

NCPV Hotline — Week of April 13-17, 2009

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

4-13-09 SunEdison Projects, Wells Fargo Financing

SunEdison announced that it activated a record 86 PV systems in the U.S. during 2008 with a total capacity of 25.5 MW (DC). Key to these activations was financing from Wells Fargo & Company.

Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/cgxq3m>

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

4-13-09 Hoku and Solargiga Amended Polysilicon Supply Agreement

Hoku Materials, Inc. and Wealthy Rise International, Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of Solargiga Energy Holdings, Ltd., announced an amendment to the polysilicon supply agreement in effect between the two companies. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/ckpnot>

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

Solargiga: http://www.solargiga.com/solar_en/

4-13-09 SPG Solar in Arizona

SPG Solar, Inc. recently completed a 500-kWp rooftop solar system installed at a distribution center in Tolleson, Arizona, and is breaking ground on 7 new projects for the City of Tucson that will deliver a combined 1-MW to the city. Story at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://tinyurl.com/dbswsl>

SPG Solar: <http://www.spgsolar.com/>

4-13-09 Applied Solar Program, California

Applied Solar, Inc. announced the launch of its Solar Communities(TM) Program in San Diego County.

See more on how the program works at: <http://tinyurl.com/c3pans>

Applied Solar: <http://www.appliedsolar.com/>

Solar Communities(TM): <http://www.solarcommunities.com/>

4-13-09 Itochu Stake in Solar Net LLC

According to this press, Itochu Corporation has acquired an 85% stake in US solar power systems maker Solar Net LLC. Press at: <http://www.tradingmarkets.com/site/news/Stock%20News/2268003/>

Itochu: http://www.itochu.co.jp/main/index_e.html

4-13-09 Solar Industry in China

See the story "China Takes Steps to Rebalance Its Solar Industry" by Lou Schwartz, China Strategies LLC, at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://tinyurl.com/cvktfg>

Lou Schwartz: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/author?id=39>

China Strategies, LLC: <http://www.chinastrategiesllc.com/index.htm>

See also "Report: China plans bigger stimulus for renewables" at Cleantech(R):

<http://cleantech.com/news/4355/report-china-plans-bigger-stimulus> or <http://tinyurl.com/crtk76>

4-13-09 Export-Import Bank Assistance

According to this press, the Export-Import Bank of the United States wants more renewable energy companies to know that it could help them close sales with international buyers who have had a hard time securing loans. Press at GreentechMedia: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/uncle-sam-wants-you-to-export-6028.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/ccbjrk>

Export-Import Bank of the United States: <http://www.exim.gov/>

Greentech Media: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/categories/category-solar.html>

4-13-09 Suniva Honors

Suniva and founder Ajeet Rohatgi are the recipients of Atlanta Business Chronicle's 2009 Invention Award, given for a new product developed by an Atlanta company or individual that exhibits outstanding environmental or green benefits. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/czxs74>

Suniva: <http://www.suniva.com/>

4-13-09 Photovoltaics International, Third Edition

The third edition of Photovoltaics International, with sections on fab and facilities, materials, cell processing, thin films, PV modules, power generation, market watch, and other features is available [by subscription]. Information at <http://www.pv-tech.org/subscriptions>

4-13-09 Low-Cost Lightweight Portable Photovoltaics [Cindy Daniell]

In anticipation of a potential program on the topic of Low-Cost Lightweight Photovoltaics, DARPA is hosting a Proposers' Day Workshop on 29 April in Arlington, Virginia. Information at:

<http://www.darpa.mil/dso/solicitations/sn09-28.htm>

4-13-09 Clean Tech Law and Business, Journal

The first issue of the quarterly journal Clean Tech Law and Business, with the article "Third-Party Finance for Commercial Photovoltaic Systems: The Rise of the PPA", has been published. Information at:

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

4-14-09 Abound Solar Production

Abound Solar is beginning production at its first factory. Abound will make CdTe solar panels at its first full-scale plant in Longmont, Colorado, where it will eventually produce 200 MW of solar modules annually. Press at Reuters: <http://tinyurl.com/ctt6px>

PVTech: <http://tinyurl.com/d5olt9> and

<http://www.ncbr.com/article.asp?id=99564>

Abound Solar: <http://abound.monigle2.net/>

4-14-09 Trina Solar Modules for Project in Italy

Trina Solar Limited announced the completion of a 4.7-MW PV facility developed by ErgyCapital at the end of February 2009 in the Piedmont region of Italy with approximately 38,000 square meters of solar panels. Press at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://tinyurl.com/ddzqla>

Trina Solar: <http://www.trinasolar.com/>

ErgyCapital: http://www.ergycapital.com/gec_en/

4-14-09 PG&E Looking to Space Power

According to this press, Pacific Gas and Electric Co. has asked state regulators for permission to sign a contract with Solaren Corp. to purchase up to 200 MW of space-based solar power. Press at:

