

NCPV Hotline — Week of January 14-18, 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>

Disclaimer <link to http://www.nrel.gov/pv/hotline/news_hotline_disclaimer.html>

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1-14-08 Nitol Solar Listing

Nitol Solar, a Russian-based company that makes high-purity silicon, is planning a listing on the London Stock Exchange – a move expected to value the company about \$1bn. Press at:

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/oilRpt/idUKL1227286820080112>

Nitol Solar: <http://www.nitolsolar.com/enabout/>

1-14-08 PV-21 Program

A national team of scientists led by experts at Durham University is embarking on one of the UK's largest ever research projects into PV. The £6.3million PV-21 program will focus on making thin-film light absorbing cells for solar panels from sustainable and affordable materials. The 4-year project is being funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council under the SUPERGEN initiative.

More at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEUTE21.htm>

PV-21: <http://www.pv21.org/intro.htm>

Additional press:

http://www.upi.com/NewsTrack/Science/2008/01/14/scientists_study_photovoltaic_solar_energy/8259/ or

<http://tinyurl.com/2vzc4w>

1-14-08 SCHOTT Facility in Albuquerque, New Mexico

SCHOTT AG of Mainz, Germany and New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson announced that SCHOTT Solar, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of SCHOTT AG, will construct a new solar energy technology production facility in the Mesa del Sol region of Albuquerque. Initially, the production site will manufacture receivers for concentrated solar thermal power plants, and 64 MW of PV modules. Stories at Solarbuzz:

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAMA103.htm>

RenewableEnergyAccess:

<http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/story;jsessionid=EB63F8843120424A96B44F1FE7F273FD?id=51121> or <http://tinyurl.com/2ap7e9>

Greentech Media: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/schott-to-build-solar-plant-under-new-mexican-sun-485.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/38nah6>

Governor's Office Press: <http://www.governor.state.nm.us/press.php?id=636>

<http://www.bizjournals.com/albuquerque/stories/2008/01/14/daily2.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/23okzw>

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

1-14-08 Neo Solar Power Funding

Neo Solar Power has posted a filing with the Taiwan Stock Exchange announcing that its NT\$3billion fund-raising plan has been approved. Press at DigiTimes:

<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PM0000000000000000000000000000322&query=SOLAR>

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

1-14-08 Topco Scientific Sales Record

By successfully extending its presence in PV product distribution, Topco Scientific saw its annual sales hit a record high in 2007. More at DigiTimes:

<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PB00000000000000000000000000003444&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/2u4dhy>

Topco Scientific: <http://www.topco.com.tw/eng/page/home.asp>

1-14-08 QS Solar New Production Line

Nantong Qingsheng Photovoltaic Technology Co. Ltd. (QS Solar, Shanghai, China) will begin making thin-film solar cells using a new production line in Nantong, Jiangsu, with a 25 MW production capacity.

More at Semiconductor International: <http://www.semiconductor.net/article/CA6522334.html>

1-14-08 Sierra Nevada Brewing Co. Renewable Power, California

Sierra Nevada Brewing Co. has announced that it has commissioned the first phase its solar installations, which when completed in 2008, will be 1.4 MW. SunPower and Mitsubishi solar panels are being used in the project.

More at RenewableEnergyAccess: <http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/story?id=51114> and

Sierra Nevada Press: <http://www.sierranevada.com/about/news.html#solar>

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

Mitsubishi: <http://global.mitsubishielectric.com/bu/solar/index.html>

1-14-08 Solar Power Plant, Germany

The construction work for the 1.65 MWp solar park in Plattling, Lower Bavaria, has been finished. The owner and initiator of the project is Holzkirchen-based Carpevigo AG, and the contractor was Plattling-based Solea AG, responsible for planning, construction management, and construction. Solar modules are from First Solar, and inverters from SMA.

Story at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/news/NewsEUPR425.htm>

Carpevigo: <http://www.carpevigo.de/>

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

SMA: <http://www.sma-america.com/>

1-14-08 Yingli Sales Contract with EDF

Yingli Green Energy has signed a sales contract with EDF Energies Nouvelles under which Yingli Green Energy will supply 7 MW of PV modules, expected to be delivered in 2008. Under the contract, EDF has an option to order another 6 MW of PV modules in 2008. More at

Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsASCO195.htm>

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

EDF: <http://www.edf.fr/1i/Accueil-fr.html>

1-14-08 NanoGram Financing

NanoGram Corporation has raised \$32 million to invest in its solar technology and advanced materials.

