

NCPV Hotline — Week of May 19-23, 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

5-19-08 SunPower Fab 3, Investor Events

SunPower plans to build its third solar cell fabrication plant in Malaysia. The Malaysian plant, called Fab 3, is expected to have an annual capacity in excess of 1 GW when completed. Stories at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsASMA159.htm>

EE Times: <http://www.eetimes.com/news/semi/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=207800875> or <http://tinyurl.com/6bth27>

Cleantech@ Media: <http://media.cleantech.com/2847/sunpower-to-build-third-solar-cell-plant> or <http://tinyurl.com/542a3g>

SunPower also announced that Julie Blunden, vice president of public policy and corporate communications, will present at two upcoming investor events.

Press at: http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=ind_focus.story&STORY=/www/story/05-19-2008/0004816360&EDATE=MON+May+19+2008,+08:05+AM or <http://tinyurl.com/6dplta>
<http://investors.sunpowercorp.com/events.cfm>

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

5-19-08 Sanyo's Thin Film Silicon Center

Sanyo Electric Co. established the Advanced Photovoltaics Development Center to promote its development of thin-film silicon solar cells. Nikkei Microdevices interviewed Makoto Tanaka, who became president of the center, about the company's strategy for technology development. Story at:

http://techon.nikkeibp.co.jp/english/NEWS_EN/20080519/151942/

Sanyo: <http://us.sanyo.com/solar/>

Sanyo press December 2007: <http://www.sanyo.com/news/2007/12/05-1en.html>

5-19-08 More on Motech Collaboration with Solar Semiconductor

Motech Industries and Solar Semiconductor recently agreed to collaborate on development of thin-film solar cell technology and silicon-wafer supplies. More on this story at:

<http://www.emsnow.com/npps/story.cfm?id=33541&pg=story>

Motech: <http://www.motech.com.tw/>

Solar Semiconductor: <http://www.solarsemiconductor.com/>

5-19-08 Novel Dye Solar Cell

The R&D team at Dyesol, led by Dr. Hans Desilvestro and Mr. Ravi Harikison, has demonstrated a novel tandem Dye Solar Cell with over 10% efficiency. The cells are of industrial size and are manufactured using Dyesol's standard glass substrates, pastes, and electrolytes. Press from Dyesol:

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

<http://www.dyesol.com/index.php?page=Home>

5-19-08 SILFAB Wafer Supply to Hyundai Heavy Industries

SILFAB S.p.A. signed a 6-year 'take or pay' contract to supply multicrystalline wafers to Hyundai Heavy Industries. Story at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/news/NewsEUCO548.htm>

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

Hyundai: <http://english.hhi.co.kr/>

5-19-08 WorldWater & Solar Technologies Results, New Contracts

WorldWater & Solar Technologies Corp. announced results for the first quarter ended 31 March 2008.

Press at: http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/worldwater-amp-solar-technologies-announces-first-quarter-results_398545.shtml or <http://tinyurl.com/43yd9a>

WorldWater also announced that the company has been awarded two new solar contracts in California, which include a 783-kW system for the Town of Windsor and a 53-kW system for the Contra Costa Water District of Concord. Story at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAPR1091.htm>

WorldWater & Solar Technologies: <http://www.WorldWater.com/>

5-19-08 SolarWorld Results [Anne Schneider]

With the presentation of its financial report for the 1st quarter of 2008, SolarWorld AG has confirmed its previously reported quarterly figures. Press from SolarWorld: <http://www.solarworld-usa.com/>

5-19-08 PV Crystalox Solar Performance

PV Crystalox Solar Plc. said its performance remains strong with turnover in the core silicon products business significantly ahead of the levels achieved in the first half of last year. More at:

<http://www.hemscott.com/news/latest-news/item.do?newsId=64220498681146> or

<http://tinyurl.com/57bhdj>

PV Crystalox Solar: <http://www.pvcrystalox.de/>

5-19-08 ET Solar Subsidiary

ET Solar Group Corp. announced that it has established a wholly owned subsidiary in Seoul, Korea.

Press at: <http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/05-19-2008/0004816195&EDATE=> or <http://tinyurl.com/4c8g9n>

ET Solar: <http://www.etsolar.com/en/default.html>

5-19-08 More on First Light PV Facility

First Light, billed as the largest solar PV facility in North America at 19 MW, will be located in Ontario, Canada, developed by SkyPower Corp. and SunEdison Canada. Story at Renewable Energy Magazine:

<http://www.renewableenergymagazine.com/paginas/ContenidoSecciones.asp?ID=2622&Tipo=&Nombre=Renewable%20energy%20news> or <http://tinyurl.com/5q3dwp>

SkyPower: <http://www.skypower.com/>

SunEdison: <http://www.sunedison.com/>

5-19-08 Organic PV Perspective

See the story "Organic Photovoltaics: the Good, the Bad, and the Inefficient" by Joe Kwiatkowski, Physicist, Imperial College London, at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/reinsider/story?id=52410> or <http://tinyurl.com/5o9wgz>

5-19-08 Organic Thin-film Solar Cell Development

A Japanese research team has created a green, organic thin-film solar cell that could broaden the range of applications involving solar energy, including use in design-dependent products, and hopes to produce the ultra-thin solar cell for commercial use by the end of this fiscal year. Story at:

<http://www.asahi.com/english/Herald-asahi/TKY200805190197.html>

5-19-08 Silicon Supply Perspective

See the story "Solar Investors, Understand Silicon Supply" at Seeking Alpha:

<http://seekingalpha.com/article/77781-solar-investors-understand-silicon-supply> or <http://tinyurl.com/6lf5ru>

5-19-08 PHOTON Consulting Silicon Price Index

PHOTON Consulting LLC announced that the company has launched The PHOTON Consulting Silicon Price Index, the first non-tradable, U.S. Dollar denominated market index designed to benchmark global spot and contract prices for high-purity silicon. The index is offered for informational purposes only as a subscription-based service at: <http://www.siliconpriceindex.com/>

Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/579jfh>

PHOTON Consulting: <http://www.photon-consulting.com/>

5-19-08 PHOTON International May 2008 Contents

For the table of contents of the May 2008 issue of PHOTON International, and several live links for May, visit: <http://www.photon-magazine.com/>

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

5-19-08 Dr. Stan Levy Presentation at SPIE Conference

BioSolar™ announced that Dr. Stan Levy, the company's Chief Technology Officer, will present at the SPIE Symposium on Solar Applications and Energy conference 12 August in San Diego, California.

Dr. Levy will present findings from the company's development program. More at:

<http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/marketwire/0398423.htm> or <http://tinyurl.com/5n9n75>

BioSolar™: <http://www.biosolar.com/>

SPIE Solar Energy + Applications: <http://spie.org/solar-energy.xml>

5-19-08 IBM's Concentrator PV Technology

See more on IBM's new concentrator PV technology in the article at PV Tech: http://www.pv-tech.org/r_and_d/article/ibm_researchers_set_sites_on_cooler_cpvt_technology or

<http://tinyurl.com/58kqz>

5-19-08 Wirsol Listing

According to this press, Wirsol aims for a listing on the German stock exchange in September to fund future growth. More at: <http://uk.reuters.com/article/oilRpt/idUKL1962000920080519>

Wirsol: http://www.wirsol.de/cms/front_content.php?changelang=1

5-19-08 Renewables in the Netherlands

Wim Sinke, an executive committee member of the EU PV Platform's scientific working group, called the target of reaching 20% renewable energy "ambitious" for the country, and said major policy changes would be needed to meet the goal. Story at Greentech Media:

<http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/netherlands-could-miss-renewable-energy-targets-911.html> or

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

5-19-08 Free Solar Panels at UK Schools

A primary school in Pembrokeshire has become the first in Wales to benefit from a scheme to install free solar panels at 100 schools around the UK. Story at:

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/wales/south_west/7407764.stm

5-19-08 Renewables in New Hampshire and Vermont

New Hampshire now has a financial incentive for small renewable energy systems. Also, Green Mountain Power Corp. announced the proposed adoption of solar net-metered electric rates, which are designed to make solar energy an important part of Vermont's mix of cleaner energy sources. See "New Hampshire and Vermont Renewable Energy Program Updates" at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=52515> or <http://tinyurl.com/5hshhk>

5-19-08 Spire at Wedbush Morgan Conference

Spire Corporation announced that its management is presenting at the 6th Annual MAC: Management Access Conference for Micro-Small-Mid-Cap Companies. Press at:

<http://biz.yahoo.com/bw/080519/20080519005826.html?v=1>

<http://www.wsw.com/webcast/wedbush6/register.aspx?conf=wedbush6&page=spir&url=http%3A/www.wsw.com/webcast/wedbush6/spir/> or <http://tinyurl.com/6dq8kv>

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

5-19-08 XsunX Agreement with Praxair

XsunX, Inc. announced that it has signed an agreement with Praxair, Inc. for the supply of bulk industrial gases for its new multi-megawatt thin-film PV solar manufacturing facility near Portland, Oregon. Story at: <http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/080519/clm004.html?.v=101>
XsunX: <http://www.XsunX.com/>
Praxair: <http://www.praxair.com/>

5-19-08 Renewable Energy Teleconference Series

See information on ACORE's "Risk Management, Mitigation, and Technologies: From Insurance, Contracting to Sophisticated Finance" at: http://gw.vtrenz.net/?QVW6Y2TBF7:QVW6Y2TBF7=ssID:230143875,email:carol_riordan@nrel.gov,mode:live or <http://tinyurl.com/4b7dmf>

5-19-08 Solar Cup Results

For the results of the 2008 Solar Cup, at the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, visit the website at: http://mwdh2o.com/mwdh2o/pages/education/solar_cup/solar_cup_01.html or <http://tinyurl.com/5s93rx>

In related solar news...

5-19-08 Solar Hot Water at Fenway Park, Massachusetts

Enough solar panels have been installed on the roof of Fenway Park to heat a third of the hot water needed for the ballpark. Story at: http://www.boston.com/news/local/breaking_news/2008/05/fenway_park_unv.html or <http://tinyurl.com/6qzcos>

5-20-08 Asola Manufacturing Capacity

Quantum Fuel Systems Technologies Worldwide, Inc. announced that its German solar partner, Asola Advanced and Automotive Solar Systems GmbH, is expanding its annual solar module manufacturing capacity to 45 MWp.
Story at: <http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/quantum-and-asola-to-triple,401590.shtml> or <http://tinyurl.com/3polye>
Quantum Technologies: <http://www.qttw.com/>
Asola: <http://www.asola-power.com/>