<http://tinyurl.com/c9vejg>

<http://www.cleantech.com/news/4361/solarens-plan-outer-space> or <http://tinyurl.com/casrpy>

<http://tinyurl.com/cfvwml>

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/30198977/>

http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/ci_12134648

<http://tinyurl.com/d6ok42>

<http://tinyurl.com/dlhe8s>

<http://tinyurl.com/c5ekhy>

Solaren: <http://www.solarenspace.com/>

4-14-09 Advanced Solar Photonics Product Line for Project in Florida

Advanced Solar Photonics has increased the product line for its previously announced SolarFabT project in Lake Mary, Florida to include not only thin film, but also mono-crystalline solar modules.

Press at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAMA164.htm>

Advanced Solar Photonics: <http://www.advancedsolarphotonics.com/>

4-14-09 More on ITOCHU Acquisition of SolarNet LLC [Michael Solomon]

ITOCHU Corporation has agreed to acquire the business of SolarNet LLC, a solar energy solutions provider that includes DC Power Systems and Stellar Energy Solutions. Press at Solarbuzz:

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNACO917.htm> and

<http://tinyurl.com/cxgrug>

<http://www.energyfinancecompany.com/SolarNet.Press.Release.pdf>

SolarNet: <http://www.solarnet.us/>

DC Power Systems: <http://www.dcpower-systems.com/>

Stellar: <http://www.stellarenergy.com/>

ITOCHU: <http://www.itochu.com/>

Energy Finance Company: <http://www.energyfinancecompany.com/>

New Edge Solar: <http://www.newedgesolar.com/press.php>

4-14-09 Dyesol Feasibility Study for Nesli, Turkey

Dyesol has been engaged by Nesli Dye Solar Cells Enerji Sistemleri Sanayi Ve Ticaret Anonim Sirketi to complete a detailed feasibility study establishing a glass-based DSC volume manufacturing facility in Turkey.

Press at Dyesol: <http://tinyurl.com/cmyps5>

4-14-09 Lumeta Patents

Lumeta announced that it was recently awarded multiple patents by the US Patent and Trademark Office entitled "Profile Roof Tile with Integrated Photovoltaic Module". The company has also filed for additional patents covering its profiled solar tile technology, as well as for international patent protection. Press at:

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/Lumeta-Awarded-Multiple-bw-14917959.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/d8fab>

Lumeta: <http://www.lumetasolar.com/>

4-14-09 PV System for GreenWaste Recovery, California [Jennifer Lopez]

GreenWaste Recovery and SolarCity(R) have completed a 300-kW (DC) dual-array solar power system in San Jose, California. SolarCity financed the system for GreenWaste through a Solar Power Purchase Agreement. Press at Solarbuzz:

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAPR1467.htm>

SolarCity: <http://www.solarcity.com/>

<http://tinyurl.com/dbupqs>

4-14-09 Senator Michael Bennet at SolSource PV System Dedication, Colorado

U.S. Senator Michael Bennet is participating in the dedication of a 98-kW rooftop PV system installed by SolSource for Blue Mountain Arts in the Gunbarrel neighborhood of northeast Boulder on 15 April.

Event information at SolSource: http://www.solsourceinc.com/press_sub.php?id=13

SolSource: <http://www.solsourceinc.com/>

4-14-09 Evaluating the Role of TCO Layers

See the story "IN-DEPTH: Evaluating the role of TCO layers in improving the efficacy of thin film solar modules" at Thin Film Today: <http://tinyurl.com/ccm9dy>

Thin Film Today: <http://social.thinfilmtoday.com/>

4-14-09 Satcon in Greece

Satcon announced that it has signed a preferred reseller agreement with Survey Digital, an Athens, Greece-based company that provides consulting and power conversion system solutions for PV systems.

Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/d8enjo>

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

4-14-09 Air Products Gas Supply Contract with CHINT Solar

Air Products announced it has signed a gas supply contract to provide bulk and specialty gases to CHINT Solar (Zhejiang) Co., Ltd. at its new thin-film PV facility in Binjiang District, Hangzhou, China.

Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/cgmsmy>

Air Products: <http://www.airproducts.com/electronics/photovoltaics.htm>

CHINT Solar: <http://www.chintsolar.com/>

4-14-09 Fraunhofer ISE Addition to Management Team [Karin Schneider]

In July 2009, Gerhard Stryi-Hipp will take over his new position as Head of Energy Policy and also as Group Leader of Thermal Collectors and Applications at Fraunhofer ISE.

Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/dfaa6f>

4-14-09 University of Toledo School of Solar and Advanced Renewable Energy

The University of Toledo trustees created a School of Solar and Advanced Renewable Energy.

Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/c2u7yh>

4-14-09 Funding for Pennsylvania Sunshine Program

Pennsylvania's solar rebate program will soon have funding. The Commonwealth Financing Authority board voted unanimously to borrow \$30 million to get the Pennsylvania Sunshine Program under way.

Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/cg5z6c>

4-14-09 Solar Incentives in Ontario

See the story "Solar Incentives: Could Ontario Be the Next Germany?" at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://tinyurl.com/d7qltf>

4-14-09 Solar In Hong Kong

See the story "Hong Kong continues To Work On Solar Energy Development" at:

<http://tinyurl.com/dkh33d>

4-14-09 Energy Revolution in Cuba

See the story "La Revolucion Energetica: Cuba's Energy Revolution" at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://tinyurl.com/ccxm3>

4-14-09 Utility Green Power Leaders

The U.S. DOE's National Renewable Energy Laboratory released its annual assessment of leading utility green power programs.

Press at: <http://www.nrel.gov/news/press/2009/679.html>

4-14-09 The Green Power Network Renewable Energy RFPs

Several new items are posted at The Green Power Network Renewable Energy RFPs at:

<http://apps3.eere.energy.gov/greenpower/financial/>

4-14-09 Solar Economics Forum [Matthew Probyn]

The Solar Economics Forum, Toward Grid Parity, is set for 16-18 June in London, UK. Information, including the full agenda, at: <http://tinyurl.com/dbtsks>

4-14-09 OPTOmism Forum and Conference

OPTOmism, Powering the Green Revolution through Photonics, is set for 18-20 May in Santa Clara, California.

Information at: <http://www.optomism.com/registration.html>

4-15-09 First Solar 48-MW PV Plant for Sempra Generation

First Solar has executed an agreement to build a 48-MW AC ground-mounted PV power plant for Sempra Generation, which would expand the 10-MW AC power plant First Solar completed for Sempra Generation in 2008 located near Boulder City, Nevada.

Press at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAPR1468.htm>

Sempra Generation Press: <http://tinyurl.com/cvyhny>

First Solar Press: <http://tinyurl.com/d575ym>

Las Vegas Sun: <http://tinyurl.com/cgr79e>

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

4-15-09 More on Abound Solar Production

Abound Solar has opened its first full-scale production facility in Longmont, Colorado.

Press at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAMA165.htm>

RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://tinyurl.com/dmxuum>

GreentechMedia: <http://tinyurl.com/cjnd5d>

Coloradoan: <http://tinyurl.com/dd7lo7>

Denver Post: http://www.denverpost.com/business/ci_12139570

Semiconductor Today: <http://tinyurl.com/cocsjm>

Denver Business Journal: <http://tinyurl.com/cpwz7n>

Governor Ritter Press: <http://tinyurl.com/dx79db>

Abound Solar: <http://www.abound.com/>

4-15-09 Suntech Power and Soleos Solar Partnership

Suntech Power and Soleos Solar GmbH have entered into agreements for Suntech to supply Soleos with at least 6 MW of modules in the first half of 2009.

Press at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEUCO745.htm>

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

Soleos Solar: <http://www.soleos-solar.de/>

4-15-09 Advent Solar Ventura Technology

Advent Solar Inc. announced that it has expanded its Ventura technology manufacturing capability to include all common silicon types, including multi-crystalline, mono-crystalline, and UMG.

Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/djaxay> and

PV Tech: <http://tinyurl.com/ddpqnh>

Advent Solar: <http://www.adventsolar.com/>

4-15-09 SPG Solar for Theatres [Tina Barni]

SPG Solar recently completed a 132-kW rooftop PV system for Livermore Cinemas in Livermore, California. SPG Solar also recently completed a 31.5-kW system at the Fairfax Five Theatres in Fairfax, California.

Press at: <http://finance.yahoo.com/news/SPG-Solar-Completes-the-bw-14927352.html> or

<http://tinyurl.com/cm993u> and

RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://tinyurl.com/daaodf>

SPG Solar: <http://www.spgsolar.com/>

4-15-09 Dome-Tech PV System for Merck, New Jersey

A ground-mounted solar tracking system is now powering the world headquarters of Merck & Co., Inc. in New Jersey, with nearly 7,000 panels. The system is owned and operated by Dome-Tech, Inc., which will supply solar power to Merck under a 20-year purchase agreement.

Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/by54r5>

Dome-Tech: <http://www.dome-tech.com/>

4-15-09 Evergreen Solar Panels for Electric Vehicle Recharging Station, Germany

Evergreen Solar, Inc. announced that its panels are being used to provide the electricity for a new electric vehicle battery recharging station in Frankfurt, Germany.