Story at: <http://www.mercrextra.com/blogs/takahashi/2008/01/14/solar-nanotech-firm-raises-32-million/> or <http://tinyurl.com/27afna>

NanoGram Corporation: <http://www.nanogram.com/>

1-14-08 Hoku Solar PV Installations in Hawaii

Hoku Solar, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Hoku Scientific Inc., announced that it has completed the installation of two turnkey PV power systems for Paradise Beverages, Inc. in Hawaii. Combined, the systems include 100 kW of PV panels. More at: <http://biz.yahoo.com/iw/080114/0348236.html>

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

1-14-08 Air Products Agreement with Signet Solar

Air Products announced it has signed an agreement with Signet Solar Inc. to supply turnkey installation of gas delivery systems and services and related gas needs for a new thin-film PV module production facility in Mochau, Germany. Story at: http://www.examiner.com/p-99516~Air_Products_Signs_Supply_Deal_with_Signet_Solar.html or <http://tinyurl.com/3bpwza>

Air Products: <http://www.airproducts.com/index.asp>

Signet Solar: <http://www.signetsolar.de/>

1-14-08 Solar at Fort Carson, Colorado

See the story "Fort Carson signs up for biggest solar power operation in Army" at:

<http://www.dailycomet.com/article/20080111/APN/801111020>

1-14-08 Xcel Energy Solar RFP

Xcel Energy announced that it is seeking new solar power generation from renewable energy sources. The company issued a Request for Proposals that would add approximately 25 MW of utility-scale solar power to its generation portfolio. Xcel Energy Press at:

http://www.xcelenergy.com/XLWEB/CDA/0,3080,1-1-1_15531_46991-44053-0_0_0-0,00.html or

<http://tinyurl.com/394egl>

1-14-08 Solaris Newsletter

The January 2008 issue of Solaris, the newsletter of the European Photovoltaic Industry Association, with coverage of EPIA activities and upcoming events, policy, news from the sector, and other topics, is on line at: http://www2.epia.org/09newsletter/newsletter_newstyle.asp

1-14-08 PHOTON International January 2008 Contents

For the table of contents for the January 2008 issue of PHOTON International, go to:

<http://www.photon-magazine.com/photon/index.htm>

See links to online articles at: <http://www.photon-magazine.com/>

1-14-08 German Solar Sector

According to this press, Germany's solar sector is in for another year of strong growth but the industry may see a downturn in 2009 as falling silicon prices may weigh on companies' profits. See coverage of a report by WestLB at: <http://uk.reuters.com/article/environmentNews/idUKL1431140420080114> or

<http://tinyurl.com/yu4xgg>

1-14-08 CIGS Sector

See the story "CIGS thin-film sector grows, blends hype, promise - Part I, Overview" through SolarPlaza

<http://www.solarplaza.com/content/news.php> at Fabtech: <http://www.fabtech.org/content/view/5956/>

1-14-08 GE Finance Co. Renewables Investment

General Electric Co.'s energy finance unit announced it is doubling its 2010 renewable energy investment target to \$6 billion. Story at GE Energy Financial Services: <http://www.geenergyfinancialservices.com/>

1-14-08 Spain's Solar PV and Wind Energy Markets

See information on Greentech Media's report on "The Future of Spain's Solar PV and Wind Energy Markets" at: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/reports/research-report-the-future-of-spains-solar-pv-and-wind-markets.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/2fc47r>

1-14-08 More on A Solar Grand Plan

A plan to use solar to end dependence on foreign oil, cut air pollution, and curb global warming is outlined in an article in the January issue of Scientific American. See coverage of the article – A Solar Grand Plan – by Ken Zweibel, James Jason, and Vasilis Fthenakis at: http://www.chicagotribune.com/technology/chimon_notebook_0114jan14,1,4834967.story or <http://tinyurl.com/yuhuky>

http://www.upi.com/International_Security/Energy/Briefing/2008/01/14/us_scientists_have_solar_power_plan/5070/ or <http://tinyurl.com/263bol>

Scientific American: <http://www.sciam.com/article.cfm?id=a-solar-grand-plan>

1-14-08 Research and Markets Report, North American Solar

Research and Markets announced the addition of Frost & Sullivan's report "North American Residential Solar Power Markets" to their offering. Information at:

<http://www.centredaily.com/business/story/331291.html>

<http://www.researchandmarkets.com/reports/c79402>

1-14-08 National PV Incentive

See "A National Solar PV Incentive Needed" by Daniel Simon at RenewableEnergyAccess:

<http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/reinsider/story?id=51108> or <http://tinyurl.com/yo7b9f>

1-14-08 Perceptions of Green Technologies [Jamie Wimberly]

EcoAlign, an affiliate of DEFG LLC, released the results and findings of the 2nd EcoPinion survey on customer perceptions of green technologies. Press at: <http://www.ecoalign.com/node/46>

EcoAlign: <http://www.ecoalign.com/>

Distributed Energy Financial Group: <http://www.defgllc.com/>

1-14-08 Hybrid Power Systems for Rural Electrification

The brochure "Hybrid power systems based on renewable energies: a suitable and cost-competitive solution for rural electrification" has been prepared by the Alliance for Rural Electrification and is available (pdf) at:

http://p27401.typo3server.info/fileadmin/DATA/Documents/06_Publications/Position_papers/ARE-WG_Technological_Solutions_-_Brochure_Hybrid_Systems.pdf or <http://tinyurl.com/38wmt5>

ARE: <http://www.ruralelec.org/>

1-14-08 Solar Powered Web Surfing

Meraki, the company that builds solar-powered WiFi repeaters that let residents surf the Web for free, is aiming to spread its WiFi network across the entire city of San Francisco. Story at:

<http://venturebeat.com/2008/01/04/meraki-rolls-out-free-wifi-throughout-san-francisco/> or

<http://tinyurl.com/yw2jpk>

Meraki, Free the Net: <http://sf.meraki.com/>

In related solar news...

