

NCPV Hotline — Week of May 12-16, 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>

Subscribe/Unsubscribe: Email name, organization, and e-mail address to [Carol Riordan](mailto:Carol_Riordan@nrel.gov) <mailto:Carol_Riordan@nrel.gov> at NREL

NOTE: We have recently been receiving an unusually large number of messages from recipients' servers with warnings that they are "greylisting" or "blacklisting" delivery of the NCPV Hotline emails based on their anti-spam routines. Recipients may now and then need to specifically allow the emails through their spam filters given the increased security.

5-12-08 SunPower Solar Cell Efficiency Announcement

SunPower Corporation announced today that it has produced a full-scale, five-inch prototype solar cell with an efficiency of 23.4%. Press at: <http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/sunpower-announces-world-record-solar-cell-efficiency.388340.shtml> or <http://tinyurl.com/5l9gxl>

[\[tech.org/solar_cell/article/sunpower_claims_new_234_percent_solar_cell_efficiency_record\]\(http://www.pv-tech.org/solar_cell/article/sunpower_claims_new_234_percent_solar_cell_efficiency_record\) or](http://www.pv-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

<http://tinyurl.com/6lml9p>

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

<http://investors.sunpowercorp.com/releasedetail.cfm?ReleaseID=309613> or <http://tinyurl.com/6lbuoc>

Additional press:

http://www.eetimes.com/news/semi/rss/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=207602614&cid=RSSfeed_eetimes_s

[emiRSS](http://www.eetimes.com/news/semi/rss/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=207602614&cid=RSSfeed_eetimes_s) or <http://tinyurl.com/5mlkfl>

5-12-08 HelioVolt CIGS Solar Cell Efficiency Announcement

HelioVolt announced that it has reached 12.2% efficiency with its CIGS solar cells. Company CEO B.J. Stanbery is presenting a paper at the IEEE Photovoltaic Specialists Conference. Stories at:

http://www.news.com/8301-11128_3-9940422-54.html

<http://compoundsemi.com/documents/view/generic.php?id=10133>

<http://www.centredaily.com/business/technology/story/586437.html>

[\[tech.org/thin_film/article/heliovolts_cigs_thin_film_printing_process_posts_122_percent_conversion_eff\]\(http://www.pv-tech.org/thin_film/article/heliovolts_cigs_thin_film_printing_process_posts_122_percent_conversion_eff\)](http://www.pv-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

or <http://tinyurl.com/6gjsob>

<http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/heliovolt-hits-122-efficiency-885.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/65xryy>

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

Additional press:

http://www.eetimes.com/news/semi/rss/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=207602614&cid=RSSfeed_eetimes_s

[emiRSS](http://www.eetimes.com/news/semi/rss/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=207602614&cid=RSSfeed_eetimes_s) or <http://tinyurl.com/5mlkfl>

5-12-08 JA Solar Results, Offering

JA Solar Holdings reported financial results for the 1st quarter ended 31 March 2008. Story at Solarbuzz:

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsASCO252.htm>

See also "JA Solar Holdings to offer \$300M in senior notes" at:

<http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2008/05/12/ap4996375.html>

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

5-12-08 Solar Integrated Technologies Agreement with United Solar Ovonic

Solar Integrated Technologies, Inc. said it has entered into a new multi-year supply and cooperative agreement with United Solar Ovonic LLC. More at Forbes:

<http://www.forbes.com/markets/feeds/afx/2008/05/12/afx4995560.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/4n9eyl>

Solar Integrated Technologies: <http://www.solarintegrated.com/>

United Solar Ovonic: <http://www.uni-solar.com/>

5-12-08 Applied Materials Agreement with T-Solar Global S.A.

Applied Materials signed a multi-year agreement to provide SunFab Performance Service™ to T-Solar Global S.A. of Spain for the Applied SunFab™ Thin Film Line. In 2007, T-Solar became the first company in Europe to order an Applied SunFab Thin Film production line. The line expected to have a nominal rated capacity of 40 MW per year when fully operational. Story at Solarbuzz:

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEUMA221.htm>

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

[tech.org/thin_film/article/applied_materials_starts_sunfab_performance_service_program](http://www.pv-tech.org/thin_film/article/applied_materials_starts_sunfab_performance_service_program) or

<http://tinyurl.com/552xm6>

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

5-12-08 Sunovia – EPIR Technologies Breakthrough

Sunovia Energy Technologies and EPIR Technologies have claimed a breakthrough in growing single crystalline CdTe/Si more rapidly in a molecular beam epitaxy tool that could lead to the faster commercialization of their proprietary solar cell technology. Press at PV Tech:

http://www.pv-tech.org/r_and_d/article/sunovia_claims_lab_breakthrough_for_commercialization_of_single_crystalline

or <http://tinyurl.com/6cydtb>

Sunovia: http://www.sunoviaenergy.com/investor_info.htm

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

5-12-08 Miasolé Plans for Panel Shipments

Miasolé plans to ship its first commercial thin-film solar panels to customers by the end of this year, CEO Joseph Laia told Greentech Media. Story at:

<http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/miasol-clears-the-air--883.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/6k5gbe>

Miasolé: <http://www.miasole.com/>

5-12-08 PPL Renewable Energy PV System for Schering-Plough Construction, New Jersey

PPL Renewable Energy is planning to design, construct, and operate a 1.7-MW solar system for Schering-Plough Corporation in Summit, New Jersey. With this project, PPL will own or control solar projects with a total installed capacity of about 10 MW. Story at Solarbuzz:

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAPR1082.htm>

PPL Renewable Energy: <http://www.pplrenewableenergy.com/>

5-12-08 Kohl's East Coast Solar Plans

Kohl's Department Stores announced that it plans to convert more than 50 of its existing New Jersey, Connecticut, and Maryland locations to solar power, representing nearly 80% of its locations in these states. Story at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAPR1081.htm>

5-12-08 Duke Energy Solar Rooftop Investment

Duke Energy said it wants to invest \$100 million in a rooftop solar energy program to help meet its renewable energy requirements. Press at:

<http://www.sustainablebusiness.com/index.cfm/go/news.display/id/15996> or <http://tinyurl.com/68qgrl>

<http://www.mlive.com/business/ambizdaily/bizjournals/index.ssf?/base/abd-4/1210574404303150.xml> or

<http://tinyurl.com/6qn9zw>

Duke Energy: <http://www.duke-energy.com/>

5-12-08 G24 Innovations' Lighting Africa Award [Oliver Williams]

G24 Innovations was announced as a winner of the 2008 "Lighting Africa Development Marketplace" awards at a ceremony in Accra, Ghana. This year's award acknowledges and rewards the development of products that provide the most innovative, off-grid lighting solutions for the 500 million people without electricity in Sub-Saharan Africa. G24i was recognized by an international panel of experts for the creation of a cutting edge solar powered LED light, which utilizes their proprietary Dye Sensitized Thin Film solar cells. Press from G24i: <http://www.g24i.com/>
<http://www.g24i.com/news,g24i-wins-world-bank-groups-lighting-africa-award,71.html> or
<http://tinyurl.com/43ysdn>
Lighting Africa: <http://lightingafrica.org/index.cfm?Page=DM>

5-12-08 Subsystems Supplier Sales Boosted by PV Growth

VLSI Research, an industry market research firm, said that critical subsystems suppliers that provide components and larger integrated systems to semiconductor and PV equipment suppliers saw sales boosted by the growth in the PV industry and sales in the flat panel sector. Press at PV Tech:
http://www.pv-tech.org/market_watch/article/critical_subsystems_suppliers_benefit_from_growth_in_solar
or <http://tinyurl.com/5h778s>

5-12-08 Frost & Sullivan Briefing

The Energy & Power Systems practice at Frost & Sullivan announced its 2008 Quarterly Analyst Briefing Presentation on the North American solar energy market to be held 15 May. Information at:
<http://biz.yahoo.com/bw/080512/20080512005167.html?v=1>
Frost & Sullivan: <http://www.frost.com/prod/servlet/frost-home.pag>

5-12-08 Negev Solar Plant Bidders, Israel

According to this press, dozens of Israeli companies, investment houses, and financial institutions, as well as international investors, were among the more than 300 participants at the presentation by the Ministries of Finance and National Infrastructures for the \$700 million solar power station to be built at Ashelim in the Negev. The presentation also covered the \$70 million PV technology solar power station. Press at: <http://www.globes.co.il/serveen/globes/docview.asp?did=1000340832&fid=942> or
<http://tinyurl.com/4y3fa7>

5-12-08 XsunX Manufacturing Facilities

For an update on XsunX's manufacturing facilities, see: <http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/05-12-2008/0004810978&EDATE=> or
<http://tinyurl.com/49vfkp>
XsunX: <http://www.XsunX.com/>

5-12-08 "PPAs and Making PV Economical" Panel Discussion, Photovoltaics Summit 2008

Financing the residential solar market and incentive policies will be among the key issues to be discussed during a panel on PPAs and making PV economical at the Photovoltaics Summit 2008, 18-20 June in San Diego, California. Information at: <http://www.pvsummit.com/>

5-12-08 National Renewable Energy Marketing Conference 2008

For information on the National Renewable Energy Marketing Conference 2008, 26-29 October in Denver, Colorado, visit: <http://www.renewableenergymarketing.net/>

5-12-08 Solar Impulse Virtual Flight Live

For the Solar Impulse Virtual Flight Live, go to: <http://www.solarimpulsevirtualflight.com/>

5-13-08 Business Results, Future Estimates

Hoku Scientific, Inc. announced its financial results for its fiscal year and 4th quarter ended 31 March 2008, and provided a general update on its business. Press at:
<http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/marketwire/0396430.htm> or <http://tinyurl.com/5vnud2>
http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080513/hoku_scientific_outlook.html?v=1 or <http://tinyurl.com/4qq3jq>
Hoku Scientific: <http://www.hokuscscientific.com/>

5-13-08 Business Results, Future Estimates - continued

Canadian Solar reported 1st quarter results. More at Forbes: <http://www.forbes.com/afxnews/limited/feeds/afx/2008/05/13/afx5001180.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/3ohwyr>
Canadian Solar: <http://www.csisolar.com/>
<http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=196781&p=irol-irhome> or <http://tinyurl.com/yqtyhx>

Solar Power, Inc. announced its financial results for the first quarter of 2008. Press at: http://www.businesswire.com/portal/site/google/?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20080512006272&newslang=en or <http://tinyurl.com/4zj63m>
Solar Power, Inc.: <http://www.solarpowerinc.net/>

Gaiam, Inc. reported results for its first quarter ended 31 March 2008. See coverage, including solar content, at: <http://sev.prnewswire.com/retail/20080512/LAM53612052008-1.html>
Gaiam: <http://www.gaiam.com/>