5-20-08 Formosun Solar Volume Production

By producing thin-film solar cells on equipment from EPV Solar, Taiwan-based Formosun Solar indicated that volume production has already started. Formosun said it plans for an annual capacity of 5.5 MWp for its first production line, with expansion already planned.
Story at: http://www.digitimes.com/bits_chips/a20080520PD214.html
Formosun: <http://www.formosun.com/>
EPV Solar: <http://www.epv.net/default.aspx>

5-20-08 Mitsubishi Chemical's Solar Strategy

Nikkei Microdevices interviewed Tokitaro Hoshijima, product director who is operating the company's "Project PV" started in 2008, about Mitsubishi Chemical's strategy.
Press at: http://techon.nikkeibp.co.jp/english/NEWS_EN/20080520/152015/
Mitsubishi Chemical: http://www.m-kagaku.co.jp/index_en.htm

5-20-08 China Sunergy Results

China Sunergy Co Ltd. posted a first-quarter profit. Press at: <http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSBNG33728520080520> or <http://tinyurl.com/5xopif>
China Sunergy: <http://www.chinasunergy.com/en/index.php>

5-20-08 Kenmos PV Thin-film Solar Cell Capacity

Kenmos PV, a joint venture of Kenmos Technology and NanoPV, said it plans for volume production of thin-film solar cells in the 3rd quarter of 2008, with an initial annual capacity of 10 MWp. Press at DigiTimes:

<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PD00000000000000000000000005789&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/6b295n>

Kenmos Technology: <http://www.kenmos.com.tw/>
<http://www.kenmos-pv.com.tw/english/company/profile.htm>

5-20-08 Tatung Solar Solutions

WS Lin, chairman of Tatung and also the chairman of Green Energy Technology, indicated that Tatung's solar businesses are maturing and that the company expects to begin officially offering full solar system solutions this year. Story at DigiTimes:

<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PD00000000000000000000000005783&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/69efsg>

Tatung: <http://www.tatung.com/en/index.asp>

5-20-08 National Semiconductor into Solar

According to this press, National Semiconductor Corp. plans to jump into solar by unveiling chips that will boost solar panel efficiency. Stories at: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/business/feedarticle/7527012>

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

National Semiconductor: <http://www.national.com/company/pressroom/gallery/peopleexe.html>

5-20-08 SatCon Order, Spain

SatCon Technology Corporation® announced it has received a purchase order for a 10 MW electrical package from a confidential project developer for a roof-mount PV installation in Spain. Press at:

<http://biz.yahoo.com/bw/080520/20080520005010.html?.v=1>

SatCon: <http://www.satcon.com/>

5-20-08 Solarvalue Solar Grade Silicon Plant

See the story "Solarvalue kick-starts its solar grade silicon plant in the US" at Renewable Energy Magazine:

<http://www.renewableenergymagazine.com/paginas/ContenidoSecciones.asp?ID=2624&Tipo=&Nombre=PV%20Solar%20News> or <http://tinyurl.com/4twxo>

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

5-20-08 More on Shan Yang Polysilicon Production

Taiwan Semiconductor Corporation has started constructing a polysilicon factory in Yilan, eastern Taiwan. Shan Yang Technologies, the new subsidiary, aims to produce polysilicon with the purity of 9N level. Story at ENF.cn: <http://www.enf.cn/news/080520/1742.html>

5-20-08 Solar Energy Farm, North Carolina

See the story "New N.C. utilities law generates proposal for solar-energy farm in Davidson County" with information on a proposed 21.5 MW solar farm, at: <http://solarcellsinfo.com/blog/archives/1536>

5-20-08 SunPower Solar Electric Plant, South Korea

SunPower Corporation has completed the design and construction of a new 1.4 MW solar electric power plant project in Hampyeong, South Korea.

Story at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsASPR176.htm>

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

5-20-08 SolarWorld Awards, Recognition

See the story "SolarWorld AG receives Awards for Sustainability and Marketing" at: http://www.stock-world.de/nachrichten/dgap/2611591-DGAP_News_SolarWorld_AG.html

See also "SolarWorld deal cited as one of 2007's best" at:

<http://www.oregonlive.com/news/argus/index.ssf?/base/news/12103626335130.xml&coll=6> or

5-20-08 SolarWorld Awards, Recognition – continued.

<http://tinyurl.com/4y3qz4>

SolarWorld AG: <http://www.solarworld.de/>

<http://www.financial.de/news/unternehmensnews/2008/04/29/dj-dgap-adhoc-solarworld-ag-meets-forecast-in-first-quarter-2008/> or <http://tinyurl.com/3zorgw>

<http://www.solarworld-usa.com/>

5-20-08 State Earmark for Florida Gulf Coast University PV System

Florida Gulf Coast University vice president for administrative services, Joe Shephard, said that plans call for the university to send out bid requests to the private sector in July with the hopes of signing a contract in September for a \$17 million solar array. See “\$8.5 million state earmark will help FGCU go to solar power” through Solarbuzz <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/Newspage.asp> at:

<http://www.naplesnews.com/news/2008/may/19/85-million-state-earmark-will-help-fgcu-go-solar-p/> or

<http://tinyurl.com/4h5xxu>

5-20-08 PV Annual Event

“PV Annual 2008: Shedding Light on Solar” is set for 28 May in Boston, Massachusetts. Information at:

<http://www.greentechmedia.com/events/live/boston0508/pvannual.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/5vckza>

