaily.com/business/technology/story/423475.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/32eouu>

Sunovia: <http://www.sunoviaenergy.com/>

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

2-25-08 Synova – Fraunhofer ISE Research Alliance for PV Manufacturing

Synova announced it has joined a research alliance with the Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems to explore new manufacturing methods that will speed processing and improve the performance of solar cells. Story at The Earth Times: <http://tinyurl.com/yomkgk>

Fraunhofer: <http://www.ise.fhg.de/>

Synova: <http://www.synova.ch/english/synova.html>

2-25-08 SCHOTT Ground Breaking, New Mexico

SCHOTT says it is joining state and local officials on March 3 to break ground on the company's solar manufacturing facility in New Mexico. Stories at:

http://www.solarindustrymag.com/e107_plugins/content/content_lt.php?content.1012 or
<http://tinyurl.com/2saym8>
http://www.bizjournals.com/albuquerque/stories/2008/02/25/daily3.html?ana=from_rss or
<http://tinyurl.com/248wts>

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

2-25-08 Canadian Solar Silicon Wafer Plant, China

Canadian Solar Inc. is creating a large-scale silicon wafer plant in the northern Chinese city of Luoyang.

See more on this story at: <http://www.tradingmarkets.com/.site/news/Stock%20News/1130195/> or
<http://tinyurl.com/2kqv9f>

Canadian Solar Inc.: <http://www.csisolar.com/>

2-25-08 Akeena Solar Expanded Operations

Akeena Solar, Inc. announced it has expanded its operations to the Thousand Oaks market of California.

Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/yvful5>

Akeena Solar: <http://tinyurl.com/yvful5>

2-25-08 Saft Power Systems Inverters

Saft Power Systems has introduced two new Protect central solar inverters – Protect PV 33 and PV 25.

More at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/news/NewsEUPT58.htm>

Saft Power Systems: <http://www.powersuppliesystems.com/index2.htm>

2-25-08 New Mexico State University Teaming on Solar America Initiative

New Mexico State University's Institute for Energy and the Environment in the College of Engineering has joined with industry, universities, and state and local governments around the country in a strategic partnership with the U.S. DOE for the Solar America Initiative.

Story at: http://www.scsun-news.com/news/cj_8355645

Solar America Initiative: http://www.eere.energy.gov/solar/solar_america/

Institute for Energy and the Environment: <http://iee.nmsu.edu/>

2-25-08 EDF Energies Nouvelles Results

French renewable electric energy company EDF Energies Nouvelles reported results. Story at:

<http://tinyurl.com/22r45v>

EDF Energies Nouvelles: <http://www.edf-energies-nouvelles.com/>

2-25-08 Air Force Green Power

According to this press, the Air Force nearly doubled its use of green power during the past 3 months and far outstrips other agencies in using solar, wind, and other environmentally friendly sources to meet its energy needs.

Story at: <http://federaltimes.com/index.php?S=3387087>

2-25-08 Solar Finance & Forecast Seminar

To register for Greentech Media's and the Prometheus Institute's "Solar Finance & Forecast", 17 March

2008 in San Francisco, California, go to: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/events/live/san-francisco/solarfinanceforecast-register.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/2yusxa>

2-25-08 SOLAR 2008 [Becky Campbell-Howe]

The initial program for SOLAR 2008, set for 3-8 May 2008 in San Diego, California is now available online at: <http://www.ases.org/solar2008/>

2-25-08 EPIA PV Conference Presentations / Press [Adel El Gammal, Marie Latour]

The 2nd International Conference on Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Investments organized by the European Photovoltaic Industry Association attracted nearly 300 participants from 34 countries on 19-20 February

2008. Presentations can be downloaded at: <http://www.epia.org/index.php?id=183>

Press at: <http://www.epia.org/index.php?id=29>

2-25-08 California Solar Center Solar Forum Presentations

For access to the presentations from recent Solar Forums, go to:
<http://www.californiasolarcenter.org/solarforum.html>

2-25-08 SEPA Conference Calls and Newsletter [Emily Brown]

Information on the Solar Electric Power Association's Events, including the recent presentation by Barry Cinnamon, Akeena Solar, on "PV Installations in Germany – Same Technology, Lower Costs" is available at the SEPA Events Website and in the latest Newsletter.