LDK Solar Co., Ltd. reported its unaudited financial results for the 1st quarter ended 31 March 2008 and predicted 2nd quarter sales. Press at: <http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/05-12-2008/0004811684&EDATE=> or <http://tinyurl.com/3sfb2d>
http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080512/ldk_solar_outlook.html?.v=1 or <http://tinyurl.com/3roko6>
LDK Solar: <http://www.ldksolar.com/>

Yingli Green Energy Holding Company Limited announced that it filed its annual report on Form 20-F for the year ended 31 December 2007 with the Securities and Exchange Commission on 28 April. Press at: <http://au.biz.yahoo.com/080513/43/1qncw.html>
Yingli: <http://www.yinglisolar.com/enmain/user/index.asp>

SatCon Technology Corporation© announced its operating results for the quarter ended 29 March 2008. Press at: <http://biz.yahoo.com/bw/080513/20080513005193.html?.v=1>
SatCon: <http://www.satcon.com/>

5-13-08 Hoku – Solarfun Extended Polysilicon Contract

Hoku Materials, Inc. and Solarfun Power Hong Kong Limited announced that they have amended their polysilicon supply contract to increase the term of the contract from 8 to 10 years. Story at: <http://biz.yahoo.com/iw/080513/0396427.html>
Hoku Scientific: <http://www.hokuscific.com/>
Solarfun: <http://www.solarfun.com.cn/>

5-13-08 Canadian Solar Metallurgical Grade Silicon Modules

Canadian Solar said that it has converted a solar cell production line to produce 100% upgraded metallurgical grade silicon with an expected output of 30-40 MW of 'e-Modules' in 2008, primarily for the European and U.S. market. The line became operational in April with about 1 MW produced so far. Story at PV Tech: http://www.pv-tech.org/materials/article/canadian_solar_to_ship_30_40mw_of_metallurgical_grade_silicon_modules_in_20 or <http://tinyurl.com/63ssdq>
Canadian Solar: <http://www.csisolar.com/>

5-13-08 Sunfilm Second Production Line from Applied Materials

Sunfilm AG announced that it has awarded Applied Materials, Inc. a contract for a second Applied SunFab™ Thin Film Line. The second production line will be installed next to Sunfilm's first line in Grossroehrsdorf, near Dresden, Germany. Sunfilm's first line is expected to begin initial production runs this July, with the second line scheduled for start-up about one year later. This will bring Sunfilm's annual capacity at this site to over 120 MWp. Stories at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEUMA222.htm> and

5-13-08 Sunfilm Second Production Line from Applied Materials - continued

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

[tech.org/thin_film/article/sunfilm_orders_second_sunfab_tandem_junction_line_from_applied_materials](http://www.pv-tech.org/thin_film/article/sunfilm_orders_second_sunfab_tandem_junction_line_from_applied_materials) or <http://tinyurl.com/47kxoh>

Sunfilm: <http://www.Sunfilmsolar.com/>

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

5-13-08 ENN Solar Energy and E-Village Agreement

ENN Solar Energy and E-Village have signed an agreement to bring utility-grade 5.7 square meter thin-film solar modules to the U.S. PV market. The first release from the partnership will be 25 MW through 2009, reaching a fully production capacity of 500 MW/year by 2011. Stories at Solarbuzz:

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNACO756.htm> and

<http://www.energycurrent.com/index.php?id=3&storyid=10544>

E-Village Solar: <http://www.evillagesolar.com/>

ENN Solar: <http://www.ennsolar.net/>

5-13-08 Fat Spaniel Technologies Monitoring of San Francisco Airport PV System, California

Fat Spaniel Technologies is providing remote monitoring and reporting services for a new 445-kW solar electric system at San Francisco International Airport. The monitoring services enable design/build firm BASS Electric to maximize system output and allows the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission to view system statistics from its offices 20 miles away in downtown San Francisco. Story and photo at Solarbuzz:

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAPR1084.htm>

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

BASS Electric: <http://www.basselectric.net/>

5-13-08 Residential Solar Leasing, PPAs

According to this story, the use of power purchase agreements and similar leasing instruments to finance residential solar power installations is poised for a boom this year, which could prove to be as healthy as the commercial solar PPA market was in 2007. Story at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=52391>

5-13-08 Solar Technology Demonstration Facility, Australia

Construction of the Solar Technology Demonstration Facility began in Alice Springs, Australia and will showcase over 15 working installations. Thirteen of the solar installations are expected to be completed by September 2008, with two large concentrator dishes ready in the first half of 2009. Story at:

<http://www.theage.com.au/news/national/harvesting-the-sun/2008/05/13/1210444423002.html> or

<http://tinyurl.com/3gmzев>

Desert Knowledge Australia: <http://www.desertknowledge.com.au/dka/index.cfm?fuseaction=press> or

<http://tinyurl.com/53da54>

5-13-08 Solar Energy Tri-generation Product

BrightPhase Energy, Inc. announced the signing of a letter of intent with Appalachian Energy, LLC for a beta test installation of the company's patent-pending and proprietary Photensity™ product. Photensity™ is described as an energy-dense solar module, which delivers three energy streams – PV, solar thermal, and daylighting – via one compact module. Photensity™ is deployed in rows on roofs similar to PV system deployment and is designed to be compatible with standard skylighting installation methods.