Registration: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/events/live/boston0508/pvannual-register.html> or

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

Agenda: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/events/live/boston0508/pvannual-agenda.html> or

<http://tinyurl.com/5n8z37>

5-20-08 Suntech Analyst and Investor Event

Suntech Power Holdings Co., Ltd. announced that it will host an Analyst and Investor Event in Munich, Germany on 13 June. Information at: <http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/080520/cntu040.html?.v=2>

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

5-20-08 Colorado Renewable Energy Society Events

For the CRES events calendar, including information about the “CRES Monthly Meeting: Colorado’s Leadership in a 21st-Century Energy Economy”, visit: <http://cres-energy.org/events/#nextmtg>

5-20-08 RES Acquisition of Future Heating

Renewable Energy Systems Limited announced the acquisition of solar thermal company Future Heating Ltd. The deal follows RES’s acquisition last year of similar stakes in three UK renewable energy companies, Wood Energy, EarthEnergy, and PV Systems. Story at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=52521>

Renewable Energy Systems: <http://www.res-ltd.com/>

Future Heating: <http://www.future-heating.co.uk/>

5-20-08 National Day of Action, Renewables Tax Credits

Members of more than 100 clean energy support groups, environmental groups, and companies plan to contact their legislators to ask that they pass legislation extending renewables tax credits. See more on a National Day of Action at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=52524>

Solar Nation: <http://www.solar-nation.org/>

5-20-08 PV Rebates, Australia

According to this press, Australia’s solar power market may be more than halved by restrictions on rebates introduced by the government for the installation of PV panels, said Conergy Pty. Story at:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601100&sid=aVTVhW3vvAdo&refer=germany> or

<http://tinyurl.com/49sgq5>

Additional press: <http://www.smh.com.au/news/environment/fury-over-means-test-on-solar/2008/05/15/1210765059730.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/4ajm5s>

<http://news.theage.com.au/national/solar-meanstest-is-necessary-swan-20080518-2fin.html> or

<http://tinyurl.com/4typ9k>

In related solar news...

5-20-08 Solel Solar Receiver Systems for Ibereolica Solar

Israel's Solel Solar Systems said it won a deal to supply Ibereolica Solar S.L. of Madrid with solar receiver systems. Press at: <http://uk.reuters.com/article/oilRpt/idUKL2073059120080520>
<http://www.globes.co.il/serveen/globes/docview.asp?did=1000343605&fid=942> or <http://tinyurl.com/5ltpfp>
Solel: <http://www.solel.com/>

5-21-08 ARISE Technologies Financing

ARISE Technologies has completed its previously announced offering of common shares. Story at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNACO761.htm>
ARISE: <http://www.arisetech.com/>

5-21-08 Globe Specialty Metals Plant, New York

An idle industrial plant in Niagara Falls will reopen early next year, creating 500 new jobs tied to production of silicon for the solar power industry.

More at: <http://www.buffalonews.com/258/story/351212.html?imw=Y>

Globe Specialty Metals: <http://www.glbsm.com/management.aspx>

Empire Development Zone:

http://www.nylovesbiz.com/tax_and_financial_incentives/Empire_Zones/default.asp or
<http://tinyurl.com/544hag>

5-21-08 Ascent Solar Over-Allotment Option [Brian Blackman]

Ascent Solar Technologies, Inc. announced that the underwriters of its public offering exercised their over-allotment option to purchase an additional 570,000 shares of its common stock.

Press from Ascent Solar: <http://www.ascentsolar.com/view.php?tg=press&id=65>
<http://www.ascentsolar.com/>

5-21-08 Solarfun Results

Solarfun reported first-quarter results. Press at Solarbuzz:

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsASCO263.htm>

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

<http://investors.solarfun.com.cn/releases.cfm>

5-21-08 T-Solar Listing

According to this press, Isolux Corsan is planning a stock market listing for its renewables arm, T-Solar, before yearend. T-Solar manages 130 MW of PV in Spain and has 30 MW in Italy under development.

Press at Forbes: <http://www.forbes.com/afxnews/limited/feeds/afx/2008/05/21/afx5032636.html> or
<http://tinyurl.com/6rnlya>

Isolux Corsan: <http://www.isoluxcorsan.com/>

5-21-08 Roth & Rau Development Agreement with University

Roth & Rau AG has concluded a development agreement with the University of Neuchâtel in Switzerland. In a 3-year program, equipment and technologies used in the production of highly efficient crystalline silicon solar cells are to be developed with the university's Institute of Microtechnology. Press at:

http://www.4investors.de/php_fe/indexdow.php?sektion=dowjones&ID=64683 or <http://tinyurl.com/4p2hy7>

5-21-08 Cardinal Glass for PV Panels, Wisconsin

Cardinal Glass will build a \$60 million factory in western Dane County to manufacture two types of glass for use in solar PV panels. Press at: <http://www.madison.com/wsj/home/biz/287411>

Cardinal Glass: <http://www.cardinalcorp.com/company/about.htm>

5-21-08 PV Activities in Japan and Global PV Highlights

The latest issue of "PV Activities in Japan and Global PV Highlights", with coverage of PV highlights in Japan, global PV highlights, the monthly PV photo gallery, topics from Japan, and topics from the world (for example, "Production capacity expansion of polysilicon manufacturers"), is available [by subscription] from RTS Corporation. RTS: <http://www.rts-pv.com>