SEPA Events: <http://www.solarelectricpower.org/index.php?page=sepaevents>

SEPA's Newsletter Registration for Members:

<http://www.solarelectricpower.org/index.php?page=members&subpage=register> or
<http://tinyurl.com/2fwwu2>

2-25-08 Governors Securing a Clean Energy Future

The National Governors Association kicked off their Winter meeting with a discussion about the role states can play in shaping America's energy future, hearing from two notable clean energy advocates.

News release at: <http://tinyurl.com/22sk2h>

2-25-08 NREL's Science and Technology Facility Special Mention Award

R&D Magazine's Lab of the Year judging panel cited NREL's Science and Technology Facility's environmental design and low cost as key factors in its selection for a Special Mention award.

Press at:

<http://tinyurl.com/yusfgd>

2-25-08 Renewables Tax Credits

According to Environment & Energy Daily [subscription] the House may vote this week on an energy tax package (H.R. 5351) that would extend expiring renewable energy tax credits. See also the story "Solar Industry's Five-Step Plan" at Greentech Media: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/solar-industrys-five-step-plan-612.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/yur2te>

E&E Daily [subscription]: <http://www.eenews.net/eed/>

2-25-08 FY 2009 DOE Budget Hearings

Energy Secretary Samuel Bodman is currently scheduled to discuss DOE's FY 2009 budget request at a House Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee hearing 28 February.

2-25-08 NanoMarkets Report, Thin Film and Organic PV Materials

NanoMarkets will be releasing a new report that examines the market opportunities for materials used in the manufacture of thin film and organic PV. Information at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?id=51656>

NanoMarkets: <http://www.nanomarkets.net/resources/summaries/Exec%20Summary-TFPV%20Materials.pdf> or <http://tinyurl.com/32so59>

http://www.nanomarkets.net/products/prod_detail.cfm?prod=6&id=241 or <http://tinyurl.com/23u9h9>
<http://www.nanomarkets.net/>

In related solar news...

2-25-08 More on Nevada Solar One – Dedication

Nevada Solar One was dedicated at Boulder City, Nevada. Stories at: <http://www.ens-newswire.com/ens/feb2008/2008-02-24-095.asp> or <http://tinyurl.com/39vgft>

http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080222/solar_power_nevada.html?v=1

http://news.yahoo.com/s/usnw/20080222/pl_usnw/acciona_dedicates_nevada_solar_one_plant or

<http://tinyurl.com/35kcp6>

Acciona: <http://www.acciona-energia.es/default.asp?x=>

2-25-08 Sopogy Solar Farm, Hawaii

According to this press, Sopogy Inc. plans to build a 50-acre solar farm on Oahu and is seeking up to \$35 million in special-purpose revenue bonds from the state for the project. Story at:

http://www.bizjournals.com/pacific/stories/2008/02/25/story7.html?ana=from_rss or

<http://tinyurl.com/37eq7e>

Sopogy: <http://sopogy.com/>

2-25-08 Solar Water Heaters

For the article "Solar Water Heaters: The Workhorse of the Solar Industry" by John Perlin, see:

<http://miller-mccune.com/main/article/171>

2-26-08 Phoenix Solar Module Contract with Signet Solar

Phoenix Solar AG has signed a framework contract with module manufacturer Signet Solar to run until 2011 for the supply of new generation thin-film solar modules, with a peak output of about 50 MW. Signet Solar celebrated the ground breaking of its module factory in Döbeln, Germany last June. Döbeln will also be the main European site of the California company, with production of the solar modules scheduled to start in mid-2008. Story at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEUCO511.htm>

Phoenix Solar: <http://www.phoenixsolar.de/>

Signet Solar: <http://www.signetsolar.com/index.htm>

2-26-08 Polysilicon Supply Turnaround

According to this story, consulting company Frost & Sullivan believes that 2008 will bring a turnaround in polysilicon supply. Story at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=51663>

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

See also "Easier dealing with polysilicon, suppliers hint at likely easing of shortage" at DigiTimes:

[http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PD0000000000000000000000000004796](http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PD0000000000000000000000000004796&query=SOLAR)
&query=SOLAR or <http://tinyurl.com/37paec>

2-26-08 LDK Solar Results

LDK Solar reported results for the 4th Quarter of fiscal 2007. Press at LDK:

<http://www.ldksolar.com/index.html>

See also "LDK Sees Strong Demand for Solar Wafers" at:

http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080225/ldk_solar_outlook.html?v=1

2-26-08 More on Sunvim Presence in PV

Sunvim Group Co., Ltd. has recently built its presence in the PV industry in cooperation with 2 solar module manufacturers. See "Sunvim Taps into PV Realm" at:

<http://www.tradingmarkets.com/.site/news/Stock%20News/1134705/>

2-26-08 More on aleo solar – Sunvim Joint Venture

aleo solar signed a JV with Sunvim Group to construct a CIS panel factory in Shandong province. See more at enf.cn: <http://www.enf.cn/news/080226/1832.html>

Previous Press:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssConsumerGoodsAndRetailNews/idUSSHA3024220080223> or

<http://tinyurl.com/2yto3c>

aleo solar: <http://www.aleo-solar.de/en/aleo-solar-download-the-sun.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/yv25yp>

2-26-08 Sunovia Update

Carl Smith, chairman and CEO of Sunovia Energy Technologies, Inc., has updated the investment community in an interview with www.wallst.net.

More at: <http://tinyurl.com/3899se>

Sunovia: <http://www.sunoviaenergy.com/>

2-26-08 Clear Skies Group Patent for Solar Monitoring System

Clear Skies Group announced a U.S. Patent was granted for its X-Trax™ Solar Monitoring system. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/3xr7ao>

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

2-26-08 Sharp Solar Power Storage Batteries

Sharp Corp will team up with Daiwa House Industry Co Ltd and Dai Nippon Printing Co Ltd to develop large lithium-ion batteries that can store solar energy for houses. Stories at: <http://www.enn.com/sci-tech/article/31783> and <http://sg.news.yahoo.com/rtrs/20080226/tbs-sharp-solar-7318940.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/37r8ce>

Sharp: <http://sharp-world.com/corporate/news/index.html>

2-26-08 ET Solar – Meca Solar Tracker Agreement

ET Solar Group Corp. has formed a framework collaborative agreement with Spain-based solar tracker company Meca. Story at: <http://tinyurl.com/yvfz6x>

ET Solar: <http://www.etsolar.com/>

Meca Solar: <http://www.mecasolar.com/bin/index.php>

2-26-08 County of Kern Solar RFP, California

The County of Kern, California, is seeking a qualified developer to design, finance, install, own, operate, monitor, and maintain a solar facility under an Energy Services And Lease Agreement to serve the William M. Thomas terminal at Meadows Field airport, Bakersfield, California. The estimated system size is about 1 MW AC. Story at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAPR1025.htm>

Meadows Field Solar Project RFP: <http://www.meadowsfieldsolarproject.com/>

2-26-08 More on PV Life Cycle

See the story “Photovoltaic Cells Are Still Very Green, Comparative Test Shows” at The New York Times: <http://www.nytimes.com/2008/02/26/science/26obsola.html?ex=1204693200&en=9cfc8a1ef8d7d81f&ei=5070&emc=eta1> or <http://tinyurl.com/2dr5uq>

2-26-08 Renting / Leasing Renewable Energy Equipment in Nevada

The Public Utilities Commission of Nevada is expected to rule on the legality of renting or leasing renewable energy equipment in the state, a decision that could have wide-reaching implications for the distributed energy market. Story at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=51667>

2-26-08 More on Professor Joachim Luther As CEO of the Solar Energy Research Institute of Singapore, SERIS [Karin Schneider]

Professor Joachim Luther, the former director of the Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems ISE, will lead the Solar Energy Research Institute of Singapore, SERIS, founded February 2008. SERIS was set up as an independent institution within the National University of Singapore. The budget for the first 5 years is approximately 60 million Euro, about half of which is planned for investments in scientific and technical equipment. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/36chbm>

2-26-08 WorldWater & Solar Technologies VP

WorldWater & Solar Technologies appointed Sean C. Rooney to the newly created position of Vice President, Engineering, Procurement and Construction Operations. Press at WorldWater & Solar Technologies: <http://www.worldwater.com/pages/worldwaternews.html>

2-26-08 Tamil Nadu Solar Programme, India

Six companies have expressed interest in implementing the recently unveiled national programme on solar power generation, and the Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency will formally invite proposals from these companies. Story at: <http://www.hindu.com/2008/02/26/stories/2008022654450500.htm>

Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency: <http://www.tn.gov.in/policynotes/archives/policy2002-03/energy2002-03-c.htm> or <http://tinyurl.com/32u9i6>

2-26-08 Taiwan's Solar Cell Industry

Taiwan Ratings Corp said that Taiwanese companies will likely make greater inroads to the solar-cell business as the global energy industry continues to expand though rising credit risks threaten to overshadow the growth prospects of the industry. Story at CNNMoney:

<http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/newstex/AFX-0013-23287709.htm> or <http://tinyurl.com/3yw9j7>

2-26-08 Renewables Tax Credits

See "Renewable Tax Bill Up for Vote This Week" at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=51662>

2-26-08 Energy Efficiency & Sustainability Symposium 2008

For information on the "Energy Efficiency & Sustainability Symposium 2008", 5-6 November in Atlanta, Georgia, visit: http://www.greenpowermagazine.com/energy08_index.php

In related solar news...