More at: <http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/080513/netu011.html?v=53>

BrightPhase Energy: <http://www.brightphaseenergy.com/>

Appalachian Energy: <http://www.appalachianenergy.com/>

5-13-08 PV Technologies India a-Si Module Facility

PV Technologies India Limited, a subsidiary of Moser Baer India Limited, has completed deposition trials for Gen 8.5 a-Si thin-film modules at its new 40 MW facility in Greater Noida. Story through SolarPlaza

<http://www.solarplaza.com/content/news.php> at: <http://www.efytimes.com/efytimes/26469/news.htm>

http://www.solarindustrymag.com/e107_plugins/content/content_it.php?content.1329

Moser Baer: <http://www.moserbaer.in/>

5-13-08 Optomec Agreement with Manz Automation to Pursue Solar

Optomec has entered into an exclusive OEM partnership agreement with Manz Automation AG to jointly pursue applications in the solar market. Press at:

<http://biz.yahoo.com/bw/080513/20080513005403.html?v=1>

Optomec: <http://www.optomec.com/>

Manz Automation: <http://manz-automation.com/statisch/english/home/index.htm>

5-13-08 Intersolar Solar Technology Awards

See "Intersolar announces Innovations in Solar Technology awards" at PV Tech: http://www.pv-tech.org/r_and_d/article/intersolar_announces_innovations_in_solar_technology_awards or

<http://tinyurl.com/4c93vd>

Intersolar: <http://www.intersolar.us/index.php?id=13&L=1>

<http://www.intersolar.us/>

5-13-08 China Exhibition

See "ENF Update – SNEC China Exhibition" by Kit Temple at enf.cn:

<http://www.enf.cn/news/080513/1809.html>

5-13-08 PV Industry Analysis and Forecast, Report

For information on "Photovoltaic Industry Analysis and Forecast" available from Reportlinker.com, see:

<http://biz.yahoo.com/iw/080512/0396372.html>

<http://www.reportlinker.com/p089502/Photovoltaic-Industry-Analysis-and-Forecast.html> or

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

In related solar news...

5-13-08 SolarReserve Vice President of Development

SolarReserve announced the hiring of Tom Georgis as Vice President of Development. Georgis will be responsible for developing solar power projects in the U.S. and internationally. Press at:

<http://tinyurl.com/48dxa5>

SolarReserve: <http://www.solar-reserve.com/>

5-13-08 Desert Solar for European Market

See the story "Algeria Eyes Solar Energy Exports To Europe" at:

<http://www.zawya.com/Story.cfm/sidZW20080513000156/secIndustries/pagOil%20&%20Gas> or

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

5-13-08 Market for CSP, Report

Research Reports International is offering its second edition of "The Market for Concentrating Solar

Power" report. Information at: http://www.researchreportsintl.com/products/product.cfm?report_ID=93 or

<http://tinyurl.com/ywoocb>

5-14-08 SCHOTT Solar Module Production Facilities, Czech Republic

SCHOTT Solar officially opened its expanded module production facilities in Valasske Mezirici, including new production lines with modern logistics. By the end of the year, the annual production capacity is expected to more than quadruple to 200 MW. Story at Solarbuzz:

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEUMA223.htm>

SCHOTT: <http://www.schott.com/solar/english/>

5-14-08 ReneSola Results

ReneSola Ltd released its unaudited financial results for the 1st quarter ended 31 March 2008. Story at

Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsASCO256.htm>

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

5-14-08 ReneSola Wafer Supply Agreement with Gintech

ReneSola Ltd. announced that it has signed a 6-year 525-MW wafer supply agreement with Gintech Energy Corporation. Press at: <http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/05-14-2008/0004813178&EDATE=> or <http://tinyurl.com/6oon7k>

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

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

5-14-08 Q-Cells Results

Q-Cells released its report for the 1st quarter 2008. Story at Solarbuzz:

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEU545.htm>

Q-Cells: http://www.q-cells.de/cmadmin_1_1_0.html

5-14-08 Solar Profits

See the story "WRAPUP 1-Sunny Spain powers German solar profits" at Reuters:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssTechMediaTelecomNews/idUSL143302520080514> or

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

5-14-08 Spire Results

Spire Corporation reported record first quarter 2008 revenues. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/6gvqcd>

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

<http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=76421&p=irol-irhome>

5-14-08 More on SILFAB Polysilicon Manufacturing

SILFAB SpA chose CDI Corporation to provide technology integration and engineering services for its solar grade polysilicon manufacturing project being built in Borgofranco d'Ivrea, Italy. More on the story at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEUMA224.htm>

SILFAB: <http://www.silfab.eu/en/>

CDI: <http://www.cdicorp.com/>

5-14-08 Mosel Vitelic Solar Cell Production Line

Mosel Vitelic Inc. is setting up a new 200 MW/year production line for solar cells at its Hsinchu plant, which is scheduled to start trial production at the end of this year. Story at:

<http://www.emsnow.com/npps/story.cfm?id=33433&pg=story>

<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PD00000000000000000000000005709&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/4y4vq6>

Mosel Vitelic: <http://www.mvc.com/>

SunPower Corporation and MMA Renewable Ventures dedicated a 584-kW solar electric power system at the City of Thousand Oaks' Hill Canyon Water Treatment Plant. Story at:

<http://biz.yahoo.com/pnews/080514/aqw521.html?.v=10>

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

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

5-14-08 Innovalight Featured

See coverage of Innovalight in the article at RenewableEnergyWorld – "Innovalight's Silicon Ink":

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=52411>

Innovalight: <http://www.innovalight.com/>

5-14-08 Nanowires, Solar Cell Efficiency

See "Nanowires May Boost Solar Cell Efficiency, Engineers Say" with coverage of research at the University of California, San Diego, at Science Daily:

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2008/05/080514092329.htm>

5-14-08 Challenges to Solar Industry

The economic slowdown, regulatory conflicts, and competition from China pose the main risks to future growth of the solar industry, the head of the European Photovoltaic Industry Association told Reuters. Story at: <http://uk.reuters.com/article/oilRpt/idUKL1419268220080514>
EPIA: <http://www.epia.org/>

5-14-08 Sunovia Featured

SmallCapVoice.com, Inc. announced that a new audio interview featuring Carl Smith, CEO of Sunovia Energy Technologies, Inc., is now available. Information at: <http://tinyurl.com/5nr782>
Sunovia: <http://www.sunoviaenergy.com/>
<http://www.smallcapvoice.com/sunv/sunv-5-5-08.php>
http://www.sunoviaenergy.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=58&Itemid=55 or
<http://tinyurl.com/5dpag3>

5-14-08 Moser Baer May List PV Unit Overseas

According to this press, Moser Baer India Ltd may list its PV unit overseas to raise money for expansion. Press at: <http://sg.news.yahoo.com/rtrs/20080514/tbs-moser-photovoltaic-7318940.html> or
<http://tinyurl.com/4rgpp7>

5-14-08 SatCon Next Generation Inverters

SatCon Technology Corporation® announced the launch of its 75W, 100kW, and 135kW PowerGate® Plus PV inverters. Press at: <http://biz.yahoo.com/bw/080514/20080514005189.html?v=1>
SatCon: <http://www.satcon.com/>

5-14-08 IREC 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>

5-14-08 Solar Islands

Solar Islands describes a new concept for the conversion of solar energy to usable energy by means of a way to construct large-size islands, which can align to the sun by simply turning to the right azimuth. A presentation will be given at Photovoltaics Beyond Conventional Silicon, USA 2008 on 18 June. Presentation summary at: <http://www.idtechex.com/products/en/presentation.asp?presentationid=1268> or
<http://tinyurl.com/5cjo2a>
Conference: <http://printedelectronics.idtechex.com/photovoltaicsusa08/en/>

Jefferies & Company, Inc. announced it will host its 5th Global Clean Technology Conference on 5 June in New York City. Information at: <http://tinyurl.com/464y3m>
Jefferies: <http://www.jefferies.com/>

5-14-08 Enviro Expo USA and Advances in Green Science and Technology Symposium, Call for Papers

Enviro Expo USA and Advances in Green Science and Technology, a technical symposium, are set for 13-16 November 2008, in Atlanta, Georgia: <http://www.enviroexpousa.com/index.php>. The technical symposium includes a session on Electricity Production, including solar: <http://www.enviroexpousa.com/techSessions.php>. See the Call for Papers for Advances in Green Science and Technology at: <http://www.enviroexpousa.com/callForPapers.php>, with additional information available at the Website: <http://www.enviroexpousa.com/>

5-14-08 Record Number of Exhibitors at Intersolar

See the story "Making hay while the sun shines: Intersolar reaches 1,000 exhibitors" at PV Tech: http://www.pv-tech.org/market_watch/article/making_hay_while_the_sun_shines_intersolar_reaches_1000_exhibitors or
<http://tinyurl.com/5agmsm>
Intersolar, 12-14 June, Munich, Germany: <http://www.intersolar.de/index.php?id=1&L=1>

5-14-08 Builder-to-Builder Green Forum

Get information on the Builder-to-Builder Green Forum, 24 June at the Moscone Center, San Francisco, California at: <http://www.pcbc.com/B2BGREEN/>
PCBC® 2008, 24-27 June: <http://www.pcbc.com/>

In related solar news...

5-14-08 BrightSource Energy Financing

BrightSource Energy, Inc. said it closed a \$115 million round of financing from a diverse group of blue-chip backers. Stories at: http://www.menafn.com/qn_news_story.asp?StoryId=%7bEB45C1E7-812E-45F5-916C-DF836A44FEE7%7d or <http://tinyurl.com/6nhbon>
<http://venturebeat.com/2008/05/13/brightsource-snags-115m-for-solar-thermal-project/> or <http://tinyurl.com/5knhbs>
BrightSource Energy: <http://www.brightsourceenergy.com/>
Press release: <http://www.brightsourceenergy.com/Release5-14-08.pdf>

5-15-08 Phoenix Solar 1st Quarter Results, Guidance [Anka Leiner]

Phoenix Solar AG released figures for the first quarter of 2008, and the Board has revised its guidance upwards for the current financial year. Press from Phoenix Solar:
http://www.phoenixsolar.com/Press/PressReleases/content/articles/PM_080514.html?uri=/index.html or <http://tinyurl.com/5ojrja>

5-15-08 ersol Solar Energy Results

ersol Solar Energy AG presented 1st quarter results. Story at Solarbuzz:
<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEUCO546.htm>
ersol: <http://www.ersol.de/>

5-15-08 Yingli Results

Yingli Green Energy Holding Co. said its 1st-quarter profit increased nearly 20-fold on higher demand from western Europe and the U.S. Press at: http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080515/earns_yingli_green.html?.v=1
and
Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsASCO260.htm>
Yingli: <http://www.yinglisolar.com/enmain/user/index.asp>

5-15-08 Trina Solar Agreement with Jupiter Corporation

Trina Solar Ltd said it signed a polysilicon agreement with Jupiter Corporation Ltd., an affiliate of DTK Industries Co., Ltd., to enable it to produce 650 MW of solar modules over six years. Press at Solarbuzz:
<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsASCO259.htm> and
<http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSWNAS430820080515> or <http://tinyurl.com/5lrlux>
<http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/05-15-2008/0004814327&EDATE=> or <http://tinyurl.com/6h2kn4>
Trina Solar: <http://www.trinasolar.com/front/en/home.php>
DTK Industries: <http://www.dtk-global.com/>

