

NCPV Hotline — Week of March 17-21, 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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Subscribe/Unsubscribe: Email name, organization, and e-mail address to [Carol Riordan](mailto:Carol_Riordan@nrel.gov) <mailto:Carol_Riordan@nrel.gov> at NREL

3-17-08 World PV Market Growth, Solarbuzz Annual Report

Solarbuzz is reporting world solar PV market growth of 62% in 2007.

Solarbuzz press at: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/news/NewsNACO723.htm>

See the 2007 World PV Industry Report Highlights at: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/marketbuzz2008-intro.htm>

Marketbuzz™ 2008 Report content outline: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/Marketbuzz2008.htm>

Charts and tables: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/Marketbuzz2008-figures.htm>

3-17-08 Tata BP Solar Financing for Expansion

Tata BP Solar said it has signed an agreement with Calyon Bank, BNP Paribas and others to raise \$78 million for expansion.

Story at: <http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssEnergyNews/idUSBOM30280320080317> or <http://tinyurl.com/2lztbu>

Tata BP Solar: <http://www.tatabpsolar.com/>

3-17-08 Johanna Solar Technology License to Shandong Sunvim Solar Technology

Johanna Solar Technology GmbH has granted a first license to Shandong Sunvim Solar Technology Co Ltd for the construction of a thin-film solar module production plant using CIGSse technology.

Story at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/news/NewsASMA148.htm>

Johanna Solar Technology: <http://www.johanna-solar.com/en/index.shtml>

3-17-08 Ascent Solar Registration Statement

Ascent Solar Technologies filed a registration statement with the SEC for the proposed offering by Ascent Solar of shares of its common stock.

Story at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/news/NewsNACO724.htm>

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

3-17-08 RoseStreet Labs Energy Grand Opening

RoseStreet Labs Energy, Inc. announced the grand opening of its new solar cell development center in Phoenix, Arizona. This PV development center includes a full spectrum PV pilot line and also a lab for solar cell packaging and interconnection. RoseStreet Labs is developing both thin film and multijunction high efficiency solar cells for the concentrated and flat-panel markets.

Story at: <http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/080317/lam515.html?v=2>

RoseStreet Labs: <http://www.rosestreetlabs.com/>

FlipChip International: <http://www.flipchip.com/>

3-17-08 Signet Solar Manufacturing Site

Signet Solar announced plans to locate its second manufacturing site in the Sriperembudur Special Economic Zone near Chennai, India. Stories at:

http://www.businesswire.com/portal/site/google/?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20080317005960&newsLang=en or <http://tinyurl.com/2zkppl>

<http://www.newkerala.com/one.php?action=fullnews&id=36089>

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

3-17-08 Adept Technology for Solar Cell Production Equipment Manufacturer

Adept Technology, Inc. announced that its automation software, robotics and system products have been selected by SLS Solar Line Saxony as standard products for their automation equipment for solar cell production. Press at: <http://biz.yahoo.com/bw/080317/20080317005634.html?v=1>

Adept: <http://www.adept.com/>

3-17-08 Roth & Rau Robust Demand

See the story "Roth & Rau set to rebound on robust demand" through the PVGroup PV News

<http://www.pvgroup.org/index.htm> at:

<http://www.businessday.co.za/articles/companies.aspx?ID=BD4A728453> or <http://tinyurl.com/25owjt>

Roth & Rau: <http://www.roth-rau.de/>

3-17-08 Sharp Solar Energy Solutions for Clarum Homes

Sharp Solar Energy Solutions Group, the U.S. solar arm of Sharp Corporation, designed and provided the solar power systems for Clarum Homes' new Hansen Lane Estates in Danville, California. These new Clarum "Enviro-Homes" feature Sharp OnEnergy™ solar electric systems as a standard feature.

Story at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?id=51860>

Sharp: <http://solar.sharppusa.com/solar/home/1,2462,,00.html>

3-17-08 juwi solar Expansion

juwi solar says it is expanding its activities in Italy, Spain, and France, initially with a power station near Lecce in Italy and a freestanding 1.7 MW project near Vittoria, Italy.

Story at: http://www.solarindustrymag.com/e107_plugins/content/content_lt.php?content.1104 or

<http://tinyurl.com/27dfff>

juwi: <http://www.juwi.de/international/frame.htm>

3-17-08 JA Solar Cell Production Guidance

According to this press, JA Solar Holdings Co. Ltd. has increased its yearly solar cell production guidance figures from 425 MW to 500 MW for 2008.