1-14-08 Solel in Castile-La Mancha

Solel Solar Systems Ltd. will supply 46,000 thermosolar receptors to Aries Termoelectrica for two 50-MW power stations that the company is building in Castile-La Mancha. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/yssjqt>

1-14-08 Negev Solar Power

According to this press, Israel Corp. subsidiary IC Green Ltd., will participate in the build-operate-transfer tender for the Negev solar power plant at Ashelim. Story at: <http://tinyurl.com/yp6y4u>

Israel Corp.: <http://www.israelcorp.com/>

<http://www.israelcorp.com/content.asp?id=3>

1-14-08 Himin IPO

Shandong Himin Solar Energy Group Co., Ltd. is to speed up its IPO with the help of international investment companies. More on the private solar water heater and vacuum tube producer investment partners at: <http://www.tradingmarkets.com/site/news/Stock%20News/984974/>

Himin: <http://www.himin.com/english/index.html>

1-15-08 SolFocus Installation at 3-MW Spanish CPV Project [Gary Conley]

SolFocus and Spain's Institute of Concentration Photovoltaics Systems (ISFOC) announced the installation of the first CPV array in ISFOC's 3-MW project in Castilla-LaMancha. This is the first 200 kW of the 0.5 MW that SolFocus will install over the next few months. SolFocus broke ground at the ISFOC Puertollano site in October of last year with the construction and underground electrical work. The SolFocus array that is installed is rated at 6.2 kW and has performed over its design output. According to Dr. Pedro Banda, Director General of the ISFOC, "This is a very important occasion as it brings the

1-15-08 SolFocus Installation at 3-MW Spanish CPV Project [Gary Conley] - continued

industry one step closer towards commercial deployment of CPV technologies.” More in the press at SolFocus and ISFOC.

SolFocus (pdf): http://www.solfocus.com/news_file/20080114222126_PR-ISFO-1st-Array-Final.pdf or <http://tinyurl.com/yqq89t>

ISFOC (pdf): <http://www.isfoc.com/prensa/ISFO.pdf>

<http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/080115/aqtu059.html?v=40>

SolFocus: <http://www.solfocus.com/News.php>

ISFOC: <http://isfoc.unnica.com/>

1-15-08 More on Fort Carson Solar System, Colorado

3 Phases Energy Services, LLC, SunTechnics Energy Systems, Inc., and Morgan Stanley hosted Colorado Governor Bill Ritter for the ribbon cutting ceremony of the new 2-MW ground-mounted PV array at Fort Carson, Colorado. Solar panels are from First Solar. 3 Phases Energy selected Morgan Stanley Co. as the project investor and long-term owner. Story and photo at Solarbuzz:

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAPR984.htm>

3 Phases Energy Services: <http://www.3phases.com/>

SunTechnics: <http://www.suntechnics.com/>

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

1-15-08 Global Warming Solutions' Hybrid Solar Modules

Global Warming Solutions, Inc. announced successful testing of hybrid (heat and electricity generation) solar modules created for the Light Electric Thermal Generator project. More at:

<http://www.centredaily.com/business/story/333496.html>

Global Warming Solutions: <http://www.globalwarmingsolutions.com/>

1-15-08 Eni Solar Research Investment in Cooperation with MIT

Eni SpA said it would invest \$50 million over 5 years in an advanced research programme on solar energy in cooperation with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Eni will also become a Founding Member of the MIT Energy Initiative. Story at

CNNMoney: <http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/newstex/AFX-0013-22267475.htm> or

<http://tinyurl.com/yponl5> and in the Eni press at: <http://tinyurl.com/28olok>

Eni SpA: <http://www.eni.it/home/home.var>

MIT Energy Initiative: <http://web.mit.edu/mitei/>

1-15-08 EDF Module Contracts

EDF Energies Nouvelles announced the signing of two new contracts for PV modules. The first contract with Solarfun involves a firm order of 17 MWp and an option for a further 5 MWp of monocrystalline silicon modules. The order was placed jointly with Photon Power Technologies, EDF's solar energy partner in France. The second contract with Yingli Green Energy involves a firm order of 7 MWp and an option for another 6 MWp of polycrystalline silicon modules. Press at: <http://www.wallstreet-online.de/nachrichten/nachricht/2232992.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/2yfutm>

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

Photon Power: <http://www.photonpower.fr/>

Solarfun: <http://www.solarfun.com.cn/>

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

1-15-08 Solarfun Investment

Solarfun Power Holdings Co., Ltd. announced the completion of Good Energies' investment and a related waiver of share transfer restrictions. Press at: <http://au.biz.yahoo.com/080115/43/1kdvv.html>

Solarfun: <http://www.solarfun.com.cn/>

Good Energies: <http://www.goodenergies.com/>

1-15-08 SolarWorld Results, Sale of Shares of GPV

See the story "Solarworld Shares Gain; 2007 Was Better Than Expected (Update 1)" at: <http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601085&sid=ay85RAdUvv.w> or <http://tinyurl.com/3yq92g>
See also SolarWorld's sale of shares of the module subsidiary GPV (Gallivare PhotoVoltaic AB) to Borevind AB at: <http://www.solarworld.de/Corporate-News.72.0.html?L=1>
SolarWorld: <http://www.solarworld.de/?L=1>