5-15-08 Recurrent Energy PV Project for San Francisco, California [Helena Kimball]

Recurrent Energy has been selected as the developer and owner of a 5-MW project supplying solar power to the city of San Francisco. Story at Solarbuzz:
<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAPR1087.htm>
Recurrent Energy: <http://www.recurrentenergy.com/>
Press from Mayor Gavin Newsom: http://www.sfgov.org/site/mayor_index.asp?id=80741

5-15-08 Solar Cell Efficiency Gains

According to this press, Physicist Bram Hoex and colleagues at Eindhoven University of Technology, together with the Fraunhofer Institute, have improved the efficiency of an important type of solar cell from 21.9 to 23.2 %. Story at Science Daily:
<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2008/05/080514154702.htm>

5-15-08 Solar Cell Efficiency Gains - continued

TU/e: <http://w3.tue.nl/en>
<http://tinyurl.com/5rp474>

5-15-08 Dr. Lawrence L. Kazmerski, Charles Greeley Abbot Award [Neal Lurie, ASES]

The Charles Greeley Abbot Award was presented to Dr. Lawrence L. Kazmerski at SOLAR 2008 for four decades of visionary leadership and breakthrough research in solar energy. The award was presented by the American Solar Energy Society during a banquet celebration at the 37th annual ASES National Solar Conference in San Diego, California. "The solar energy industry would not be where it is today without Kaz's pioneering research and inspiring leadership", said Brad Collins, Executive Director of ASES. Press from ASES: <http://www.ases.org/>
Award: <http://www.ases.org/about/awards/abbott.htm>

5-15-08 Dr. Masafumi Yamaguchi, Cherry Award 2008

Dr. Masafumi Yamaguchi of the Toyota Technological Institute was honored with the 2008 William R. Cherry Award at the 33rd IEEE Photovoltaic Specialists Conference in San Diego, California in an award ceremony followed by a congratulatory reception. Highlights of Dr. Yamaguchi's extensive contributions are given in the announcement from the PVSC33 at:
http://www.33pvsc.org/public/index.php?ijeifeijfeijfwf=j234134134ewjffoiwejgoijweoigjwoiejpgwe&page=website_awards&show_menu=yes or <http://tinyurl.com/5kr372>

5-15-08 First Solar Executive Management Appointments

First Solar announced the appointments of Ken Schultz, John Carrington, and Jim Miller into new executive management positions. Ken Schultz has been appointed as Executive Vice President, Advanced Development; John Carrington as Executive Vice President, Global Marketing & Business Development; and Jim Miller as Executive Vice President, Product & Global Supply Chain Management. Press from First Solar: <http://investor.firstsolar.com/releasedetail.cfm?ReleaseID=310483>

5-15-08 Epistar Entering Solar Business

Epistar will enter the solar energy business and intends to develop solar cells based on GaAs, with production of small volumes estimated to begin this year. Press at DigiTimes:
<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PD000000000000000000000000005740&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/5o8eps>
Epistar: <http://www.epistar.com.tw/about-e.htm>

5-15-08 Green Energy Technology Plant, China

According to this press, Green Energy Technology will soon host a shareholders meeting to discuss its investment plans in China. If shareholders approve, the solar wafer maker is likely to establish a plant in Shangdong, China. Press at DigiTimes:
<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PD000000000000000000000000005726&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/6reum5>
Green Energy Technology: <<http://www.getinc.com.tw/>>

5-15-08 China Sunergy Featured

See SmallCapInvestor.com's article "Check on China: China Sunergy Co., Ltd." at:
<http://biz.yahoo.com/smallcapinvestor/080515/8972.html?v=1>
China Sunergy: <http://www.chinasunergy.com/en/index.php>

5-15-08 Oerlikon Expansion

According to this press, Oerlikon is looking to make acquisitions in its solar business as it moves to expand production. Press at: <http://uk.reuters.com/article/bankingfinancial-SP/idUKWEB522220080515>
Oerlikon: <http://www.oerlikon.com/>

5-15-08 SunWize Technologies Restructuring

SunWize Technologies, Inc. has completed a corporate-wide restructuring and expanded its capabilities. For more on this restructuring, see the press at RenewableEnergyWorld:
<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?id=52473>
SunWize Technologies: <http://www.sunwize.com/>

5-15-08 Concentrated Photovoltaic Newsletter [Joshua Bull]

The latest issue of the Concentrated Photovoltaic Newsletter is available at:
<http://www.cpvtoday.com/usa/newsletter0508/>
CPV today: <http://www.cpvtoday.com/>

5-15-08 RenewableEnergyWorld Podcast

Listen to the latest RenewableEnergyWorld Podcast, covering utility profit decoupling and building-integrated PV – including Lumeta and HelioVolt – at:
<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/podcast?id=52476>

5-15-08 Thin-film Future [Johan Trip]

“The Thin-film Future, Shortcut to grid-parity?” is set for 11 June in Munich, Germany. See speakers:
<http://www.thethinfilfuture.com/Speakers.html>
Programme: <http://www.thethinfilfuture.com/Programme.html>
Registration: <http://www.thethinfilfuture.com/Registration.html>
Press: <http://www.thethinfilfuture.com/Press.html>