2-26-08 China Solar & Clean Energy Solutions Financing

China Solar & Clean Energy Solutions, Inc. announced it has entered into a Securities Purchase Agreement to sell shares of common stock for gross proceeds of up to US\$11 million. Press at:

<http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/080226/cntu020.html?v=19>

2-26-08 Orion Energy Systems Light Pipe Patent

Orion Energy Systems, Inc. announced that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has approved the issuance of a patent for the company's commercial grade Apollo™ Light Pipe. Stories at:

<http://tinyurl.com/343ggt> and <http://www.reuters.com/article/pressRelease/idUS169776+25-Feb-2008+PNW20080225?symbol=OESX.O> or <http://tinyurl.com/297867>

2-27-08 SCHOTT Solar Partnership with Saclima Solar Fotovoltaica

SCHOTT Solar has broadened its cooperation with sales partner Saclima Solar Fotovoltaica to expand the company's presence in the Spanish market. Saclima has been marketing SCHOTT Solar modules since 2005. Now the partners have closed an agreement for the next 5 years with a volume of more than 100 million Euros. Story at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEU0513.htm>

SCHOTT Solar: <http://www.schottsolar.com/>

Saclima: <http://www.saclima.com/>

2-27-08 Canadian Solar Wafer Supply Contracts

Canadian Solar Inc. has entered into a long-term, fixed-price contract to receive silicon wafers from Jiangsu Shunda Group Corp. through 2015. Story at CNNMoney:

<http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/apwire/27fc4ab28e8eb2d80bfc1bc19ee90067.htm> or <http://tinyurl.com/22x43s> Press on four suppliers:

<http://www.stockhouse.com/news/news.asp?tick=CSIQ&newsid=6373164> or <http://tinyurl.com/ywpsnq>

Cleantech® coverage: <http://media.cleantech.com/2514/canadian-solar-signs-deals-for-700-mw-of-wafers> or <http://tinyurl.com/22uek3> See also "Cost of electricity in China makes solar wafer production pricy, says

Canadian Solar" at: <http://tinyurl.com/2k8am9>

Canadian Solar Inc.: <http://www.csisolar.com/>

2-27-08 EMCORE Orders

EMCORE Corporation announced that it has been awarded a follow-on production order of \$39 million for additional solar cell receiver assemblies. These receivers are to be deployed in Green and Gold Energy's SunCube™ CPV systems through its worldwide licensees. Additionally, EMCORE has received purchase orders from several other CPV system integrators for CPV receiver assemblies. Story at:

http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/emcore-receives-39-million-in-new-orders-for-concentrator-solar_294791.shtml or <http://tinyurl.com/2eon44>

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

Green and Gold Energy: <http://www.greenandgoldenergy.com.au/>

2-27-08 Sharp Thin-Film Solar Cell Output

According to this press, Sharp Corp is looking abroad to raise annual output of thin-film solar cells by six fold to 6,000 MW after 2012 and beat silicon shortages. Story at:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssConsumerGoodsAndRetailNews/idUST7784620080227> or
<http://tinyurl.com/ywsf4n>

Sharp: <http://sharp-world.com/>

2-27-08 Sharp Corporation 2 GW Cumulative Solar Cell Production

At the end of 2007, Sharp Corporation became the first company to reach 2 GW in cumulative solar cell production volume. Story at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?id=51684>

Sharp: <http://sharp-world.com/>

2-27-08 SOLON AG Results

SOLON AG published its preliminary results for 2007. Story at Solarbuzz:

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEU512.htm>

SOLON: <http://www.solonag.de/>

2-27-08 Peccell Technologies Prototype

Peccell Technologies Inc. developed a transparent conductive dye-sensitized solar cell using a plastic substrate in collaboration with Fujimori Kogyo Co Ltd and Showa Denko KK, and prototyped a large-size solar cell module. Story and photo at: http://techon.nikkeibp.co.jp/english/NEWS_EN/20080227/148136/