Press at: <http://www.chinaknowledge.com/News/news-detail.aspx?type=1&id=13980>

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

3-17-08 Plastic Solar Cell Advances

Researchers in the U.S. and Austria report an advance toward the next generation of plastic solar cells.

Their study is scheduled for the March 19 issue of ACS' Journal of the American Chemical Society. Story

at: <http://www.huliq.com/53860/toward-next-generation-highefficiency-plastic-solar-cells> or

<http://tinyurl.com/yq5e2v>

3-17-08 Conergy Restructuring

See the press from Conergy on restructuring at: [http://www.conergy.de/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-](http://www.conergy.de/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-182/271_read-8845/)

[182/271_read-8845/](http://www.conergy.de/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-182/271_read-8845/) or <http://tinyurl.com/3xwqms>

3-17-08 SunPower “Intelegant Award for Excellence”

SunPower Corporation announced that Independent Power Systems of Boulder, Colorado, a SunPower Premier Dealer, has won the SunPower “Intelegant Award for Excellence” in residential solar electric power system installation. Independent Power Systems received the award for its installation of SunPower solar systems on 5 new homes built by Coburn Development in North Boulder’s Holiday Neighborhood. Story at: <http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/independent-power-systems-wins-sunpower-intelegant-award-for-excellence-in.316337.shtml> or <http://tinyurl.com/2gqjrl>
SunPower: <http://www.sunpowercorp.com/>
Independent Power Systems: <http://www.solarips.com/>

3-17-08 Solar for Phoenix Convention Center, Arizona

In early April, crews will install solar technology on roughly 1/3 of the Phoenix Convention Center West Building’s 2-acre roof.
Story at: <http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/news/articles/0317solar0317.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/37omqt>

3-17-08 EPIA’s Solaris Newsletter

The March 2008 issue of EPIA’s Solaris newsletter, with an editorial on the future renewable energy directive, EPIA activities, upcoming events, policy, technology, publications and other news, is available at: http://www2.epia.org/09newsletter/newsletter_newstyle.asp

3-17-08 SEPA News

Solar Electric Power Association (SEPA) news for 14 March 2008, with coverage of SEPA news and events, a featured resource/tool, member highlights, utility news, requests for proposals, policy, industry, and other news is available by subscription. For a subscription, see: <http://www.solarelectricpower.org/index.php?page=members&subpage=register> or <http://tinyurl.com/2fwwu2>

3-17-08 World Renewable Energy Congress and Exhibition

The World Renewable Energy Congress X and Exhibition 2008, organized by the World Renewable Energy Congress Brighton, UK, is set for 19-25 July 2008 in Glasgow, Scotland. For information on WRECX 2008, including additional links (right side), see the Website at: <http://www.wrenuk.co.uk/wrecx.html>
World Renewable Energy Congress/Network: <http://www.wrenuk.co.uk/>

3-17-08 California Solar Initiative

The California Public Utilities Commission will convene a Pre-hearing Conference on 22 April to discuss the ongoing scope and schedule of the CSI program. Information from the CPUC. http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PUBLISHED/AGENDA_DECISION/79948.htm
<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/puc/>

3-17-08 More on OPIC Request for Proposals

The Overseas Private Investment Corporation is inviting proposals from qualified private equity fund managers for the formation and management of one or more investment funds that plan to invest approximately half of its or their capital companies or projects within the Renewable Energy sector. Information through Cleantech™ <http://cleantechnetwork.com/index.cfm?pageSRC=CleantechDefined> at: http://www.opic.gov/investment/proposals/global_energy_2008/overview.asp or <http://tinyurl.com/27p885>

3-17-08 Inventis Solar Energy Initiative in Italy

Inventis Inc. has launched a solar energy investment initiative in Italy.
More at: <http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/03-17-2008/0004774818&EDATE=> or <http://tinyurl.com/2zyw5l>
Inventis Inc. <http://www.inventis.biz/solar-energy.html>

3-17-08 Environmental Tracking Network of North America [Lori Bird]

With support from the U.S. DOE, the Environmental Tracking Network of North America (ETNNA) has been launched. It is North America's first network organization for renewable energy and greenhouse gas emissions tracking systems and registries. A webinar providing additional information on the organization and role of participants is set for 25 March.