5-15-08 Nanotech, Clean Technology, TechConnect 2008

Advance registration ends 23 May for Nanotech 2008, Clean Technology 2008, and TechConnect 2008, 1-5 June Boston, Massachusetts. Programs at: <http://www.nsti.org/Nanotech2008/>
<http://www.csievents.org/Cleantech2008/>
<http://techconnect.org/Summit2008/>

5-15-08 Solar Innovations & Investment

Solar Innovations & Investment takes place 21-23 May in London, England. Information at:
http://www.greenpowerconferences.com/renewablesmarkets/sii_london.html or <http://tinyurl.com/23h2n4>

5-15-08 IDTechEx Report

For information on IDTechEx’s “Printed and Thin Film Photovoltaics and Batteries, Technologies, Forecasts and Players”, visit: <http://www.idtechex.com/products/en/view.asp?productcategoryid=130> or <http://tinyurl.com/367evs>

5-15-08 Coverage of PV CYCLE

See coverage of PV CYCLE in the story “Solar firms team up on recycling to beat regulators” at Sustainable Development International:
<http://www.sustdev.org/index.php?option=content&task=view&id=2524&Itemid=49> or
<http://tinyurl.com/5kobxc>
PV CYCLE Association: <http://www.pvcycle.org/index.htm>

5-15-08 GridPoint for Smart Grid Project, Boulder, Colorado

GridPoint Inc. announced that Xcel Energy selected the GridPoint SmartGrid Platform™ for its SmartGridCity™ in Boulder, Colorado. The platform applies information technology to the electric grid to provide utilities with an intelligent network of distributed energy resources that controls loads, stores energy and produces power. More at: <http://tinyurl.com/5y7lbr>
Smart Grid City: http://www.xcelenergy.com/XLWEB/CDA/0%2c3080%2c1-1-1_15531_43141_46932-39884-0_0_0-0%2c00.html or <http://tinyurl.com/2gp8gk>

5-16-08 SCHOTT Thin-film Module Business

SCHOTT Solar has founded an independent company for its thin-film module business sector – SCHOTT Solar Thin Film GmbH. At its two locations in Jena and Putzbrunn, the new company will produce framed premium and standard modules, as well as OEM raw modules. Within the next few years, the annual production capacity is planned to expand to 100 MW from the current production capacity of 36 MW. Stories at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=52499> and Greentech Media: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/schott-restructures-to-support-thin-film-growth-909.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/6hh8ea>
SCHOTT Solar: <http://www.schott.com/photovoltaic/english/>

5-16-08 Enel – Sharp Strategic Partnership

Enel and Sharp signed an agreement to form a strategic partnership in the PV sector. The MOU provides for Enel and Sharp to carry out a detailed analysis for the construction in Italy of a plant for the integrated manufacture of PV panels using Sharp's triple-junction thin-film technology. Sharp and Enel.si, will develop PV fields with a total capacity of 161 MWp by the end of 2011. More at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEUCO547.htm>
Enel: <http://www.enel.com/en/index.aspx>
http://www.enel.com/en/press_room/press_releases/
Sharp: <http://sharp-world.com/solar/>

5-16-08 Econcern Growth

Ecostream US announced that its parent company, Econcern, increased 2007 revenue by 86% and increased net profit 96%. Econcern expanded its international network from 28 offices to 53 offices in 2007 in 20 different countries. Press at Econcern: http://www.econcern.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=246&Itemid=66 or <http://tinyurl.com/5dn8h6>
<http://www.econcern.com/>
Ecostream: <http://www.ecostream.us/>

5-16-08 Taiwan Semiconductor Polysilicon Subsidiary

The Taiwan Semiconductor Company polysilicon subsidiary, Shan Yang, has started operations in eastern Taiwan, with its sampled products achieving a highest rating of 9N-grade purity, according to the company. Story at DigiTimes: <http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PD00000000000000000000000005751&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/5esn3>

5-16-08 Ascent Solar Pricing of Public Offering of Common Stock

Ascent Solar Technologies, Inc. announced the pricing of a public offering of shares of its common stock. Ascent Solar intends to use the net proceeds from the offering for the design, purchase, installation, qualification and testing of production tools for approximately 30 MW of rated capacity for the production of thin-film PV modules, and for general corporate purposes. Press at: http://www.businesswire.com/portal/site/google/?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20080516005242&newsLang=en or <http://tinyurl.com/5ouguv>
Ascent Solar: <http://www.ascentsolar.com/>

5-16-08 Municipal Solar Power Plant, San Francisco, California

See the story "San Francisco solar project may pave the way for more municipal power plants", with coverage of the new Recurrent Energy PV Project, at: <http://venturebeat.com/2008/05/15/san-francisco-solar-project-may-pave-the-way-for-more-municipal-developments/> or <http://tinyurl.com/48egp5>
Recurrent Energy: <http://www.recurrentenergy.com/>

5-16-08 REI Solar Retrofit

Recreational Equipment, Inc. announced plans to retrofit more than 10% of its stores with solar electric technology in 2008. Consulting with Blue Oak Energy, the store locations were selected based on a variety of criteria including state incentives and utility rebates, current cost of electricity, and size and current condition of the store's roof. Story at Solarbuzz:

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAPR1088.htm>

Blue Oak Energy: <http://www.blueoakenergy.com/>

5-16-08 IBM Concentrator PV Technology

IBM is developing a concentrator PV technology that includes a liquid-metal cooling process. Press at:

<http://news.zdnet.co.uk/hardware/0,1000000091,39418764,00.htm>

http://www.upi.com/NewsTrack/Science/2008/05/16/ibm_claims_solar_power_breakthrough/9932/ or