Peccell Technologies: http://www.peccell.com/en/index_en.html

2-27-08 BTU Solar Business

BTU International said it was forming a new unit aimed a doubling the size of its solar business this year. John McCaffrey will lead the alternative energy unit's engineering and product development. Story at:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN2637453420080226> or
<http://tinyurl.com/2zjm55>

BTU: <http://www.btu.com/>

2-27-08 Honeywell Solar Project for City of Hillsboro, Oregon

Honeywell announced that the City of Hillsboro, Oregon has awarded the company a solar project to install ground-mounted solar panels next to the Hillsboro Evergreen Reservoir water storage facility and sell the electricity to the city for use at the reservoir. Story at:

<http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/080227/aqw040.html?v=43>

Honeywell Building Solutions: <https://buildingsolutions.honeywell.com/Cultures/en-US/>

2-27-08 Google, Masdar 2008 Cleantech Awards

Corporation of the Year (Google), Leader of the Year (Dr. Sultan al Jaber, CEO of the Masdar Initiative of the UAE), and Most Promising Technology (Simbol Mining Corporation) were awarded at the Cleantech Forum XVI in San Francisco. Story at Cleantech®: <http://media.cleantech.com/2510/google-masdar-2008-cleantech-award-corporation-leader-of-year> or <http://tinyurl.com/3cab9q>

Masdar Initiative: <http://www.masdaruae.com/>

2-27-08 Interstate Renewable Energy Council Connecting to the Grid Newsletter [Joan Ward]

The latest issue of IREC's Connecting to the Grid Newsletter is available at:

<http://www.irecusa.org/index.php?id=33>

2-27-08 SunPower at Investor Events

SunPower Corporation announced it will present at two upcoming investor events. Press at:

<http://tinyurl.com/2c4upu>

SunPower: <http://investors.sunpowercorp.com/events.cfm>

2-27-08 Solar Perspectives

See “Solar Temblor: 9 Big Trends” at Greentech Media: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/solar-temblor-9-big-trends-626.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/23rreu>

2-27-08 Green Collar Workers

Ohio is pioneering the development of “green collar” workers, a growing number of skilled professionals who use their talents to improve the emerging advanced energy industry. Story at: <http://tinyurl.com/yqzgoz> Ohio Means Business: <http://www.ohiomeansbusiness.com/>

In related solar news...

2-27-08 MAN Ferrostaal in Solar Cooling Market

Industrial Service provider MAN Ferrostaal has entered the solar cooling market with its acquisition of a 20.1% stake in solar cooling systems developer and manufacturer Solitem. Story at:

http://www.engineeringnews.co.za/article.php?a_id=127960

MAN Ferrostaal: <http://www.manferrostaal.com/>

Solitem: http://www.solitem.de/solitem.de/eng_index.php

2-28-08 Bloo Solar NSF Grant

Bloo Solar announced that it has been awarded a \$100,000 NSF Grant, which will enable Bloo Solar to deepen its work on the nanostructures contained in Bloo’s Solar Brush™ ultra thin film product. More at: http://www.businesswire.com/portal/site/google/?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20080228005274&newSLang=en or <http://tinyurl.com/yugexx>

Bloo Solar: <http://www.bloosolar.com/>

2-28-08 Ascent Solar Technologies – ITOCHU Cooperation

Ascent Solar Technologies, Inc. and ITOCHU Corporation announced that the companies will begin work toward the development of one or more strategic cooperation relationships. More at:

http://www.businesswire.com/portal/site/google/?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20080228005387&newSLang=en or <http://tinyurl.com/23h5ko>

Ascent Solar: <http://www.ascentsolar.com/>

ITochu: http://www.itochu.co.jp/main/index_e.html

2-28-08 Moser Baer PV Initiatives in India

Moser Baer PV has plans to ramp up PV electricity generation in India through a series of new initiatives. More at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=51685> or

<http://tinyurl.com/29hdcz>

Moser Baer: <http://www.moserbaer.com/index.asp>

<http://www.moserbaerpv.in/>

2-28-08 Solarvalue AG Results

Solarvalue AG issued its annual report for fiscal year 2007. Press at: http://www.stock-world.de/nachrichten/dgap/2508555-DGAP_News_Solarvalue_AG_english.html or

<http://tinyurl.com/2cymu4>

Solarvalue AG: <http://www.solarvalue.com/content/index.html>

2-28-08 Indoline Dyes for Solar Cells

See “Capturing Sunlight: Indoline Dyes Improve Efficiency of Solar Cells” at PhysOrg:

<http://www.physorg.com/news123411151.html>

2-28-08 Solar Feed-in Tariffs, Australia

Landmark legislation in South Australia has made it the first state in the country to introduce solar feed-in tariffs. Story through SolarPlaza <http://www.solarplaza.com/content/news.php> at:

<http://www.governmentnews.com.au/2008/02/28/article/AZJUFTXKJM.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/2waysu>

2-28-08 SolarTAC Research Center

SolarTAC, a spinoff of the recently established Colorado Renewable Energy Collaboratory, is evaluating sites around the Denver International Airport to establish a major solar energy research center. Story at the Rocky Mountain News: <http://www.rockymountainnews.com/news/2008/feb/28/solar-mirrors-could-array-near-dia/> or <http://tinyurl.com/22oskr>

Collaboatory: <http://www.nrel.gov/news/press/2007/498.html>
<http://www.colorado.edu/chancellor/speeches/renewableenergy.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/28ca6y>
http://www.mines.edu/all_about/public/collaboratory_signing.html or <http://tinyurl.com/275sq3>
http://newsinfo.colostate.edu/index.asp?news_item_id=549809914&url=news_item_display or
<http://tinyurl.com/ytzymx>

2-28-08 REN21 Report

Dr. Eric Martinot led an international team of 140 researchers and contributors to produce the REN21 Renewables 2007 Global Status Report. According to the report, the renewable energy sector now accounts for 2.4 million jobs globally and has doubled electric generating capacity since 2004 to 240 GW. More at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=51692> or <http://tinyurl.com/yqncsd>

REN21: <http://www.ren21.net/>

Worldwatch Institute: <http://www.worldwatch.org/>

2-28-08 Prince Albert II Visit to SolarWorld [Annegret Schneider]

Prince Albert II of Monaco is visiting SolarWorld AG within the framework of his state visit to Saxony. Accompanied by the Prime Minister of Saxony, he will view the manufacturing facilities of the SolarWorld Group in Freiberg at his explicit request.

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

2-28-08 DOE's Entrepreneur in Residence Pilot Program Selections

DOE announced that it has chosen 3 venture capital-funded firms to participate in DOE's Entrepreneur in Residence pilot program. Through the program, a venture-capitalist funded entrepreneur is placed in each of 3 chosen DOE research labs to identify lab-developed technologies and develop cases for their commercialization. DOE has selected Kleiner, Perkins, Caufield & Byers to work with NREL, ARCH Venture Partners to work with Sandia, and Foundation Capital to work with Oak Ridge. Press at:

http://www.eere.energy.gov/news/news_detail.cfm/news_id=11612 or <http://tinyurl.com/2otnn2>
<http://www.energy.gov/news/6017.htm>

Oct. 24, 2007 DOE press: <http://www.energy.gov/news/5661.htm>

Press at Cleantech®: <http://media.cleantech.com:80/2519/new-u-s-energy-department-program-links-vcs-and-researchers> or <http://tinyurl.com/2qt8lr>

2-28-08 Cleantech Opportunities

See "Think different about cleantech in India and China, say experts" with coverage of the recent Cleantech Forum in San Francisco at Cleantech®: <http://media.cleantech.com:80/2518/cleantech-india-china-vinod-khosla> or <http://tinyurl.com/yuemjh>

2-28-08 PHOTON's PV Glass Conference

PHOTON's 2nd PV Glass Conference is set for 4 April 2008 in Munich, Germany. For the program, see: http://www.photon-expo.com/en/pts_2008_europe/pvgc_2008_program.htm or <http://tinyurl.com/38o9m5>

Registration: http://www.photon-expo.com/en/pts_2008_europe/pvgc_2008_registration.htm or <http://tinyurl.com/2srxjr>

The Conference is one of a series of conferences that will be held in conjunction with the 3rd PHOTON Photovoltaic Technology Show: http://www.photon-expo.com/en/pts_2008_europe/index.htm or <http://tinyurl.com/2q2omr>

2-28-08 Solar Innovation & Investment Forum, London

The inaugural "Solar Innovation & Investment Summit" is taking place in London, 21-23 May 2008.