For details, see: <http://resource-solutions.org/policy/etnna/>

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

3-17-08 Renewable Energy Teleconference Series

For information on the Renewable Energy Teleconference Series March 19 topic, "Honing the Cutting Edge: Strategies and Challenges in Scaling Up Cleantech and Renewables", see:

<http://www.acore.org/renewableenergyinfo/teleconference/view-teleconference.php?id=56> or

<http://tinyurl.com/32ky6f>

http://gw.vtrenz.net/?I9WF1JJC8Z:I9WF1JJC8Z=ssID:209573339,email:carol_riordan@nrel.gov,mode:live or <http://tinyurl.com/2c25h9>

ACORE Renewable Energy Seminar & Teleconference Series:

<http://www.acore.org/renewableenergyinfo/>

In related solar news...

3-17-08 Wizard Power Solar Thermal Power Station, Australia

Wizard Power will start construction of a solar thermal power station in Whyalla in October. Story at Adelaide Now: <http://www.news.com.au/adelaidenow/story/0,22606,23386681-2682,00.html> or

<http://tinyurl.com/ynu7hy> Wizard Power: <http://www.wizardpower.com.au/>

3-18-08 Phoenix Solar Power Plants in Spain for US Investor [Andrea Zepf]

Phoenix Solar AG has signed a general contractor agreement with a US investor for the construction of two solar power plants in Spain. The ground-mounted power plants will have a nominal power of around 4.7 MW in total, with First Solar thin-film modules.

Press at Phoenix Solar:

http://www.phoenixsolar.com/Press/PressReleases/content/articles/PM_080318.html?uri=/index.html or

<http://tinyurl.com/2t7o5c>

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

3-18-08 Solar for SAS, North Carolina

SAS is considering plans to build the state's largest solar energy generator on its campus in Cary.

Story at: <http://www.wavy.com/Global/story.asp?S=8032089&nav=23ii>

3-18-08 Solar Power Inc. Revenue Guidance

According to this press, Solar Power Inc. said problems with a planned solar power installation project, expected to generate \$23 million in revenue, could lower its 2008 revenue guidance of \$60 million. Story at the Sacramento Business Journal:

<http://www.bizjournals.com/sacramento/stories/2008/03/17/daily5.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/2ddwqp>

Solar Power Inc.: <http://www.solarpowerinc.net/>

3-18-08 More on Signet Solar Investment, India

Signet Solar signed a memorandum of understanding with the Government of Tamil Nadu to put up an Rs 2,000-crore project to manufacture thin film PV modules at Sriperumbudur, near Chennai. Stories at:

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/2008/03/18/stories/2008031850980300.htm> or

<http://tinyurl.com/yw3m6f> <http://media.cleantech.com/2598/signet-solar-to-build-manufacturing-plant-in-india> or

<http://tinyurl.com/32ppk4>

[\[tech.org/fab_and_facilities/article/signet_solar_locates_300mw_thin_film_pv_plant_in_chennai_india\]\(http://www.pv-tech.org/fab_and_facilities/article/signet_solar_locates_300mw_thin_film_pv_plant_in_chennai_india\) or](http://www.pv-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

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

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

3-18-08 WorldWater & Solar Technologies Results

WorldWater & Solar Technologies Corp. announced results for the 4th quarter and 12 months ended 31 December 2007. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/26wy5y>
WorldWater & Solar Technologies: <http://www.worldwater.com/index.html>

3-18-08 Qiangsheng Photovoltaic Technology Co. Solar Power Plant, China

China's Qiangsheng Photovoltaic Technology Co. plans to build a 1-MW PV power plant in Rudong, Jiangsu Province using thin-film amorphous silicon.
Story at: <http://www.tradingmarkets.com/site/news/Stock%20News/1212419/>

3-18-08 BTU Center of Excellence for Photovoltaics Process Technology

BTU International announced the opening of its new Center of Excellence for Photovoltaics Process Technology in Shanghai, China.
Story at: <http://biz.yahoo.com/bw/080318/20080318005024.html?.v=1>
BTU: <http://www.btu.com/>

3-18-08 Masdar Headquarters Building

The Masdar Headquarters building will produce more power than it needs. See the video link showing the design and solar roof at: <http://www.enn.com/sci-tech/article/33088>
<http://www.smithgill.com/MasdarHeadquarters.htm>

