

PV Module Reliability Workshop – Discussion Notes

Wednesday, February 25, 2015

International PV Quality Assurance Task Force (PVQAT) QMS Discussion

- Auditing of a company may require 2-3 weeks preparation time, 3-4 days on site, and another 2-3 weeks for completing the final report.
- Investor perspective:
 - Accuracy of weather-corrected performance ratio test may not be adequate.
 - Very interested in climate-specific test.
 - Have heard of fraudulent backsheets.
 - Rely on an inspector to be “eyes” in the factory.
 - The residual value of modules at the end of the project is currently considered to be zero, since prices are decreasing.
 - Expect a minimum debt-service coverage ratio of 1.1.
- Why 500 thermal cycles?
- When looking at soldering:
 - How do we define the adhesion targets?
 - Currently these are a floating target.