Information at: http://www.greenpowerconferences.com/renewablesmarkets/sii_london.html or <http://tinyurl.com/23h2n4>

2-28-08 CoSEIA Annual Conference and Meeting [Lynn Hirshman]

The 2008 CoSEIA Annual Conference and Meeting is set for 25-29 March 2008 in Fort Collins, Colorado. Information at: <http://www.coseia.org/2008MtgReg.htm>
Colorado Solar Energy Industries Association: <http://www.coseia.org/>

2-28-08 LDK at Technology Conference

LDK announced it will present at the 2008 Morgan Stanley Technology Conference. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/26cu5g>
LDK Solar: <http://www.ldksolar.com/>

2-28-08 BP on Green Energy

See the story "BP chief signals renewables profit drive" at: http://business.timesonline.co.uk/tol/business/industry_sectors/natural_resources/article3448938.ece or <http://tinyurl.com/yucnv6>

2-28-08 Renewables Tax Credits

The House passed H.R. 5351, the Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation Tax Act of 2008, by a vote of 236 to 182. If approved by the Senate and signed by the President, the bill would extend federal tax incentives for energy efficiency and renewable energy. More at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAGO351.htm> and RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=51696> or <http://tinyurl.com/yssyrz>
Solar Energy Industries Association: <http://www.seia.org/>

2-28-08 RenewableEnergyWorld Features

For the latest RenewableEnergyWorld "RE Insider", "RE Podcast", "Ask the Experts" and other perspectives, visit RenewableEnergyWorld at: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/home>

In related solar news...

2-28-08 EnviroMission Featured on History Channel

EnviroMission's Solar Tower will be featured on the History Channel's "Modern Marvels". Information at: <http://biz.yahoo.com/iw/080227/0367755.html>
EnviroMission: <http://www.enviromission.com.au/>

2-29-08 Voltalia Solar Power Facility, France

Voltalia has signed a lease for the site of a proposed 12 MW solar power facility in France. Press at: <http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/newstex/AFX-0013-23388435.htm> or <http://tinyurl.com/yrfpob>
Voltalia: <http://www.voltalia.com/>

2-29-08 Martifer Solar Installations in Belgium

Martifer SGPS said it has signed an agreement with Enfinity to install up to 30 MWp of solar panels in Belgium. Story at: <http://www.cnbc.com/id/23405076/for/cnbc>
Martifer: <http://www.martifer.com/Group/EN/home.html>
Enfinity: <http://www.enfinity.biz/>

2-29-08 Sale of Gamesa Solar

Gamesa Corporacion Tecnologica, S.A. has agreed to the sale of Gamesa Solar to private equity firm First Reserve Corporation. Stories at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEUCO515.htm> and Cleantech@: <http://media.cleantech.com/2530/gamesa-selling-solar-unit-to-first-reserve>
Gamesa: <http://www.gamesa.es/index.php/es>

2-29-08 Corus and Dyesol Investment in Dye Solar Cell Technology

See the joint news release, "Corus and Dyesol invest in ambitious Dye Solar Cell technology development for the built environment" at Dyesol: <http://tinyurl.com/26eg7q>
<http://www.dyesol.com/index.php?page=Home>
Corus: <http://www.corusgroup.com/en/>

2-29-08 More on Bloo Solar NSF Grant

See "Nanotech meets solar tech: Bloo Solar gets NSF grant" at
CNetNews: http://www.news.com/8301-11128_3-9881775-54.html?tag=nefd.blgs or
<http://tinyurl.com/2xzgjq>
Bloo Solar: <http://www.bloosolar.com/index.html>

2-29-08 Veeco Equipment for Kvant, Multi-junction Space Solar Cell Production

Veeco Instruments announced that Research Production Enterprise "Kvant" of Moscow, Russia has ordered a TurboDisc® E450™ arsenic phosphide Metal Organic Chemical Vapor Deposition System for production of multi-junction solar cells for commercial space applications. Story at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsASMA144.htm>
Veeco Instruments: <http://www.veeco.com/>

2-29-08 Concentrated Photovoltaic Summit, Site Visit to ISFOC [Belén Gallego]

The Concentrated Photovoltaic Summit set for 1-2 April in Madrid, Spain will conclude with a site visit to the test centre ISFOC in Puertollano, Spain. Pedro Banda, Director of ISFOC and speaker at the summit said, "ISFOC is the Institute of Concentration Photovoltaics and it was incorporated in August 2006. It is the result of an R&D plan commissioned to the Institute of Solar Energy of the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid by the Department of Education of the Government of Castilla La Mancha in Spain. The project is funded through a Technology loan from the Department of Education of the Spanish Government". More in the press release at: http://www.cpvtoday.com/pressreleases/pressrelease_28feb.pdf
Concentrated Photovoltaic Summit '08: <http://www.cpvtoday.com/>
See "Belén Gallego talks to Pedro Banda" at: <http://www.cpvtoday.com/newsletter0108/index6.htm>