3-18-08 Clear Skies Solar Energy Solutions

Clear Skies Group announced its new proprietary TetraPort Solar Energy Carport System.
Story at: <http://biz.yahoo.com/bw/080318/20080318005540.html?.v=1>
Clear Skies Group: <http://www.ClearSkiesGroup.com/>

3-18-08 Solar Semiconductor CFO

Solar Semiconductor announced that it appointed Perry G. Hayes as its CFO.
Story at: <http://biz.yahoo.com/iw/080318/0376146.html>
Solar Semiconductor: <http://www.solarsemiconductor.com/>

3-18-08 Power Purchase Agreements

Panelists at Greentech Media's conference say uncertainty over renewable-energy tax credits could lower the percentage of commercial and industrial solar installations financed using power-purchase agreements. See "Power-Purchase Agreements Could Lose Market Share" at Greentech Media: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/power-purchase-agreements-could-lose-market-share-706.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/32rjq2>

3-18-08 More on Stion's Move to Edenvale Technology Park, San Jose, California

Stion leased 64,435 square feet in the Edenvale Technology Park where it will house its corporate headquarters and initial production capabilities.
Story at: <http://www.costar.com/News/Article.aspx?id=F3050625F4B56C3D240463F5E9590749> or <http://tinyurl.com/2sasnk>
Stion Corporation: <http://www.stion.com/>

3-18-08 More on Innovalight Featured in "Earth: The Sequel" [Nick Cravalho]

Innovalight is featured in Fred Krupp's and Miriam Horn's new book, "Earth: The Sequel". The book discusses innovative technologies and policies that will help address climate change. The Innovalight chapter covers a biography of Innovalight's CEO, Conrad Burke, Innovalight's history, and their recent technical progress. See book reviews from Forbes, Time, and Newsweek: http://www.forbes.com/business/2008/03/11/krupp-climate-carbon-environment-biz-beltway-cx_bw_0311earth.html or <http://tinyurl.com/yv6bn7>
<http://www.time.com/time/health/article/0,8599,1722644,00.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/27nxlq>
<http://www.newsweek.com/id/123021>
Innovalight: <http://www.innovalight.com/index.html>

In related solar news...

3-18-08 CSP Worldwide Progress

See the story "Desert Sunrise: Concentrating Solar Power Makes Worldwide Progress" by Michael Hoexter, with coverage of SolarPACES, at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=51857>

SolarPACES: <http://www.solarpaces.org/>

Michael Hoexter, Green Thoughts: <http://terraverde.wordpress.com/>

3-18-08 Solar on NPR

To listen to "The Potential of Solar Power" on NPR's Science Friday, go to:

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=88239836&sc=emaf> or <http://tinyurl.com/38rzrs>

See "Solar Power Scales Up" at NPR: <http://www.sciencefriday.com/program/archives/200803141>

3-18-08 Fat Spaniel and EnerWorks Smart Solar Hot Water Systems

Fat Spaniel Technologies, Inc. announced a partnership with EnerWorks Inc. to deliver smart solar hot water systems. The joint product offering integrates Fat Spaniel's monitoring and reporting services with EnerWorks' Solar Energy Units for commercial and industrial scale hot water generation. Press at:

<http://www.sunherald.com/447/story/436334.html>

Fat Spaniel: <http://www.fatspaniel.com/>

EnerWorks: <http://www.enerworks.com/>

3-19-08 Mitsubishi Electric Capacity Expansion

Mitsubishi Electric will invest some 7 billion yen to expand annual production capacity of PV cells at its Nakatsugawa Works Iida Factory, and modules at its Nakatsugawa Works Kyoto Factory, in response to a sharp increase in demand. This investment will expand Mitsubishi Electric's annual PV production capacity from 150 MW to 220 MW in October 2008.

More at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsASCO225.htm>

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

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

Mitsubishi Electric: <http://global.mitsubishielectric.com/>

<http://global.mitsubishielectric.com/news/index.html>

3-19-08 Mitsubishi Electric Multi-crystalline Solar Cell Conversion Efficiency

Mitsubishi Electric Corporation announced its achievement of a world record photoelectric conversion efficiency rate of 18.6% in a 150-mm square practical use multi-crystalline silicon solar cell, an improvement of 0.6% over the company's previous record.