1-15-08 More on SCHOTT Facility in New Mexico

SCHOTT Solar's proposed plant at Mesa del Sol could one day grow from an initial 350 jobs to 1,500, making it the state's third-largest private employer. But the company and other experts in the solar energy industry caution that such growth will hinge on cooperation from the federal government, particularly the extension of a key tax credit. Story at: <http://abqtrib.com/news/2008/jan/15/solar-company-schott-ag-says-growth-will-hinge-new/> or <http://tinyurl.com/2zh9to>
Other Press: <http://www.manufacturing.net/article.aspx?id=153914>
http://www.lcsun-news.com/ci_7968145?source=most_email or <http://tinyurl.com/23r7xs>
SCHOTT:
<http://www.us.schott.com/english/news/press.html?NID=211&PHPSESSID=lkrgqikjstievot88of9boo01> or <http://tinyurl.com/ysfcqh>

1-15-08 Morgan Stanley Minority Equity Stake in NGEN Partners

Morgan Stanley announced that it has agreed to acquire a minority equity stake in NGEN Partners, LLC. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/2navzf>
Morgan Stanley: <http://www.morganstanley.com/>
NGEN Partners: <http://www.ngenpartners.com/>

1-15-08 Clear Skies PV System for Hawthorne Machinery, California

Clear Skies Holdings, Inc. announced an agreement with Hawthorne Machinery to install a 159-kW PV system at the company's headquarters in Rancho Bernardo, California. Story at: <http://biz.yahoo.com/bw/080115/20080115005386.html?.v=1>
Clear Skies Group: <http://www.clearskiesgroup.com/>

1-15-08 Silicon Valley Microelectronics PV System, California

Silicon Valley Microelectronics announced the installation of a 50-kW PV system at their facility in Santa Clara, California. SVM is a member of Sustainable Silicon Valley. Story at: <http://biz.yahoo.com/bw/080114/20080114005406.html?.v=1>
Silicon Valley Microelectronics, Inc.: <http://www.svmi.com/>
Sustainable Silicon Valley: <http://www.sustainablesiliconvalley.org/>
Silicon Valley Solar: <http://www.sv-solar.com/>

1-15-08 PV Boom Times

See the story "Solar Stocks in 2007 – Photovoltaic Boom Times" by Peter Lynch at InvestorIdeas.com: <http://www.renewableenergystocks.com/PL/news/011508a.asp>

1-15-08 German Expertise for Asian Investors

See the press "Asian Photovoltaic Technology Show: Germany Offers Top Conditions for Asian Investors" from Invest in Germany at: <http://biz.yahoo.com/pnews/080115/ukf049.html?.v=3>
Invest in Germany: <http://www.invest-in-germany.de/en/>

1-15-08 XsunX at Conferences

XsunX announced that the company would be presenting at several upcoming conferences. Press at: <http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/pnewswire/CLTU055A15012008-1.htm> or <http://tinyurl.com/3d8etw>
XsunX: <http://www.xsunx.com/>

1-15-08 IREC Utility Rate Design Telephone Seminar

See information on IREC's "Utility Rate Design Telephone Seminar", 22 January 2008, at:
<http://ratedesign.eventbrite.com/>

1-15-08 Builders Conference, California

The PCBC® 2008 (formerly the Pacific Coast Builders Conference, or the Western Building Show) is set for 24-27 June 2008 at the Moscone Center, San Francisco, California. Information at:
http://pcbc.ljgpartner.com/EMC/2008/reg_opens/

1-15-08 SEI Workshop in Ecuador

This March, Solar Energy International will be in the UN-designated eco-city of Bahia de Caraquez, Ecuador offering a renewable energy and sustainable living workshop. Information at:
<http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/partner/story;jsessionid=E9A5A7718F8DBBCC8B9746EDB74D46CD?id=51134> or <http://tinyurl.com/32kw28>
SEI: <http://www.solarenergy.org/>

1-15-08 Solar Night Advanced Partner Training

Solar Night Industries announced its Advanced Partner Training Event for installers 24-25 January in St. Louis, Missouri. Information at:
<http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/partner/story;jsessionid=E9A5A7718F8DBBCC8B9746EDB74D46CD?id=51120> or <http://tinyurl.com/2s3ygh>
Solar Night: <http://www.solarnightindustries.com/>

In related solar news...

1-15-08 Ecofin Interest in Solel

According to this press, Ecofin is buying 40% of Solel Solar Systems Ltd. at a value of \$150 million. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/yrbjsd>
Ecofin: <http://www.ecofin.co.uk/ecofin/>

1-15-08 IREC Workshop to Prepare for NABCEP Exam

See the 11-12 February 2008 workshop to prepare individuals for the NABCEP Solar Thermal Certification Exam on March 15 at: <https://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?eventid=168633> or <http://tinyurl.com/354g7x>

1-16-08 EPV SOLAR Expanded Manufacturing in Germany [Ren Jenkins, Kathy Carrigan]