2-29-08 BP Solar – Frederick County Public Schools Partnership, Maryland [Sarah C. Howell]

BP Solar and Frederick County Public Schools signed a partnership agreement that provides the two organizations with common objectives: to provide educational materials on alternative energy; to allow students to experience hands-on investigations using real-world activities; to connect industry experts to students and teachers; and to provide state-of-the-art solar equipment toward the construction of the FCPS Earth and Space Science Lab. Press from BP Solar:
<http://www.bp.com/genericarticle.do?categoryId=9019567&contentId=7041726> or
<http://tinyurl.com/ysmory>

2-29-08 Praxair Gas Management Services for Silfab

Praxair, Inc. has been chosen by Silfab SpA as the supplier of gas management services for Silfab's solar grade polysilicon manufacturing facility in Borgofranco d'Ivrea, Italy. More at:
<http://www.centredaily.com/business/technology/story/435538.html>
Praxair: <http://www.praxair.com/>
Silfab: <http://www.silfab.eu/en/>

2-29-08 More on the Eni Awards 2008

See Eni Award winners for 2008, Arthur J. Nozik, Stefan W. Glunz, and J. Craig Venter, at the Eni Website at: http://www.eni.it/en_IT/innovation-technology/eni-award/eni-award.shtml or
<http://tinyurl.com/2gmjwc>
For a press release on Dr. Stefan Glunz and his colleagues, see the Fraunhofer ISE Website at:
<http://www.ise.fhg.de/press-and-media/press-releases/press-releases-2008/eni-award-2008-science-technology> or <http://tinyurl.com/yv7gsk>

2-29-08 Semicon West 2008

See information on Semicon West 2008, 15-17 July in San Francisco, California, at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/events/view.jsessionid=BFAB55821B657653FD99B38CB939EAED?id=45427> or <http://tinyurl.com/yt527r>

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

2-29-08 WIREC 2008

See information on the Washington International Renewable Energy Conference – WIREC 2008 – 4-6 March 2008, at: <http://www.wirec2008.gov/wps/portal/wirec2008>

2-29-08 Solar-powered Homes, California

Solar power is now standard for about 280 new JKB Homes in Turlock, Denair, Hughson and Oakdale, California. Story at: <http://www.modbee.com/business/story/225893.html>

2-29-08 State Solar Policy, IREC Telephone Seminar

The next IREC Telephone Seminar on State Solar Policy Trends is set for 11 March. Information and pre-registration at: <http://statesolarpolicy.eventbrite.com/>

2-29-08 EuPD Research Report on Spanish PV Market [Florian Schmidt]

EuPD Research has published “The Spanish Photovoltaic Market 2007/07 – Optimism Despite Legal Uncertainties”. In this third study about PV in Spain, EuPD Research examines the current state and the future development of the 2nd biggest solar market worldwide.

Information at: <http://www.eupd-research.com/en/studien/eu/#24>

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

2-29-08 Solar Energy Market Report

A new report from SBI, The U.S. Solar Energy Market, indicates that several factors favorable to the industry will propel the market to triple digit growth to reach nearly \$12 billion by 2012. Press at The Earth Times: <http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/solar-energy-market-will-soar-to-12-billion-by-2012.297087.shtml> or <http://tinyurl.com/2cgj3j>

SBI: <http://www.sbireports.com/>

2-29-08 Solar ABCs Newsletter [Larry Sherwood]

The February newsletter for the Solar America Board for Codes and Standards (Solar ABCs) is available with information on California fire guidelines, proposals for 2011 NEC, an Advisory Committee, local codes studies, IEEE Standards ballot actions, upcoming stakeholder meetings, and a number of other topics. Watch for the Newsletter posting at Solar ABCs: <http://www.solarabcs.org/>

In related solar news...

2-29-08 Solar Power Plants, Spain

Spanish builder Sacyr Vallehermoso has agreed to build and operate 3 solar power plants in Seville with Israel's Solel for an investment of 850 million euros. Story at:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSL2978649520080229> or

<http://tinyurl.com/28tspb>

Sacyr Vallehermoso: <http://www.gruposyv.com/fase2/index.html>

Solel: <http://www.solel.com/>

2-29-08 Solar Thermal Power

See the story “Solar without the Panels” at MIT Technology Review:

<http://www.technologyreview.com/Biztech/20356/>