<http://tinyurl.com/6jh6ae>

<http://www.eetimes.com/news/semi/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=207800558> or <http://tinyurl.com/6po25a>

5-16-08 Solar EnerTech at ROTH Tour, China

Solar EnerTech Corp. announced that the company will present at the ROTH China Discovery Tour in Sanya, China on 23 May. Press at: [http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-](http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=109&STORY=/www/story/05-16-2008/0004815338&EDATE=)

[bin/stories.pl?ACCT=109&STORY=/www/story/05-16-2008/0004815338&EDATE=](http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=109&STORY=/www/story/05-16-2008/0004815338&EDATE=) or

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

Solar EnerTech: <http://www.solarenertech.com/>

ROTH China Discovery Tour 2008: <http://www.roth.com/> (see Conferences, Upcoming Events)

5-16-08 Dow Corning Solar Solutions Application Center

Dow Corning Corp. opened a Solar Solutions Application Center in Freeland, Michigan, to collaborate with customers to develop, evaluate, and pilot material solutions used to manufacture solar panels. The 27,000-square-foot state-of-the-art facility represents an investment of more than \$3 million and includes a laboratory, pilot equipment and testing facilities. Story at The Earth Times:

<http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/dow-corning-opens-solar-module--assembly-application-center,397467.shtml> or <http://tinyurl.com/42p28v>

<http://www.mlive.com/business/saginawnews/index.ssf?/base/business-3/121094761524730.xml&coll=9>

or <http://tinyurl.com/3ox2wb>

Dow Corning: <http://www.dowcorning.com/>

5-16-08 University of Toledo, McMaster Photovoltaics Chair, Ohio

A \$2 million gift from the family in honor of the late solar-energy pioneer Harold McMaster is being announced in the lobby of McMaster Hall. It will establish the "Harold and Helen McMaster Chair in Photovoltaics" that will draw an experienced researcher in the field to Toledo through an international search. Story at:

<http://www.toledoblade.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080516/NEWS21/805160327/-1/NEWS> or

<http://tinyurl.com/62232p>

5-16-08 Hawaiian Electric PV Power from Hoku

The Hawaii Public Utilities Commission has approved a contract for Hawaiian Electric Company to purchase power from a 218-kW PV system that Hoku Solar, Inc. will install on the roof of Archer Substation at Hawaiian Electric's Ward Avenue Facility. Story at:

<http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/marketwire/0397479.htm> or <http://tinyurl.com/6gflth>

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

5-16-08 PV System for Portland Habilitation Center, Oregon

EMCOR Group, Inc. announced that its subsidiary, Dynalectric Company of Oregon, has begun work on a solar power array for Portland Habilitation Center. Dynalectric will design and install the solar array and all supporting electrical systems for the 870-kW DC system. Story at:

<http://www.emcorgroup.com/index.cgi/78028>

EMCOR Group: <http://www.emcorgroup.com/>

5-16-08 PG&E Solar Generation Systems for Habitat for Humanity

Pacific Gas and Electric Co. announced that it has committed more than \$1 million toward solar generation systems for Habitat for Humanity-built homes in northern and central California. Story at: http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/ci_9270109

5-16-08 European Solar Days [Alda Trisdawidyani]

The first European Solar Days will be celebrated with over 4000 events throughout Europe. See information at: http://www.solardays.eu/uploads/media/ESD_PR_15May.pdf
<http://www.solardays.eu/>

5-16-08 EPIA Annual General Meeting, PV Symposium, France [Tomasz Slusarz]

The French Symposium "Towards a sustainable development of the photovoltaic sector in France" is set for 27 June, Aix-les-Bains, France. Information at: <http://www.epia.org/index.php?id=202>. The European Photovoltaic Industry Association will combine this year's Annual General Meeting with the Symposium in France. Information at: http://www.epia.org/index.php?id=69&tx_smfepiae_events_pi1%5Buid%5D=23 or <http://tinyurl.com/4d9hef>

5-16-08 Debate over Solar Subsidies, Germany

See the story "Debate over solar energy in Germany lowers outlook" at: <http://www.iht.com/articles/2008/05/15/business/solar.php>

5-16-08 Solar Rebates Debate, Australia

According to this press, the solar energy industry is calling on the Federal Government to rethink means testing the solar rebate and has warned it will cut Australia's take-up of solar technology in half. Press at: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2008/05/17/2247721.htm?section=justin> or <http://tinyurl.com/6ezmqz>
<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2008/05/16/2247712.htm?section=justin> or <http://tinyurl.com/68akfd>

5-16-08 Solar Cell Efficiency Advances

See the story, "US and Europe go head-to-head with solar efficiency records" through PV Group <http://www.pvgroup.org/index.htm> at BusinessGreen: <http://www.businessgreen.com/business-green/news/2216741/europe-head-head-solar> or <http://tinyurl.com/6dag3o>

5-16-08 Microwave Power & Solar Power Satellite Systems, Report

Research and Markets has added "Analyzing Microwave Power Transmission & Solar Power Satellite Systems" to its offering. Information at: http://www.businesswire.com/portal/site/google/?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20080516005334&newsLang=en or <http://tinyurl.com/5x8yyp>
<http://www.researchandmarkets.com/reports/c92036>

In related solar news...

5-16-08 China Solar & Clean Energy Results

China Solar & Clean Energy, Inc. announced results for the 1st quarter of 2008 ended 31 March. Press at: <http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/080516/cnf017.html?.v=32>
China Solar & Clean Energy Solutions: <http://www.cn-sce.com/>