EPV SOLAR, Inc. announced that it will significantly expand its manufacturing operations with a new facility being built in Senftenberg, Germany. The new facility, which will be owned by EPV SOLAR Germany GmbH, a wholly owned EPV SOLAR company, will have an initial capacity of 25 MW per year. "EPV SOLAR Germany GmbH is a priority for EPV SOLAR and is just the beginning of our capacity expansion," said Scott T. Massie, the company's CEO. Story at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEUMA207.htm>
EPV SOLAR: <http://www.epvsolar.com/>

1-16-08 CENTROSOLAR Module Manufacturing Plant, Germany

CENTROSOLAR Group AG plans to build an entirely new, highly automated manufacturing plant for solar modules with an annual capacity of 150 MWp near the existing production location in Wismar, Germany at a cost of EUR 20 million. Story at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEUMA206.htm>
CENTROSOLAR Group AG: <http://www.centrosolar.de/>

1-16-08 Solar EnerTech \$21.4 Million in Private Placement

Solar EnerTech Corp. announced that on 11 January 2008, the company sold 24.3 million shares of its common stock and 24.3 million Series C Warrants to purchase shares of common stock for an aggregate purchase price of \$21.4 million in a private placement offering to accredited investors. More at: <http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/080115/cntu024.html?.v=21>
Solar EnerTech Corp.: <http://www.solarenertech.com/>

1-16-08 Gintech Energy and Neo Solar Power Orders

Gintech Energy and Neo Solar Power have received orders from India's top solar module makers amounting to 10 MWp each. More at DigiTimes:

<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PD00000000000000000000000004377&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/2phewp>

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

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

1-16-08 TSC-Affiliate Ramp Up of Polysilicon Production

A Taiwan Semiconductor Company affiliate will aggressively ramp up its polysilicon production capacity in Taiwan, meeting demand from both solar-related companies and TSC itself. More at DigiTimes:

<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PB00000000000000000000000003448&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/2td3jh>

1-16-08 SunPower Polysilicon Agreements

SunPower Corporation announced that it has signed two polysilicon agreements to be supplied by a new polysilicon plant located in Saudi Arabia. The two agreements will support in aggregate 2,500 MW of solar cell production. SunPower signed a polysilicon purchase agreement with NorSun AS and another with NorSun and its partners who are forming a joint venture company to construct a new polysilicon plant in Saudi Arabia. Each agreement anticipates polysilicon delivery to begin in 2010 and extend through 2019. Press at: <http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/prnewswire/AQW07416012008-1.htm> or <http://tinyurl.com/youb98>

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

NorSun: http://www.norsuncorp.no/?sc_lang=en

1-16-08 LDK Solar Trichlorosilane Contract

LDK Solar Co Ltd said it has signed a long-term contract to buy trichlorosilane from Jiangxi Ganzhong Chlorine & Caustic Co Ltd. Story at: <http://sg.news.yahoo.com/rtrs/20080116/tbs-ldksolar-silicon-7318940.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/3x46oe>

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

1-16-08 More on SolFocus' ISFOC Installation in Spain

SolFocus has begun installation of its concentrated PV arrays at ISFOC's 3-MW solar power plant in Southern Spain. See CNet News at: http://www.news.com/8301-11128_3-9850837-54.html?part=rss&subj=news&tag=2547-1_3-0-20 or <http://tinyurl.com/2sr424>

SolFocus: <http://www.solfocus.com/>

ISFOC: <http://isfoc.unnica.com/>

1-16-08 More on the Eni-MIT Energy Research Partnership

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Italian energy company Eni are collaborating on a major energy research partnership. The centerpiece of the collaboration will be a program focusing on the development of advanced solar technologies, from novel PV materials to design of solar power plants.

Story at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEUTE22.htm>

MIT: <http://web.mit.edu/>

<http://web.mit.edu/newsoffice/topic/energy.html>

Eni: <http://www.eni.it/home/home.var>

http://www.eni.it/home/press_center_en.html

1-16-08 Braggone – Beneq Agreement

Braggone has signed a joint development agreement with equipment supplier Beneq that offers a turnkey solution to provide a custom matched material and toolset for the maximum manufacturing efficiency and product performance of solar cells. Press at:

<http://prweb.com/releases/braggone/solar/prweb630061.htm>

Braggone: <http://www.braggone.com/>

Beneq: <http://www.beneq.com/frontpage.php>

1-16-08 Record Inverter Efficiency [Karin Schneider]

A maximum efficiency rating of 98.5% for PV inverters has been achieved by the Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems ISE in a test using prototype silicon carbide-based MOSFETs manufactured by CREE, Inc., USA. Press from the Fraunhofer-Institut für Solare Energiesysteme ISE at:

<http://www.ise.fhg.de/press-and-media/press-releases/press-releases-2008/fraunhofer-ise-sets-new-record-for-inverter-efficiency> or <http://tinyurl.com/yuwlm9>

Additional press:

http://www.eetimes.com/rss/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=205800959&cid=RSSfeed_eetimes_newsRSS or <http://tinyurl.com/356w9s>

CREE: <http://www.cree.com/>

1-16-08 GE Global Research Silicon Nanowire-based Solar Cell

GE Global Research announced that scientists on their Nano Photovoltaics team have demonstrated a scalable silicon nanowire-based solar cell, which has the potential to achieve up to 18% efficiency and be produced at a dramatically lower cost than conventional solar cells. More at:

<http://biz.yahoo.com/bw/080116/20080116005707.html?.v=1>

GE Global Research: <http://www.ge.com/research/>

1-16-08 Venture Capital Investment in Renewable Energy

According to a report from Greentech Media, Inc., venture capital investment in renewable energy reached an unprecedented level of \$3.4 billion in 2007. Story at: <http://tinyurl.com/2tzmtf>

Greentech Media Report: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/research-venture-power.html>

Greentech Media: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/>

1-16-08 Applied Materials on Global Solar Power Equipment Market Growth

Applied Materials Inc. sees the global solar power equipment market growing at 30% over the next few years. Story at: <http://malaysia.news.yahoo.com/rtrs/20080116/tbs-appliedmat-china-21231dd.html> or

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

Applied Materials: <http://www.appliedmaterials.com/>

1-16-08 Harnessing Solar Power, WFES, Abu Dhabi

See the story "Harnessing solar power as a major energy source" with coverage of the World Future Energy Summit, 21-23 January in Abu Dhabi, UAE, at:

http://www.menafn.com/qn_news_story_s.asp?StoryId=1093181798 or <http://tinyurl.com/2sb7le>

World Future Energy Summit: <http://www.wfes08.com/>

1-16-08 Solar Array at North Carolina State University Campus

A 75.6 kW system – the largest privately financed PV array in North Carolina – was dedicated on January 15 at a ceremony hosted by NC GreenPower and North Carolina State University. Story at:

<http://tinyurl.com/2ul8d9>

NCGreenPower: <http://www.ncgreenpower.org/>

1-16-08 Accolades for G24 Innovations [Rachel Griffiths]

G24 Innovations has been named #23 in the top 100 low-carbon pioneers. Press at:

<http://cnbceb.com/2008/01/01/the-top-100-low-carbon-pioneers/3/> or <http://tinyurl.com/3crfga>. Also, Robert Hertzberg, Chairman, has been named by The Guardian as one of the "50 People Who Could Save the Planet". G24i press: <http://www.g24i.com/>

The Guardian: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2008/jan/05/activists.ethicalliving> or <http://tinyurl.com/3a2lbk>

1-16-08 Solar Market Outlook

Information on Greentech Media's "Solar Market Outlook: A Day of Data", 19 February 2008 in New York City is available at: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/events/live/solarmarkets-past.html> or

<http://tinyurl.com/yvokqt>

Agenda: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/events/live/solarmarkets-agenda.html> or

<http://tinyurl.com/255d73>

1-16-08 Centralized Solar Power Conference

For information on EUCI's conference "Technology, Performance, Load Matching, and Transmission and Land Use Challenges in Building Centralized Solar Power", 13-14 February 2008 in Denver, Colorado, see "Centralized Solar for Electric Generation" at: <https://www.euci.com/conferences/0208-centralized-solar/agenda.php> or <http://tinyurl.com/2qu3jt>

1-16-08 Green Power Marketing in the U.S. [Lori Bird]

The report, "Green Power Marketing in the United States: A Status Report (Tenth Edition)", documents green power marketing activities and trends in the U.S. It presents aggregate green power sales data for all voluntary purchase markets across the U.S., including utility green pricing programs offered in regulated electricity markets, green marketing activity in competitive electricity markets, as well as green power sold to voluntary purchasers in the form of RECs. Included is a discussion of key market trends and issues. Report (pdf) at: <http://www.eere.energy.gov/greenpower/resources/pdfs/42502.pdf>
The Green Power Network: <http://www.eere.energy.gov/greenpower/resources/publications.shtml> or <http://tinyurl.com/22jaek>

In related solar news...

1-16-08 CSP Congress

Pietro Menna, Directorate General for Energy and Transport, European Commission, will address the inaugural CSP Congress in Barcelona, 5-6 February 2008, providing an update on the Commission's policies to promote the development of the CSP market. See "Concentrating Solar Power experts to meet in Barcelona" at RenewableEnergyAccess:

<http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/partner/story?id=51149> or <http://tinyurl.com/279hrl>

The CSP Congress™:

http://www.greenpowerconferences.com/renewablesmarkets/csp_barcelona08.html or

<http://tinyurl.com/2onz9t>

1-16-08 Trendsetter Solar Featured

TrendSetter Solar Products, Inc. announced that CEO and President Dirk Atkinson would be featured in an interview with www.wallst.net scheduled for 17 January.

Information at: <http://www.wallstreet-online.de/nachrichten/nachricht/2236090.html> or

<http://tinyurl.com/2qo672>

TrendSetter Solar Products: <http://www.trendsetterindustries.com/>

1-16-08 China Solar Acquisition of Shenzhen PengSangPu Solar

China Solar & Clean Energy Solutions, Inc. announced that it has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire Shenzhen PengSangPu Solar Industrial Products Corporation. The acquisition will enable China Solar to begin leveraging its technology and engineering capabilities and expertise, and significantly expand China Solar's customer base, presenting a commercial and industrial market opportunity for solar water heaters in southern China.