Press at: <http://www.evergreensolar.com/app/en/investors/>

4-15-09 Sunovia and EPIR Technologies SBIR Contract

Sunovia Energy Technologies Inc. and EPIR Technologies have received a \$9-million Defense Department SBIR Phase III contract that allows for the expansion of production capacities and capabilities of the companies' cadmium telluride on silicon manufacturing program.

Press at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://tinyurl.com/co3563>

Sunovia: <http://sunoviaenergy.com/>

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

4-15-09 Tax Equity Investment for Solar Projects

SolarCity(R) Corp. and Greystone Renewable Energy Ventures, LLC announced the closing of a master lease transaction with Greystone Renewable Energy Fund 2008-A, a tax equity fund created for the purpose of providing financing for solar power projects.

Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/d9gn9f>

SolarCity: <http://www.solarcity.com/>

Greystone: <http://www.greystone.com/>

4-15-09 SANYO Energy Office in San Jose, California

SANYO Energy announced the opening of its solar sales office in San Jose, California.

Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/dgcomu>

PV Tech: <http://tinyurl.com/cuueyu>

SANYO: <http://us.sanyo.com/>

4-15-09 Solar Power Partners Executive and Management Team

Solar Power Partners, Inc. announced that it has expanded its executive and management team.

Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/d89qsy>

Solar Power Partners: <http://www.solarpowerpartners.com/>

4-15-09 CPV Today Articles

There are several new postings at CPV Today covering OPEL's expectations, Energy Innovations simulation solutions, ArimaEco's European seminar tour, an interview with Ignacio Luque-Heredia, and more at: <http://social.cpvtoday.com/node>

4-15-09 GreenVolts Changes

Bob Cart has been promoted to a fulltime position as Executive Chairman and will also serve as Chairman of the Board of Directors. Gary Beasley is the interim President and CEO.

Press at <http://tinyurl.com/cclhf8>

GreenVolts: <http://www.greenvolts.com/>

4-15-09 Apollo Solar Energy Results

Apollo Solar energy reported full year 2008 financial results. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/crro2p>

4-15-09 LDK Solar Loans

LDK Solar Co. secured a \$29-million loan and received approval for a \$146-million loan from two banks in China. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/df5wv1> <http://tinyurl.com/c5p49u> <http://tinyurl.com/ck4kch>

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

4-15-09 Next Hot Solar Market

See the story "Hunting for the Next Hot Solar Market" at GreentechMedia: <http://tinyurl.com/dfs4u>

GreentechMedia: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/>

4-15-09 Uptick in Solar Development [Reese Tisdale]

See EER Research Update Q1 – Solar Power Advisory, an EER Research Column on "Uptick in Solar Development Points to Positive Outlook for PV and CSP" by Reese Tisdale, at Emerging Energy Research: <http://tinyurl.com/d6uqse>

4-15-09 PV Industry Ready for Growth Despite Credit Crunch [Marie Latour]

Speakers at EPIA's 3rd International Conference on Solar Photovoltaic Investments confirmed that the PV sector has not been spared by the credit crunch. They also stressed that the fundamentals of the PV sector remain intact, if not better than before considering the price decrease of PV modules. More on this event in the press at EPIA: <http://www.epia.org/>

4-15-09 One Hundred Million Solar Homes, Perspective [Dan Harding]

Damian Miller's Op Ed, "One Hundred Million Solar Homes" is posted at earthscan at: http://www.earthscan.co.uk/Portals/0/pdfs/Damian_Miller_Op-Ed_March_2009.pdf or <http://tinyurl.com/d6lkcd>
earthscan: <http://www.earthscan.co.uk/?tabid=30154>

4-15-09 Solar in Phoenix, Arizona

According to this press, Phoenix is expected to seek bids from private companies to build a large-scale solar plant.

Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/c2nouq>

4-15-09 IEEE Photovoltaic Specialists Conference

The 34th IEEE Photovoltaic Specialists Conference is set for 7-12 June in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Information at: <http://www.34pvsc.org/>

4-15-09 Congressional Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Expo and Forum [Kenneth Bossong]

The 12th Annual Congressional Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency EXPO + Forum is set for 14 May in Washington, DC. See more on the event at the Sustainable Energy Coalition:

http://www.sustainableenergycoalition.org/eere_expo/

4-15-09 Feed-in Tariffs for California

See the story "The Tailored FIT for California" by Tam Hunt, Community Environmental Council, at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://tinyurl.com/cq2mtq>

Tam Hunt: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/author?id=32>

Community Environmental Council:

<http://www.communityenvironmentalcouncil.org/Programs/EP/index.cfm> or <http://tinyurl.com/d3pb6r>