5-21-08 Global Production of PV Cells

Global production of PV cells increased 51% in 2007 to 3,733 MW according to the latest Vital Signs Update from the Worldwatch Institute, produced in collaboration with the Prometheus Institute. More than 2,935 MW of solar modules were installed in 2007, according to early estimates, bringing cumulative global installations of PV since 1996 to more than 9,740 MW. Story at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/infocus/story?id=52491> or <http://tinyurl.com/3lllac>

Worldwatch Institute Report: <http://www.worldwatch.org/node/5449>

Prometheus Institute: <http://www.prometheus.org/>

5-21-08 Solar Industry Capacity

See the story "JP Morgan Tech Show: First Solar Sees Lots of Capacity Coming Into the Solar Industry"

at Barron's: <http://blogs.barrons.com/techtraderdaily/2008/05/20/jp-morgan-tech-show-first-solar-sees-solar-lots-of-capacity-coming-into-the-solar-industry/> or <http://tinyurl.com/4qjbbh>

5-21-08 More on Solar Islands

Swiss researcher, Thomas Hinderling, CEO of the Centre Suisse d'Electronique et de Microtechnique, wants to build solar islands several miles across that he claims can produce hundreds of megawatts of relatively inexpensive power. Story at:

<http://blog.wired.com/wiredscience/2008/05/researcher-push.html>

Solar Islands: <http://www.solar-islands.com/index.php>

5-21-08 Verification Test of Thin-film Si PV System, Japan

Sharp and Tokyo Bureau of Sewerage have begun a joint verification test of their new PV power generation system. They installed a thin-film Si solar cell module equipped with a uniaxial solar tracking system at the Kasai Water Reclamation Center of Tokyo Bureau of Sewerage. Story at:

http://techon.nikkeibp.co.jp/english/NEWS_EN/20080521/152100/

5-21-08 Tioga Energy on Hedging Against Utility Rate Increases

Tioga Energy released a report that makes a case for solar energy as a cost-saving hedge against future increases in electric utility rates. Press at:

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

Tioga Energy: <http://www.tiogaenergy.com/>

5-21-08 More on Nanowires for Cell Efficiency Increases

See "A nanotechnology approach to making thin film solar cells more efficient" at:

<http://www.foresight.org/nanodot/?p=2748>

Additional press through PV Group <http://www.pvgroup.org/index.htm> at:

<http://www.electricityforum.com/news/may08/Nanowiresmayboostsolarefficiency.html> or

<http://tinyurl.com/3q34os>

5-21-08 Krehnke President and General Manager, SMA America

Jurgen Krehnke is the new president and general manager of SMA America, Inc. Press at:

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

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

5-21-08 Coverage of IDTechX Report on Printed and Thin-film PV and Batteries

For coverage of the IDTechEx report on printed and thin-film PV and batteries, see:

<http://efytimes.com/efytimes/fullnewsxml.asp?edid=26594>

IDTechEx: <http://www.idtechex.com/>

5-21-08 PV System for Water District, Texas

The Tarrant Regional Water District voted to spend \$1.47 million on a 238-kW PV system that will be one of the largest of its kind in the state of Texas. The district is buying the system from Standard Renewable Energy of Houston. Story at:

http://www.star-telegram.com/metro_news/story/655927.html

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

5-21-08 SolarCraft Award

SolarCraft was awarded the Green Business Gold Medal in North Bay Biz Magazine's annual readers' poll to identify the best businesses in the North Bay. Story at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?id=52527>

SolarCraft: <http://www.solarcraft.com/>

5-21-08 Intersolar North America

Solar Promotion International announced details about its conference program for Intersolar North America, 15-17 July in San Francisco, California. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/6ywqxn>

Intersolar North America: <http://www.intersolar.us/>

5-21-08 NABCEP Exams

The next NABCEP Solar PV and Solar Thermal Installer Certification Exams will be held on 13 September 2008 at various cities across the U.S. Information at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?id=52532>

NABCEP: <http://www.nabcep.org/>

In related solar news...

5-21-08 Conergy Sale of SunTechnics Solar Heating Belgium [Alexander Leinhos]

Conergy has sold its SunTechnics solar heating business in Belgium. Said Conergy CEO Dieter Ammer, "The sale of SunTechnics Belgium is an important milestone in our repositioning in the high-growth photovoltaics market."

Press from Conergy AG: <http://www.conergy.de/desktopdefault.aspx>

5-21-08 Sopogy Featured

See the feature on Sopogy™ at VentureBeat CleanTech at: <http://venturebeat.com/2008/05/21/quiet-solar-thermal-firm-sopogy-with-fresh-funding-eyes-an-ipo/> or <http://tinyurl.com/6ot5wo>

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

5-21-08 Eskom Solar Rebate Programme, South Africa

Eskom is offering homeowners rebates of 15-20% on the cost of installing water-heating systems through its Solar Rebate Programme. Story at: <http://allafrica.com/stories/200805210381.html>

5-21-08 American Superconductor Eyeing Solar Thermal

American Superconductor Corp. is eyeing the growing number of U.S. solar thermal projects as a source of new revenue, said Chief Executive Gregory Yurek. Story at:

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/oilRpt/idUKN2047598520080520>