More at: <http://au.biz.yahoo.com/070530/43/199fl.html>

Mitsubishi Electric: <http://global.mitsubishielectric.com/>

3-19-08 Wacker Chemie Results

For fiscal year 2007, Wacker Chemie once again posted record sales and earnings figures. Press at

Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEUCO523.htm>

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

3-19-08 Timminco's Silicon Division Growth Driver

Timminco Ltd. said its silicon division will drive growth this year, fueled by increasing demand from the solar energy industry and a rebound in prices.

Story at: http://canadianpress.google.com/article/ALeqM5g_mLb-GiTljaAmSJy-cRluFmQk6Q or

<http://tinyurl.com/yu3vvf>

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

3-19-08 Suntech Closing of US\$575 Million Convertible Senior Notes

Suntech Power has closed the offering of US\$575 million of 3.00% Convertible Senior Notes. More at

Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsASCO224.htm>

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

3-19-08 Solar Power Silicon Dreams, China

See the story “Sand Pebbles: Solar Power’s Silicon Dreams in China” at The Wall Street Journal: http://blogs.wsj.com/environmentalcapital/2008/03/18/sand-pebbles-solar-powers-silicon-dreams-in-china/?mod=googlenews_wsj or <http://tinyurl.com/2rhty3>

3-19-08 Online, Interactive Webcast with Speaker Roger Little, Spire

The rapid increase in demand for PV in recent years has ignited the industry and put it on a path for continued growth for the next decade and beyond. A presentation by Roger Little, Chairman and CEO, Spire Corporation, will address these topics and create a blueprint for successful entry to the market. Register for the online, interactive Webcast at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.RenewableEnergyWorld.com/partner/rea/webcast-invitation.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/39j7av>
Spire Founder – Roger Little: <http://www.spirecorp.com/company/roger-little/index.php> or <http://tinyurl.com/3bxlxc>

3-19-08 Xantrex Order

Xantrex Technology Inc. said it has received a \$2.4 million order for its grid-tie solar inverters from a leading North American solar systems integrator. Story at Forbes: <http://www.forbes.com/afxnews/limited/feeds/afx/2008/03/18/afx4788218.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/2lchvs>
Xantrex: <http://www.xantrex.com/>

3-19-08 Giffords Hearing on Solar Power

See the press “U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords Presides over Bipartisan Congressional Field Hearing on Utility-scale Solar Power” at: <http://giffords.house.gov/press/press-releases/2008/PresidesOverBipartisanCongressionalFieldHearingonUtility-ScaleSolarPower.shtml> or <http://tinyurl.com/2ruy2h>

3-19-08 SPG Community Discount Programs

Having completed a successful community discount program as exclusive solar provider for GoSolarMarin, SPG Solar is responding to requests of Sonoma County residents with GoSolar Sonoma™. Story at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?id=51873>
SPG Solar: <http://www.spgsolar.com/>

3-19-08 Navigant Consulting Smart Grid with PV Study

Navigant Consulting, Inc. announced plans to launch a major multi-client study on the convergence of the Smart Grid with Photovoltaics. More on this study, and contact information, at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?id=51874>
Navigant Consulting: <http://www.navigantconsulting.com/>

3-19-08 PV Market Report

Reportlinker.com announced that a new market research report, Solar Photovoltaic Market Report Ed. 5 2007, is available in its catalog. Information at: <http://biz.yahoo.com/iw/080318/0376545.html>
<http://www.reportlinker.com/p080405/Solar-PV-Report-Ed-5-2007.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/yqnbrn>

3-19-08 Energy Efficiency & Sustainability Symposium

For information on the “Energy Efficiency & Sustainability Symposium 2008”, 5-6 November in Atlanta, Georgia, go to: http://www.greentechnewsmag.com/energy08_papers.php

3-19-08 Clean Edge Website, Report

See the new features at the Clean Edge new Website, as well as a link to the recently released report, “Clean Energy Trends 2008” at: <http://www.cleandedge.com/>

3-19-08 Blue Oak Photovoltaic Products Website

Blue Oak Photovoltaic Products announced the launch of a new website. Press at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?id=51887>
Website: <http://www.blueoakpvproducts.com/>

In related solar news...