Press at: <http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/080116/cnw014.html?.v=19>

1-17-08 Cleanfield Alternative Energy Semiconductor Nanowire PV Research Collaboration Agreement with OCE and McMaster University

Cleanfield Alternative Energy Inc. announced that its wholly owned subsidiary, Cleanfield Energy Corp., has developed a strategic partnership with McMaster University's Department of Engineering Physics by way of a research collaboration agreement among Cleanfield, McMaster and the Ontario Centres of Excellence Inc. McMaster will research and develop semiconductor nanowire PV technology, and OCE has agreed to provide an aggregate of \$275,000 in funding over the proposed 3-year term. Cleanfield will provide an aggregate of \$180,000 as well as an additional \$120,000 of in-kind services towards testing.

More at: <http://www.marketwire.com/mw/release.do?id=811126&sourceType=3> or

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

Cleanfield Energy: <http://www.cleanfieldenergy.com/>

Ontario Centres of Excellence: <http://www.oce-ontario.org/Pages/Home.aspx>

1-17-08 NanoPV Operations, New Jersey

NanoPV, which has teamed up with Taiwan-based Kenmos Photovoltaic, will kick off operations at its New Jersey fab in the 2nd quarter according to NanoPV president Anna Selvan John. The new plant, which will house a solar cell capacity of 5 MWp, is primarily meant for the development of PV technology and equipment. The plant is expected to put out tandem junction thin-film solar cell making equipment by the end of 2008. The company is looking for another site in the U.S. to build a 2nd fab for the production of thin-film solar cells. Story at DigiTimes:

<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PD00000000000000000000000004395&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/39drm9>

NanoPV: <http://www.nano-pv.com/index2.html>

<http://www.nano-pv.com/>

PHOTON press December 2007: <http://tinyurl.com/2lhql6>

Kenmos Photovoltaic: <http://www.kenmos-pv.com.tw/>

1-17-08 M.SETEK Polysilicon for JA SOLAR

JA Solar Holdings Co. said that M.SETEK Co. has agreed to provide it with an additional 458 metric tons of polysilicon this year. Press at: <http://au.biz.yahoo.com/080117/21/1khy1.html>

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

M.SETEK: <http://www.msetek.com/en/index.html>

1-17-08 Meinl International Power Solar Farm, Spain

Meinl International Power Ltd. has signed contracts for the development of a solar farm in Andalusia, Spain. The plants will be constructed by a consortium headed by Alpine Energie Deutschland GmbH and designed for a total capacity of 15.4 MWp. Press at: <http://www.finanznachrichten.de/nachrichten-2008-01/artikel-9895077.asp> or <http://tinyurl.com/2vklpg>

Meinl International Power: <http://www.meinpower.com/en/>

Alpine Energie: <http://www.alpine-energie.com/Content.Node2/ae/index.php>

1-17-08 Day4 Energy Solar Project with EnBW

Day4 Energy Inc. announced the completion of the first 2 months of operation of the 1-MW solar energy project with EnBW. EnBW has extended its contract with Day4 and scheduled two additional large-scale projects set for construction in 2009 and 2010. Press at:

http://biz.yahoo.com/cnw/080117/day4_energy_enbw.html?.v=1

Day4 Energy: <http://www.day4energy.com/>

EnBW:

<http://www.enbw.com/content/en/index.jsp;jsessionid=6F7EF6242C4E814A36F8497A8336E748.nbw184>

or <http://tinyurl.com/323326>

1-17-08 Thin-film Solar

See the story "Bulking Up on Thin-Film Solar" at Greentech Media:

<http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/bulking-up-on-thin-film-solar-505.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/3cs6fj>

1-17-08 Nitol Solar Featured

See coverage of Russia-based Nitol Solar in the article "Challenge in quest for solar domination" at Financial Times: <http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/1344b938-c455-11dc-a474-0000779fd2ac.html> or

<http://tinyurl.com/3b9q4u>

See also, "Nitol Solar Polysilicon IPO" at enf.cn: <http://www.enf.cn/news/080117/1253.html>

Nitol Solar: <http://www.nitolsolar.com/>

1-17-08 UC-Davis, Q1 NanoSystems Licensing Deal

Making solar energy cheaper and more efficient is the aim of a new licensing deal between the University of California, Davis and Q1 NanoSystems. The university and the company have agreed on terms for exclusive licensing of a package of jointly owned intellectual property stemming from inventions both on and off campus. More at: <http://www.physorg.com/news119708245.html>

Q1 NanoSystems: <http://www.q1nano.com/>

1-18-08 Emcore Solar Division Growth

Emcore Corp. is enjoying substantial revenue growth thanks in large part to its foray into the terrestrial solar energy market. See "Emcore solar division sees double-digit growth" at:

<http://albuquerque.bizjournals.com/albuquerque/stories/2008/01/21/story1.html?b=1200891600%5E1577915> or <http://tinyurl.com/29fb2c>

Emcore: http://www.emcore.com/product/ter_solar.php
<http://www.emcore.com/>

1-18-08 Kyocera Solar for Qualcomm, California

Kyocera Solar, Inc. announced that Qualcomm Incorporated has installed 417 kW of solar energy that will provide power for one of its campuses in San Diego. Story at:

<http://www.centredaily.com/business/technology/story/341880.html>

Kyocera Solar press [Jessica Gimber]: http://www.kyocerasolar.com/news/news_detail.cfm?key=494

Kyocera Solar: <http://www.kyocerasolar.com/>

1-18-08 Atlantis Energy Systems \$100K Award

Atlantis Energy Systems, Inc., which recently moved its headquarters from Virginia to the Town of LaGrange, was awarded \$100,000 from the Empire State Development Corporation. Press at:

http://www.midhudsonnews.com/News/Atlantis_ESC_grant-17Jan08.htm or <http://tinyurl.com/ywslu3>

Atlantis Energy Systems: <http://www.atlantisenergy.org/>

Empire State Development Corporation: <http://www.empire.state.ny.us/>

1-18-08 REC Results, Growth

Renewable Energy Corporation said it is confident of continued profitable growth in the coming years.