4-15-09 Feed-in Tariffs Web Conference

AltaTerra Research Network is presenting the Web Conference "FITs and Starts?: What You Need to Know Now about Feed-in Tariffs in North America" on 23 April. Information at:

http://www.altaterra.net/events/event_details.asp?id=55665

4-15-09 Solar Success Training Event

For information on the "Solar Success! Training Event" in May, visit the ASES Website at:

<http://tinyurl.com/d3428n>

4-15-09 Federal Solar Tax Credit Q&A

IREC's "Federal Solar Tax Credit Question and Answer Telephone Seminar" is set for 4 May. Information and registration at: <http://federal-solar-tax.eventbrite.com/>

<http://tinyurl.com/de9737>

4-15-09 CEC Workshop on American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Funding Mechanisms

The California Energy Commission staff will conduct a workshop on 24 April to discuss the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act provisions as they pertain to the disbursement of funds for specific energy related projects.

Information at: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/recovery/meetings/>

In related solar news...

4-15-09 CSP Today Articles

There are several new postings at CSP Today with coverage of Edmund Optics glass substrate parabolic mirrors, Alanod Solar production, Beacon Solar's projects, and the Rioglass Solar factory, at:

<http://social.csptoday.com/node>

4-15-09 Q&A with MAN Solar Millennium

See the Q&A with Ruud Dekkers of MAN Solar Millennium at GreentechMedia: <http://tinyurl.com/cpso7l>

MAN Solar Millennium: http://www.manferrostaal.com/man_solar_millennium.988.0.html or

<http://tinyurl.com/cmreaw>

4-15-09 Global Concentrated Solar Power Markets and Strategies [Jonathan Dower]

For information on the Emerging Energy Research report, "Global Concentrated Solar Power Markets and Strategies, 2009-2020", go to: <http://tinyurl.com/dan2qb> <http://tinyurl.com/arrg2a>

4-15-09 Action Plan for Solar Thermal in Europe

The research efforts and infrastructure needed to supply 50% of the energy for space and water heating and cooling across Europe using solar thermal energy has been set out under the aegis of the European Solar Thermal Technology Platform. More on the action plan at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://tinyurl.com/cf5ge3>

4-15-09 Symyx Grant for Solar Thermal R&D

Symyx Technologies, Inc. announced it has been awarded a grant by the U.S. DOE to conduct R&D on advanced heat transfer fluids for solar thermal power generation. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/dxuzdb>

Symyx: <http://www.symyx.com/>

4-16-09 The Austin Company Teaming with Centrosolar

The Austin Company and CentroSolar America have reached a multiyear agreement to jointly deliver PV systems to commercial customers in North America. Press at Solarbuzz:

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNACO919.htm>

CentroSolar: http://www.centrosolar.de/index.php?id=2&no_cache=1&L=1

The Austin Company: <http://www.theaustin.com/>

4-16-09 Sunrise Solar Partnership with The World Conference of Mayors

Sunrise Solar Corp. announced it has signed a partnership agreement with The World Conference of Mayors to deliver alternative energy products and projects to its members. Sunrise Solar will provide services through an office at the world headquarters of the WCM.

Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/c97zgn>

Sunrise Solar: <http://www.sunrisesolarcorp.com/>

The World Conference of Mayors: <http://www.worldconferenceofmayors.org/>

4-16-09 SunEdison 1.2 MW PV System for Anheuser-Busch, California

The Anheuser-Busch Fairfield brewery announced that more than 6 acres of PV solar arrays installed and operated by Sun Edison are now generating electricity.

Press at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAPR1470.htm> and

<http://tinyurl.com/c3egnh>

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

4-16-09 Conergy PV System for Verdegaal Brothers, California

Verdegaal Brothers, Inc. and Conergy are constructing a 188-kW fixed-mount PV system using First Solar modules in the San Joaquin Valley.

Press at: <http://www.tradingmarkets.com/.site/news/Stock%20News/2274160/>

Conergy: <http://www.conergy.us/desktopdefault.aspx>

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

4-16-09 Green Energy Technology Certification of Manufacturing Line

Green Energy Technology Inc., Ltd. has certified its SunFab Thin Film Line(TM) supplied by Applied Materials, Inc. located in Tao Yuan, Taiwan. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/chpg9s>
Green Energy Technology: <http://www.getinc.com.tw/En/index.asp>
Applied Materials: <http://www.appliedmaterials.com/>

4-16-09 Solar Power, Inc. Module Performance

Solar Power, Inc. announced that its 200-W multi-crystalline modules have been given one of the highest performance ratings awarded by the California Energy Commission. The modules were tested by Intertek, an independent Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory to determine real-world performance characteristics, and test results are used by the CEC to rate solar module performance for the California Solar Initiative.

Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/dkehrq>

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

California Solar Initiative: <http://www.gosolarcalifornia.org/equipment/index.html>

Intertek: <http://tinyurl.com/clnjtd>

4-16-09 Masdar Production, Inspiration

Production of large-scale, thin-film solar modules is anticipated by October at the Masdar PV facility in Ichtshausen near Erfurt. Press at Masdar PV: <http://tinyurl.com/cvjn5r>
<http://www.masdarpv.com/pressemitteilungen.html?&L=1>

See also "Masdar City: A Source of Inspiration" at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://tinyurl.com/cgcg9k>

4-16-09 Yingli Financing

Yingli Green Energy Holding Company Limited announced a US\$50 million draw down under the previously announced 3-year loan facility provided by a fund managed by Asia Debt Management Hong Kong Limited and the renewal of credit lines up to an aggregate of RMB 1 billion with the Export-Import Bank of China.

Press at: <http://finance.yahoo.com/news/Yingli-Green-Energy-Draws-prnews-14943271.html> or
<http://tinyurl.com/dzsmfl>

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

4-16-09 MEMC Plans

According to this press at DigiTimes, US-based MEMC Electronic Materials has estimated that silicon wafer sales in the second quarter will outperform those in the first quarter, and for 2009, it intends to focus efforts on new markets such as solar-grade wafers and silicon-on-insulator wafers as well as speeding up R&D to move into 18-inch wafer production.

Press at: <http://www.digitimes.com/news/a20090416PD221.html>

4-16-09 PV Activities in Japan and Global PV Highlights [RTS Corporation]

The latest issue of "PV Activities in Japan and Global PV Highlights" is available [by subscription] with coverage of PV highlights in Japan, global PV highlights (including production volume of solar cells by major PV manufacturers), a PV photo gallery, topics from Japan, and topics from the world. Information at RTS: http://www.rts-pv.com/e_publications.html

4-16-09 Solar Subsidies in Taiwan

Taiwan's government will set aside NT\$486 million (US\$14.5 million) to subsidize solar power generating projects in 2009. Press at DigiTimes: <http://www.digitimes.com/news/a20090416PD214.html>

4-16-09 Taiwan Exports of Crystalline Silicon Solar Cells, PV Modules, and Systems

Taiwan exported 900 MWp of crystalline silicon solar cells, 100 MWp of PV modules, and 5.5 MWp of PV systems in 2008 according to the Photovoltaics Technology Center.

Press at DigiTimes: <http://www.digitimes.com/news/a20090416PD217.html>

4-16-09 Advent Solar – Arizona State University Partnership

Advent Solar will hire a team of engineers and partner with Arizona State University to develop more efficient solar-power systems at the SkySong innovation center in Scottsdale.

Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/cfkqby> Advent Solar: <http://www.adventsolar.com/>

ASU: <http://skysong.asu.edu/>

SkySong: <http://www.skysongcenter.com/>

4-16-09 California Solar Energy Collaborative

The first California Solar Energy Collaborative was established by the California Energy Commission with a 2-year \$700,000 grant to the University of California, San Diego and UC Davis to expand the development and use of solar energy in the state.

Press at: <http://www.ens-newsire.com/ens/apr2009/2009-04-15-091.asp>

<http://ucsdnews.ucsd.edu/newsrel/science/04-09SolarTrees.asp>

4-16-09 Day4 Energy Honors

Day4 Energy Inc. announced it has been named one of BCBusiness Magazine's top 10 most innovative companies in BC. Press at: <http://www.newswire.ca/en/releases/archive/April2009/16/c2186.html>

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

4-16-09 Solar Economics, Sales, and Marketing [Andy Black]

The Solar Living Institute and OnGrid Solar classes and workshops are listed at:

<http://www.solarliving.org/workshops/> and <http://www.ongrid.net/classes.html>

Information on the OnGrid Solar Financial Analysis Tool is available at: <http://www.ongrid.net/payback/>

4-16-09 SEI Newsletter

The current issue of Solar Energy International's Newsletter is on line at:

http://www.solarenergyinternational.net/enews/current_issue/

4-16-09 CEC Staff Workshop on ARRA Funding Mechanisms

The CEC staff workshop on provisions of AB 811 and other funding mechanisms as related to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act has been changed from 24 April to 29 April. Information at:

<http://www.energy.ca.gov/recovery/meetings/>

In related solar news...

4-16-09 China Solar & Clean Energy Solutions Results

China Solar & Clean Energy Solutions, Inc. reported its financial results for the year ended 31 December and announced two new additions to its senior management team.

Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/cq9j4f>

China Solar & Clean Energy Solutions: <http://www.delisolar.com/>

4-17-09 In Kind Memory [Joel Davidson]

Ishaq M. Shahryar, well known in the solar industry as the successful founder of Solec International and named The Sun King by the New Scientist magazine, which reported that he "virtually invented solar power as a serious energy source", has passed away. Mr. Shahryar represented his native homeland of Afghanistan as Afghan Ambassador to the United States at the request of the former Afghan King, and later returned to California to found a new solar company, Sun King Solar. His many accomplishments, contributions and honors are highlighted in numerous places such as: <http://sunkingsolarpv.com/>

<http://sunkingsolarpv.com/aboutus.html>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ishaq_Shahryar

http://www.palisadespost.com/content/index.cfm?Story_ID=4486

A service is set for 18 April at Forest Lawn, Hollywood Hills, California.

4-17-09 ECN Module Efficiency Record

Researchers at the Energy Research Centre of the Netherlands (ECN) have achieved a conversion efficiency of 16.4% (aperture area) on a full-size solar module with multicrystalline solar cells. Solland Solar will be the first to use the technology in commercial production later this year. More on this module in the press at ECN: <http://www.ecn.nl/en/news/item/article/296/1/>
Solland Solar: <http://www.sollandsolar.com/>

4-17-09 Ex-Im Bank Loan Guarantee for German PV Manufacturing Plant

The Export-Import Bank of the United States has approved an 11 million Euro loan guarantee to support the financing of \$14 million in exports of solar-cell manufacturing tools and equipment by Applied Materials Inc. to Signet Solar LLC of Dresden, Germany.

Press at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEUMA290.htm>

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

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

Ex-Im Bank of the United States: <http://www.exim.gov/>

4-17-09 Vatican City Solar

According to this press, Vatican City plans to invest EUR 500 million in Europe's largest solar plant. SolarWorld AG will advise on the project.

Press at: <http://cleantechbrief.com/node/414>

<http://tinyurl.com/dbx7rj>

4-17-09 SunPower PV System for Del Monte Foods, California

Del Monte Foods and SunPower Corporation are dedicating 1.9-MW of solar power systems installed at two of Del Monte's manufacturing plants.

Press at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAPR1472.htm>

<http://www.centralvalleybusinesstimes.com/stories/001/?ID=11705>

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

4-17-09 First Solar Panels for SolarCity Customers

See the story "First Solar Panels Big with SolarCity Customers" at Greentech Media:

<http://tinyurl.com/dxmskq>

SolarCity: <http://www.solarcity.com/>

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

4-17-09 Inauguration of PV Systems in Connecticut

PV systems at two of Watertown's business and educational institutions are now completed and successfully operating. The installations were supported with grants from the CCEF's On-Site Renewable Distributed Generation Program. Alteris Renewables and Pioneer Valley PhotoVoltaics installed the systems.

Press at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAPR1471.htm>

Alteris Renewables: <http://www.alterisinc.com/index>

Pioneer Valley PhotoVoltaics Cooperative: <http://www.pvsquared.coop/>

Connecticut Clean Energy Fund: <http://www.ctcleanenergy.com/default.aspx?tabid=95>

<http://www.ctcleanenergy.com/CleanEnergyIncentives/tabid/57/Default.aspx> or <http://tinyurl.com/cl2dgd>

4-17-09 OPEL International Financials

OPEL International Inc. filed 2008 annual financials.

Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/ckfbwj>

OPEL: <http://www.opelinc.com/>

4-17-09 PV Supply Chain in Nanchang, China

The local government of Nanchang, the capital city of Jiangxi Province in southeastern China, plans to establish a PV industrial supply chain in the city with proposed investment of 67.2 billion yuan (US\$9.8 billion) in 2009. Press at DigiTimes: <http://www.digitimes.com/news/a20090417PD202.html>

4-17-09 Solargiga Subsidiary into BIPV

Solargiga Energy announced that its wholly owned subsidiary Jinzhou Yangguang Energy has signed an MOU with two independent investors to establish a joint-venture provider of PV modules and BIPV design and installation service in Jinzhou of Liaoning Province, China.

Press at DigiTimes: <http://www.digitimes.com/news/a20090417PD203.html>

Solargiga Energy: http://www.solargiga.com/solar_en/

4-17-09 Bringing CPV to Scale

See the story "Bringing CPV to Scale" at Greentech Media:

<http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/bringing-cpv-to-scale-6056.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/c5htb3>

4-17-09 CPV Secondary Optical Element

See the story "IN-DEPTH: Improving efficiency via a well designed secondary optical element" at CPV

Today: <http://tinyurl.com/cnb2ja>

CPV Today: <http://social.cpvtoday.com/node>

4-17-09 Moser Baer in Europe

See the story "IN-DEPTH: Moser Baer targets expansion in Europe" at Thin Film Today:

<http://social.thinfilmtoday.com/news/depth-moser-baer-targets-expansion-europe> or

<http://tinyurl.com/co9p7x>

Thin Film Today: <http://social.thinfilmtoday.com/>

4-17-09 New Era of Growth for PV Market

The global PV market is predicted to shrink in 2009, but the market is expected to start a new era of growth next year. This is the conclusion reached by SolarPlaza after analysis of data from the world's major PV markets. Story at SolarPlaza: <http://tinyurl.com/dex6mu>

4-17-09 Solar Grants and Funding Opportunities, ASES

The American Solar Energy Society has posted "Solar Grants and Funding Opportunities" at its Website.