3-19-08 Solar in Latvia

Latvia will soon become home to the largest SolarWall® system in Europe. The SolarWall® air heating system heats the ventilation air that is required in commercial and industrial buildings using a patented unglazed perforated collector. More at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?id=51883>

SolarWall: <http://solarwall.com/en/home.php>

3-20-08 Concentrix Solar Financing [Silke Hajunga]

Concentrix has completed its second financing round. The new capital will be used to finance the company's first industrial production line and to develop markets in Southern Europe. Concentrix and Abengoa Solar have created a joint venture – Concentrix Iberia S.A. – for the commercialization of the Concentrix FLATCON® technology in the Spanish market. Press at Concentrix:

http://www.concentrixsolar.de/cms/upload/pdf/pdf_presse/CX_Press_Release_Abengoa_2008-03-19.pdf

or <http://tinyurl.com/2vg4yp>

Concentrix Solar: http://www.concentrixsolar.de/cms/front_content.php

3-20-08 Unitech Solar Cell Production

Unitech Printed Circuit Board solar cell plans are progressing, with volume production being brought forward by a month to May, and shipments slated to begin in October. More at DigiTimes:

<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PD00000000000000000000000005053&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/3dhkyp>

3-20-08 Semiconductor Manufacturing International Wafer Fabs

According to this press, Semiconductor Manufacturing International Corporation will spread the focus of its wafer fabs across different areas in China, with those in the northeast and northwest to be allocated for the company's deployment in the solar business. Story at DigiTimes:

<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PD00000000000000000000000005059&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/3arn97>

3-20-08 Linde Contract from Malibu to Supply Gases

Linde AG said it has won a contract from Malibu GmbH & Co. KG to supply gases to the German maker of PV modules at its new 40 MW solar panel production facility.

Stories at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEUMA214.htm>

Forbes: <http://www.forbes.com/markets/feeds/afx/2008/03/19/afx4791804.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/35ju7f>

and

PV Tech: <http://tinyurl.com/2b3hug>

Linde: <http://www.linde.com/international/web/linde/like35lindecom.nsf/docbyalias/homepage> or <http://tinyurl.com/y9mzl9>

3-20-08 Gintech Gross Margins

Industry sources have indicated that Gintech Energy's 4th quarter 2007 gross margins will continue their upward momentum. Story at DigiTimes:

<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PD00000000000000000000000005048&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/3d5pbm>

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

3-20-08 Hoku Materials Polysilicon Reactor Supply Contract

Hoku Materials has signed a new polysilicon reactor supply contract with GEC Graeber Engineering Consultants GmbH. This contract will give Hoku Materials the option to purchase additional polysilicon reactors for the production of up to 8,000 metric tons of polysilicon per year.

Story at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAMA113.htm>

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

3-20-08 Global Solar Production

See the story “Global Solar Production ‘Surprisingly Strong’” at Greentech Media with coverage of a presentation by Prometheus Institute President Travis Bradford:

<http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/global-solar-production--707.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/39d5rm>
Prometheus Institute: <http://www.prometheus.org/>

3-20-08 IBM in Solar Sector

See the story “Q-Cells welcomes IBM to the Solar sector with open arms” through SolarPlaza

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

at PV Tech: [http://www.pv-](http://www.pv-tech.org/editor_s_blog/article/q_cells_welcomes_ibm_to_the_solar_sector_with_open_arms/)

[tech.org/editor_s_blog/article/q_cells_welcomes_ibm_to_the_solar_sector_with_open_arms/](http://www.pv-tech.org/editor_s_blog/article/q_cells_welcomes_ibm_to_the_solar_sector_with_open_arms/) or <http://tinyurl.com/2jxpna>

3-20-08 Retooling at Advent Solar

Advent Solar is retooling its production line. See the stories at:

<http://www.bizjournals.com/albuquerque/stories/2008/03/17/daily23.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/3azjch>

http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080319/nm_advent_solar_layoffs.html?.v=1 or <http://tinyurl.com/2w86he>

Advent Solar: http://www.adventsolar.com/company/news_and_events.php

3-20-08 Exelon-EPURON Solar Center, Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania Governor Rendell and project participants have broken ground on the Exelon-EPURON Solar Center, a 3-MW solar electric generation plant located in Bucks County.