American Superconductor®: <http://www.amsc.com/>

5-22-08 Evergreen Solar New Contracts of Approximately \$1 Billion

Evergreen Solar, Inc. announced it has signed two new long-term sales contracts. Evergreen Solar and Ralos Vertriebs GmbH signed an agreement valued at about \$750 million for panel deliveries beginning in 2008 and extending through 2013. Combined with another agreement with a US-based installer, Evergreen Solar now has a new contractual backlog of approximately \$1 billion. Press at Solarbuzz:

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNACO762.htm>

Evergreen Solar: <http://www.evergreensolar.com/app/en/investors/>

Ralos: <http://www.ralos.de/>

5-22-08 Spire Corporation Contract with BTCP, Russia

Spire Corporation announced that it has received a contract from Bogoroditsk Plant of Techno-Chemical Products to provide a PV module assembly line for the company's operations in Russia. Story at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?id=52556>

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

<http://www.spirecorp.com/spire-semiconductor/>

5-22-08 NexPower Plant, Taiwan

NexPower Technology hosted the opening ceremony for its plant in central Taiwan. Company executives expressed confidence that the company will start to earn profits from 2009, as present capacity has already been fully booked. Story at DigiTimes:

<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PD00000000000000000000000005816&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/6cyc4l>

NexPower: <http://www.nexpw.com/>

5-22-08 More on SunEdison Plant, Davidson County, North Carolina

Duke Energy's Carolinas subsidiary has agreed purchase the entire electricity output produced by an 18-MW AC or 21.5 MW DC solar farm that is under construction in Davidson County. SunEdison is building the plant. More at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAPR1093.htm> and

RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=52550>

Greentech Media: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/sunedison-to-build-largest-us-pv-farm--927.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/4b5s62>

Duke Energy: <http://www.duke-energy.com/news/releases/2008052101.asp?sec=corporate> or <http://tinyurl.com/6au56v>

<http://www2.journalnow.com/content/2008/may/21/duke-energy-announces-deal-solar-farm-proposed-dav/?news> or <http://tinyurl.com/6zquv9>

SunEdison: <http://www.sunedison.com/>

5-22-08 REC Solar Expansion, Colorado

REC Solar announced that due to attractive incentives available to Colorado businesses, it is expanding its Colorado operations to include a commercial division in Westminster. In addition to its fast-growing residential business, the company will also begin offering commercial solar electric installations to businesses throughout the state. Press at:

http://www.businesswire.com/portal/site/google/?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20080522005313&newsLang=en or <http://tinyurl.com/6rlaf9>

http://www.solarindustrymag.com/e107_plugins/content/content_it.php?content.1368 or

<http://tinyurl.com/3sr3m5>

REC Solar: <http://tinyurl.com/6rlaf9>

5-22-08 Unidym Collaboration with Nippon Kayaku

Unidym Inc. will collaborate with Nippon Kayaku Co. to integrate carbon nanotube-based printable transparent electrodes into Nippon's thin-film solar cells. Press through the PV Group

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

<http://www.photonics.com/content/spectra/2008/May/business/91448.aspx> or <http://tinyurl.com/4hjs3h>

Unidym: <http://www.cnanotech.com/>

Nippon Kayaku: <http://www.nipponkayaku.co.jp/english/>

5-22-08 First Solar at SolarPlaza's Thin-film Conference

Managing director Stephan Hansen of First Solar GmbH will speak at SolarPlaza's international conference in Munich, Germany on 11 June about the future opportunities of thin-film solar technology.

Story at SolarPlaza:

http://www.thethinfilfuture.com/Managing_director_of_First_Solar_GmbH_speaks_about_developments_in_thin-film.html or <http://tinyurl.com/4was2c>

SolarPlaza's "The Thin-film Future": <http://www.thethin-filmfuture.com/>

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

5-22-08 More on SCHOTT Solar in the Czech Republic

SCHOTT Solar as significantly expanded its production facilities in Valasske Mezirici in the Czech Republic. By the end of the year, the annual production capacity is expected to more than quadruple to 200 MW. Story at: http://www.solarindustrymag.com/e107_plugins/content/content_it.php?content.1369

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

Solarbuzz May 14: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/news/NewsEUMA223.htm>

5-22-08 Solar-based Power Projects, Haryana, India

Haryana Deputy Chief Minister ChanderMohan, who is also the Minister in charge of Renewable Energy, said that Haryana Renewable Energy Development Agency had received as many as 20 proposals from various groups to set up solar energy-based power projects in the state. Press at:

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

5-22-08 SunPower PV System, Ohio

Solar installers from Third Sun Solar and Wind Power installed 72 SunPower solar modules for a 16.2 kW system at an insurance agency in Ohio, described as one of the 10 largest solar arrays in the state of Ohio. The Ohio Energy Office offers a rebate to businesses that install solar power, in this case covering 40% of the cost. Press at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?id=52543>

Third Sun Solar and Wind Power: <http://www.third-sun.com/>

Ohio Energy Office: <http://www.odod.state.oh.us/cdd/oe/>

5-22-08 Ascent Solar Financing

Ascent Solar Technologies, Inc. announced that it has closed its public offering of common stock, including shares issued after the underwriters exercised their over-allotment in full. Story at:

http://www.businesswire.com/portal/site/google/?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20080521006032&newsLang=en or <http://tinyurl.com/65kkqb>

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

5-22-08 Applied Materials' Senior VP and General Manager of Strategic Operations

Applied Materials, Inc. announced that Randhir Thakur, Ph.D. is re-joining the company as senior vice president and general manager of Strategic Operations. Story at:

<http://biz.yahoo.com/bw/080521/20080521006171.html?.v=1>

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

5-22-08 PV System Monitoring for Boulder, Colorado Cancer Center

Fat Spaniel Technologies announced that the company is providing highly detailed monitoring and reporting services for the Boulder Community Foothills Hospital Cancer Center's 28-kW solar electric installation. Fat Spaniel's String Monitoring Service enables installer and operator Namasté Solar Electric to make real-time assessments to maximize energy output. Story at:

<http://www.sunherald.com/447/story/575914.html>

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

Namasté Solar Electric: <http://www.namastesolar.com/>

5-22-08 International Conference on Thin Films [Alda Trisdawidyani, Daniel Fraile Montoro]

EPIA will host the International Conference on Thin Films in the Solar Photovoltaic Sector in November 2008 in Munich, Germany. The conference will provide insight on global market trends, latest technological achievements, and a full analysis from material and equipment suppliers to module manufacturers including recycling activities in the thin-film industry. Press from EPIA:

<http://www.epia.org/index.php?id=4>

5-22-08 Renewables Tax Credits

The U.S. House of Representatives passed The Renewable Energy and Job Creation Act of 2008, a bill that could extend production and investment tax credits for renewable energy. Story at

RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=52546>

5-22-08 Akeena Solar at Jefferies Cleantech Conference

Akeena Solar, Inc. announced that Barry Cinnamon, CEO and President, will present at the Fifth Annual Jefferies Global Clean Technology Conference on 5 June in New York. Press at:

http://www.businesswire.com/portal/site/google/?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20080522005116&newsLang=en or <http://tinyurl.com/6ajnuw>

Akeena Solar: <http://www.akeena.com/cm/Home.html>

5-22-08 Akeena Solar at Jefferies Cleantech Conference - continued

Jefferies:

<http://www.jefferies.com/cositemgr.pl/html/OurFirm/NewsRoom/PressReleases/2008/200805141press.shtml> or <http://tinyurl.com/6foamb>

5-22-08 California Energy Commission Public Workshop, Renewables Program

The California Energy Commission's Public Interest Energy Research Program will host a public workshop on 3 June to outline directions the Renewables Energy Generation Program is taking as a result of a series of focus group meetings. Information at: http://www.energy.ca.gov/pier/notices/2008-06-03_roadmaps_notice.html or <http://tinyurl.com/52tvlw>

In related solar news...

5-22-08 Concentrating Solar Power Report, Coverage at Renewable Energy Magazine

Greentech Media and the Prometheus Institute released a report on concentrating solar power – “Concentrating Solar Power – Technology, Cost, and Markets”. See coverage of the report at Renewable Energy Magazine:

<http://www.renewableenergymagazine.com/paginas/ContenidoSecciones.asp?ID=2638&Tipo=&Nombre=Renewable%20energy%20news> or <http://tinyurl.com/5pg5rx>

Greentech Media March 31 press: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/reports/research-report-concentrating-solar-power.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/26o5o2>

Note: The NCPV Hotline will be offline May 26 for Memorial Day.

5-23-08 Suntech Results

Suntech Power reported first quarter 2008 financial results. Press at Solarbuzz:

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsASCO264.htm>

See also “Suntech on track to reach 2GW cell production capacity in 2010” at PV Tech: http://www.pv-tech.org/fab_and_facilities/article/suntech_on_track_to_reach_2gw_cell_production_capacity_in_2010 or <http://tinyurl.com/6bpame>

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

5-23-08 China Solar Power into Thin-film Solar

China Solar Power, a subsidiary of Tano China Capital Management, Inc., has entered the thin-film solar cell market in China by partnering with ULVAC, Inc. of Japan. Story at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?id=52558>

ULVAC: <http://www.ulvac.co.jp/eng/>

Tano Capital: <http://www.tanocapital.com/>

5-23-08 More on Green Energy Technology Inc. Plant in China

Green Energy Technology Inc. reportedly has plans to set up a plant in China, making it the first Taiwan-based company there. Story at: <http://www.emsnow.com/npps/story.cfm?id=33658&pg=story>

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

5-23-08 Boading Yingli Group Company into Polysilicon Manufacturing

Boading Yingli Group Company Limited announced that Yingli Group is exploring the possibility of undertaking a green field project to manufacture polysilicon with 3,000 metric tons annual capacity in Boading, China. Press at: <http://biz.yahoo.com/bw/080523/20080523005162.html?.v=1>

Yingli Group: <http://www.yingligroup.com/>

5-23-08 Market Oversupply?

See the story “Market oversupply fears? Tianwei Solarfilms look on the bright side” through SolarPlaza <http://www.solarplaza.com/content/news.php> at: <http://www.interfax.cn/news/2628/>

5-23-08 Thin-film Solar Industry

The second quarter of 2008 brought a flood of announcements from global companies entering the thin-film solar game. See "Thin-film industry heats up" through SolarPlaza

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

<http://www.sustainableindustries.com/breakingnews/19084154.html>

5-23-08 UL PV Technology Center of Excellence, San Jose, California

The City of San Jose said that Underwriters Laboratories will open a state-of-the-art PV testing and certification facility in the city. The city said the 20,000 square-foot Underwriters Laboratories

Photovoltaic Technology Center of Excellence is targeted to open in July and will initially employ

25 technicians and staff. Press at: <http://www.bizjournals.com/sanjose/stories/2008/05/19/daily70.html>