Press at: <http://www.forbes.com/markets/feeds/afx/2008/01/18/afx4547168.html> or

<http://tinyurl.com/yu4tf4>

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/oilRpt/idUKL18296720080118?rpc=401&>

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

http://www.huginonline.com/plsql/try/pressreleases.queryview?P_IDENTIFIER=1183309&Z_CHK=32060&p_la=5&p_web=5 or <http://tinyurl.com/33qq14>

1-18-08 Cleantech Investment Perspectives

Investors poured over \$5 billion into cleantech last year, with solar standing out as a major theme. See reference to the year-end roundup from Cleantech Group at:

<http://media.cleantech.com:80/2314/energy-generation-cleans-up-in-2007> or <http://tinyurl.com/2rmmtd>

Cleantech™ Group LLC: <http://media.cleantech.com:80/2022/about-the-cleantech-group>

See also "While Venture Capital Shines On Solar, Focus Moves to Energy Alternatives" at CNN Money:

<http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/newstex/IBD-0001-22344121.htm> or

<http://tinyurl.com/2nx45h>

1-18-08 California Solar Outlook for 2008

California has been a leading state for solar in the U.S., and 2008 will be a bell-weather year for expanding the use of solar in California. However, without a federal tax credit extension, the outlook is uncertain for customers, installers, employees, and companies who would like to sell their products in this state. See "California Solar Outlook for 2008" by Sue Kateley, Executive Director of CALSEA, at RenewableEnergyAccess:

<http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/reCOLUMNISTS/story?id=51151> or

<http://tinyurl.com/23pjb>

CALSEA: <http://www.calseia.org/>

1-18-08 Solar Energy in China

See the story "Sun rises slowly on China's solar energy sector" at Guardian Unlimited:

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/feedarticle?id=7236380>

1-18-08 UAE Green City

The United Arab Emirates plans to start building a multi-billion-dollar green city in the desert in the first quarter of this year as it looks to be come a pioneer of alternative energy. Story at:

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

1-18-08 Green Power Conference

EUCI's "5th Annual Marketing Green Power Conference" is set for 16-17 April 2008 in Denver, Colorado.

Agenda at: <https://www.euci.com/conferences/0408-green-power/agenda.php> or <http://tinyurl.com/24p749>

1-18-08 PV EXPO 2008

For information on the 1st International Photovoltaic Power Generation Expo "PV EXPO 2008", 27-29

February 2008, Tokyo Big Sight, Japan, visit: <http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/partner/pvexpo/>

1-18-08 RFP for Renewable Energy Program Technical Assistance, California

For the California Energy Commission's Addendum #2 to the Request for Proposals for Technical

Assistance For The Renewable Energy Program, see: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/contracts/index.html>

In related solar news...

1-18-08 Google \$10 M to eSolar

Google said the company's philanthropic arm gave \$10 million to solar-thermal developer eSolar. The news is part of a larger announcement regarding Google's \$25 million commitment toward philanthropy, which includes supporting alternative-vehicle advancements. The funding is also part of the Renewable Energy Cheaper than Coal initiative that Google announced in November. More at Greentech Media:

<http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/google-heats-up-esolar-with-10m-507.html> or

<http://tinyurl.com/2bxdj6>

Reuters: http://www.reuters.com/article/homepageCrisis/idUSN17226771.CH_2400?rpc=401& or

<http://tinyurl.com/yu3296>

Story at cleantech: <http://media.cleantech.com:80/2313/esolar-gets-googled>

Google Press: http://www.google.com/intl/en/press/pressrel/20080117_googleorg.html or

<http://tinyurl.com/3c4ckx>

eSolar: <http://www.esolar.com/>

GreenEnergyTV on eSolar: <http://greenenergytv.com/Browse/Recent.aspx?1333254994>

Renewable Energy Cheaper Than Coal: <http://www.google.com/corporate/green/energy/index.html>

1-18-08 Concentrated Solar Power Summit

See "The Concentrated Solar Power Summit in San Francisco (28-29 January) has exceeded all

expectations" at: [http://www.prlog.org/10046435-the-concentrated-solar-power-summit-in-san-francisco-](http://www.prlog.org/10046435-the-concentrated-solar-power-summit-in-san-francisco-28-29-jan-has-exceeded-all-expectations.html)

[28-29-jan-has-exceeded-all-expectations.html](http://www.prlog.org/10046435-the-concentrated-solar-power-summit-in-san-francisco-28-29-jan-has-exceeded-all-expectations.html) or <http://tinyurl.com/yp3nzd>

Conference Information: <http://www.csptoday.com/us/>