More at: http://www.solarindustrymag.com/e107_plugins/content/content_lt.php?content.1127 or

<http://tinyurl.com/36jwf4>

http://www.thebulletin.us/site/index.cfm?newsid=19408533&BRD=2737&PAG=461&dept_id=576361&rfi=8 or <http://tinyurl.com/348fqj>

EPURON: <http://www.epuron.de/en/desktopdefault.aspx>

3-20-08 IREC’s State & Stakeholder Newsletter [Jane Pulaski]

The latest issue of the Interstate Renewable Energy Council’s State & Stakeholder Newsletter with coverage of national news, state & local news, grants & RFPs, upcoming events, and other news is available at: <http://www.irecusa.org/index.php?id=11>

3-20-08 Tax Incentives in the States

Oregon and South Dakota are the latest states to encourage renewable energy developments in their state through tax incentives. Story at EERE Network News [Kevin Eber]:

http://www.eere.energy.gov/news/enn.cfm#id_11648

3-20-08 Southern California Edison Renewable Integration and Advancement Program

Southern California Edison has filed an application with the California Public Utilities Commission to enhance renewable energy operations. If approved, the Renewable Integration and Advancement Program would fund and develop innovative systems and technologies to enhance safe and reliable energy deliveries as more intermittent renewable resources come on line to meet the state’s renewable energy goals.

Story at: <http://tinyurl.com/39h5ve>

3-20-08 Solar Bubble Burst

See the story “Solar Bubble to Burst in 2009 as Supply Exceeds Demand” with coverage of a Lux

Research report at: <http://tinyurl.com/2qegj2>

Lux Research: <http://www.luxresearchinc.com/>

3-20-08 Xantrex Wireless Monitoring Solution

Xantrex Technology Inc. announced the launch of its Xantrex™ Gateway monitoring system, an innovative wireless monitoring solution for small-scale solar power installations.

Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/2tk4db>

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

3-20-08 VioSolar Board

VioSolar Inc. announced the appointment of Mr. Jonathan Bradley to the board of directors.

Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/3bxdqg>

VioSolar: <http://www.viosolar.com/>

3-20-08 IEEE Photovoltaic Specialists Conference

To register for the 33rd IEEE Photovoltaic Specialists Conference, 11-16 May 2008 in San Diego, California, (see Early Bird deadline) go to: <http://tinyurl.com/2ob68s>

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

3-20-08 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/speakers.asp> or <http://tinyurl.com/2ygzt4>

3-20-08 Solar Innovations & Investment Conference, England

Solar Innovations & Investment is set for 21-23 May at the City Conference Centre in London.

Information at: http://www.greenpowerconferences.com/renewablesmarkets/sii_london.html or

<http://tinyurl.com/23h2n4>

3-20-08 MIT Clean Energy Entrepreneur Prize Competition

Twenty teams will compete in the next round of the MIT Clean Energy Entrepreneurship Prize competition, including a PV team. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/3bfzjd>

MIT Clean Energy Entrepreneurship Prize: <http://www.mitceep.com/>

3-20-08 Solar Market Report

For information on the 2nd Edition of Research Reports International's U.S. Solar Power Market report,

go to: http://www.researchreportsintl.com/products/product.cfm?report_ID=97 or <http://tinyurl.com/24xq4c>

In related solar news...

3-20-08 Algeria – Germany Solar Thermal Power Research Agreement

The development of a new generation of large-scale, low-cost solar thermal power plants is the focus of a joint research agreement signed between Algeria and Germany.

Story at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=51889>

3-21-08 Odersun Factory, Germany

Odersun AG has broken ground on its second solar factory "SunTwo" in Fürstenwalde/Spree. Odersun will invest about €50 million to build SunTwo, and the construction will be divided into two facilities – one for the cell production and one for the module fabrication.

Story at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEUMA215.htm>

Odersun AG: <http://www.odersun.de/>

3-21-08 GT Solar Follow-on Contract with DC Chemical

GT Solar has signed a follow-on contract valued at approximately \$200 million to supply DC Chemical with polysilicon reactors. More at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsASMA149.htm>

GT Solar: <http://www.gtsolar.com/>

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

3-21-08 Neo Solar Power Listing

According to this press, Neo Solar Power plans to apply for listing on the Taiwan Stock Exchange soon, with an IPO expected to be introduced in the 3rd quarter of 2008. Story at DigiTimes:

<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PD000000000000000000000000000005055&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/32mfql>