See What's Hot, Solar Grants & Recovery Act Funding, at: <http://www.ases.org/>

4-17-09 Silicon Photovoltaics Technology & Manufacturing Webcast Course [Doug Ruby]

The Knowledge Foundation is presenting the Webcast course, "Silicon Photovoltaics Technology & Manufacturing" on 22 April. Information at:

http://knowledgefoundation.com/viewevents.php?event_id=195&act=webevnt or <http://tinyurl.com/d37yer>

4-17-09 SEPA Telephone Seminar

SEPA's telephone seminar "2008 Solar Market Year in Review" is set for 23 April. Information at:

<http://www.solarelectricpower.org/index.php?page=sepaevents>

4-17-09 CSP, CPV and Thin Film Technologies Summit

The CSP, CPV and Thin Film Technologies Summit MENA is set for Abu Dhabi, UAE on 2-3 June.

Information at: <http://www.newsolartoday.com/mena09/>

4-17-09 Other Events

For listings of more upcoming PV-solar-renewables events, see sources such as:

Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/InfoCenterUpcoming.htm>

PV-tech.org: <http://www.pv-tech.org/events/>

PHOTON International: <http://www.photon-magazine.com/events/events.aspx>

EPIA: <http://www.epia.org/index.php?id=21>

SEPA: <http://www.solarelectricpower.org/index.php?page=sepaevents>

SEIA: http://www.seia.org/cs/meetings_and_events/events_calendar

RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/events/home>

GreentechMedia: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/events-home.html>

4-17-09 Other Events - continued

IREC: <http://www.irecusa.org/index.php?id=116>

AltaTerra Research Network: http://www.altaterra.net/events/event_list.asp

And many others...

4-17-09 International Solar Technology Awards

Photovoltaics International and partners introduced the International Solar Technology Awards, a new set of industry awards recognizing significant achievements in the production of solar technology.

Press at: <http://finance.yahoo.com/news/Deadline-Approaches-for-bw-14946465.html?.v=1> or

<http://tinyurl.com/cort89>

<http://tinyurl.com/cm6jrn>

Extended Deadlines and other information at: <http://www.cellaward.com/>

4-17-09 pvXdatabase Upcoming Launch

By the end of May, pvXdatabase should be launched carrying over 5,000 PV products. The database will

be managed by pvXchange from Berlin. Press at PV Tech: <http://tinyurl.com/dcamd7>

pvXchange: <http://www.pvxchange.com/en/index.php/index.html>

4-17-09 Cracking the Green Code, Report [Jamie Wimberly]

Ecoalign has published "Cracking the Green Code, Using a Values-Based Model to Improve Customer Communications and Marketing". Information at: <http://www.ecoalign.com/node/312>

In related solar news....

4-17-09 Minimizing the Impact of Recession on a CSP Project [Paul Jones]

The credit crunch, which has had a major impact on the strategy of the start-up companies, is going to be one of the key sessions of the upcoming 3rd Concentrated Solar Power Summit US on 30 June to 1 July in San Francisco, California. See "Minimizing the impact of recession on a CSP project" at CSP Today:

<http://tinyurl.com/c2dnwr>

Summit: <http://www.csptoday.com/us/index.shtml>

CSP Today Newsletter: <http://tinyurl.com/c84pee>

4-17-09 SENER 2-Axes Drives Contract

SENER Ingenieria y Sistemas, S.A. has won a contract to supply 2,650 2-axes drives for Torresol Energy's Gemasolar plant being built in Seville, Spain.

Press at CSP Today: <http://social.csptoday.com/content/sener-bags-major-contract>

SENER: <http://www.sener.es/SENER/index.aspx?&lang=en>

Torresol Energy: <http://www.torresolenergy.com/en/index.html>

4-17-09 Solar Air Heating World Industries Association

The Solar Air Heating World Industries Association has been officially created and will host its inaugural meeting in Munich, Germany on 26 May.

Press at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://tinyurl.com/cqnt9z>

SAHWIA: <http://sahwia.org/>

4-17-09 Solar Testing Facility, Australia

Australia's Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts has launched a solar testing facility at the University of South Australia's Sustainable Energy Industry Support Center.

Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/c9yk5u>