Underwriters Laboratories: <http://www.ul.com/dge/photovoltaics/>

5-23-08 Principle Power \$2.3M Seed Funding

Principle Power announced that it successfully closed its convertible note offering. Press at:

http://www.powerbyprinciple.com/press/releases_convertibleNoteClose.php or <http://tinyurl.com/698y4s>

See other cleantech deals at cleantech@: <http://media.cleantech.com/2868/spying-on-sustainability>

5-23-08 Solar Integrated Technologies Orders

Solar Integrated Technologies Inc. said it has won two orders worth \$7 million from UPC Energy

Management for its building integrated PV roofing systems. The systems are being installed by Istor, a commercial roofing specialist in Greece, and are expected to be completed in 2008. Story at Forbes:

<http://www.forbes.com/afxnewslimited/feeds/afx/2008/05/23/afx5042449.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/6kuzmo>

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

5-23-08 Menova Energy System for Wal-Mart Canada

Wal-Mart Canada announced plans to build the country's largest rooftop solar-energy system atop a new Supercentre planned for Markham later this year, a project with potential to spread across the retailer's national chain. Ontario's Ministry of Research and Innovation is contributing a \$3-million forgivable loan

to support the demonstration system. Menova Energy Inc. is supplying the system for Wal-Mart. Press at: <http://www.thestar.com/sciencetech/article/428983>

Menova Energy Inc.: <http://www.power-spar.com/Power-Spar/index.php>

5-23-08 BT Imaging Financing [Linda Koschier]

BT Imaging Pty Ltd., announced that it has closed an A\$3M Series A financing. The round was led by Allen & Buckeridge Venture Capital with participation from UniSeed. Said David Landers, Partner, Allen & Buckeridge, "With the exceptional benefits that BT Imaging's tools bring to solar cell manufacturers we

believe the company will become a major player in the solar manufacturing supply chain". More in the press at BT Imaging: <http://www.btimaging.com/News.aspx?id=5>

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

5-23-08 Veeco Instruments Acquisition of Mill Lane Engineering

Veeco Instruments Inc. announced that it has extended its thin-film solar equipment product line with the acquisition of Mill Lane Engineering, a privately held manufacturer of web coating systems for flexible solar panels. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/5f6mcs>

http://www.pv-tech.org/thin_film/article/veeco_adds_to_thin_film_equipment_offerings_with_new_acquisition or

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

Veeco: <http://www.veeco.com/>

5-23-08 CoreFlow Expansion into North America

CoreFlow Ltd. announced its expansion into North America with the opening of a sales and technical support office in San Francisco, California. "We are expanding into North America to support our growing presence in the Photovoltaic Industry and continue to expand our customer base in the Flat Panel Display (FPD) market", states Eric Joeli, VP Sales and Marketing. Press at:

<http://www.coreflow.com/page.asp?lang=1&newsid=13&type=5&cat=83> or <http://tinyurl.com/3seazf>

5-23-08 Navigant Consulting Photovoltaic Service Program

See the description of and information on accessing the “Photovoltaic Service Program” at Navigant Consulting, including reports and analysis, at:

http://www.navigantconsulting.com/downloads/PhoSerPro_v4.pdf

Navigant Consulting:

http://www.navigantconsulting.com/industries/energy/renewable_energy/photovoltaic_services_program/

or <http://tinyurl.com/28h3mj>

5-23-08 CSP & CPV Investment & Finance Summit

The CSP & CPV Investment & Finance Summit is set for 8-9 October in Madrid Spain. Information at:

<http://www.csptoday.com/eufinance/>

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/partner/csp/>

<http://www.csptoday.com/eufinance/info.shtml>

5-23-08 European Photovoltaic Technology Platform General Assembly

The EU Photovoltaic Technology Platform holds its 3rd General Assembly on 6 June in Ljubljana, Slovenia. Information at: <http://www.eupvplatform.org/index.php?id=155>

Registration: <http://www.cerix.be/epia-0806-3GA-EUPLATFORM/>

5-23-08 Cleantech Forum

For information on the Cleantech Forum@ XVIII, 15-17 September in Washington, DC, including deadlines for applications, visit: <http://cleantechnetwork.com/index.cfm?pageSRC=CallForCompanies>

<http://cleantechnetwork.com/index.cfm?pageSRC=CleantechForumPresentations> or

<http://tinyurl.com/59zbnm>

<http://cleantechnetwork.com/index.cfm?pageSRC=ExecutiveSummaryPostings> or

<http://tinyurl.com/6e6d5s>

5-23-08 IREC Telephone Seminar

The Interstate Renewable Energy Council Telephone Seminar on Solar Power Purchase Agreements is set for 12 June. Registration at: <http://solarppas.eventbrite.com/>

5-23-08 Renewables Tax Credits

See the story “‘Last Best Chance’ for Renewable Energy Tax Credits?” at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=52559>

In related solar news...

5-23-08 Xcel CSP Plant

According to this press, Xcel Energy is seeking advice from scientists at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory for a proposed 200 MW CSP plant. Story at:

<http://www.rockymountainnews.com/news/2008/may/21/xcel-seeking-nrels-advice-on-huge-solar-power/>

5-23-08 CSP Systems Promise

See the story “Google, Chevron Build Mirrors in Desert to Beat Coal with Solar” at Bloomberg:

http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601116&sid=a_TUtlwV7Fw&refer=africa or

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