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

3-21-08 D.R. Horton-Schuler / Hoku Solar Marketing Program

D.R. Horton-Schuler and Hoku Solar have joined in a marketing program to offer 2-kW PV systems to homebuyers at Kahiwelo at Makakilo. Story at Solarbuzz:

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAPR1034.htm>

D.R. Horton: <http://www.drhorton.com/>

Hoku Solar: <http://www.hokuscientific.com/hokusolar.html>

3-21-08 Solar Power in Focus

Knowledge of local markets and access to customers will become an increasingly important differentiator for vertically integrated PV manufacturers. Changing patterns of demand growth across key markets will alter the relative attractiveness of these markets. The new report “Solar Power in Focus: Detailing Demand – Where Will All the Volume Go?” by Christopher Porter and Michael Rogol provides market-by-market analysis for the 10 most important solar power markets through 2010. See more on this new report, including the executive summary, at: http://www.photon-consulting.com/en/detailing_demand_2007/index.htm or <http://tinyurl.com/3yargm>

Executive Summary: http://www.photon-consulting.com/en/detailing_demand_2007/summary.htm or <http://tinyurl.com/2rfn66>

Order: https://photon-consulting.com/en/detailing_demand_2007/order.htm

3-21-08 PV Activities in Japan [RTS Corporation]

The March 2008 issue of “PV Activities in Japan and Global Highlights” is available [by subscription] with coverage of PV highlights in Japan, global PV highlights, a monthly PV photo gallery, topics from Japan, and topics from the world. [RTS Corporation, Osamu Ikki, <http://www.rts-pv.com>]

http://www.rts-pv.com/e_publications.html

3-21-08 PHOTON International March 2008 Issue

For the table of contents for PHOTON International’s March 2008 issue, see the website at:

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

See also some live links for March 2008 at: <http://www.photon-magazine.com/>

3-21-08 More on Lux Solar Report

See the story “Lux Predicts Solar Bubble About to Burst” at Greentech Media:

<http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/lux-predicts-solar-bubble-about-to-burst-714.html> or

<http://tinyurl.com/3af19l>

Lux Research: <http://www.luxresearchinc.com/>

<http://www.luxresearchinc.com/press.php>

3-21-08 Colorado State University Renewable Energy Supercluster

Colorado State University has launched a renewable energy “supercluster” that will focus on moving R&D into clean energy and energy efficiency from the lab to the marketplace. CSU President Larry Penley

joined Governor Bill Ritter and Colorado Senators Wayne Allard and Ken Salazar to make the announcement at the state Capitol. Story at: <http://www.dailycamera.com/news/2008/mar/21/csu-launches-new-energy-supercluster/> or <http://tinyurl.com/ypj5n6>

3-21-08 Trade Show at WIREC

An annual repeat of the Trade Show at WIREC, to be called the Renewable Energy Technology Conference & Exhibition (RETECH), will be held 24-26 February 2009 at the Las Vegas Convention Center. See highlights of WIREC 2008 at: <http://www.wirec2008.gov/wps/portal/wirec2008>

RETECH 2009: <http://www.acore.org/events/retech.php>

3-21-08 Solar / Renewable RFP’s [The Green Power Network]

Southern California Edison Company has an RFP seeking eligible renewable energy resources to meet California RPS requirement:

<http://www.sce.com/AboutSCE/Regulatory/qualifyingfacilities/RFP2008.htm?from=renewrfp> or

<http://tinyurl.com/yq4lzh>

3-21-08 Solar / Renewable RFP's [The Green Power Network (continued)]

JEA (Jacksonville, Florida) has an RFP seeking solar and wind resources of greater than 1 MW:
http://www.eere.energy.gov/greenpower/financial/pdfs/0308_jea_rfp.pdf or <http://tinyurl.com/3br99k>
The Green Power Network: <http://www.eere.energy.gov/greenpower/financial/>

3-21-08 Florida Feed-in Tariffs

The Florida Solar Energy Industries Association board of directors unanimously endorsed feed-in tariffs as the most cost-effective policy tool for developing solar energy in the state. Story at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=51904>
Florida Solar Energy Industries Association: <http://www.flaseia.org/>

In related solar news...

3-21-08 Solar Hot Water, Australia

The Victorian government will spend \$33 million helping households in regional and rural Victoria switch to solar hot water. Story at: <http://www.news.com.au/story/0,23599,23411281-421,00.html>