

NCPV Hotline — Week of April 20-24, 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>

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

4-20-09 Sunfilm and Applied Materials Thin-film Line Certification

Sunfilm AG and Applied Materials Inc. announced certification on 14 April of the tandem junction SunFab(TM) Thin Film Line installed at Sunfilm's Grossroehrsdorf facility.

Press at: <http://www.tradingmarkets.com/site/news/Stock%20News/2279277/> or <http://tinyurl.com/cjs88z>

<http://tinyurl.com/dfnl8d>

<http://tinyurl.com/c83ecc>

Sunfilm press: <http://www.sunfilm.com/en/communication/index.php?id=31>

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

http://www.appliedmaterials.com/products/solar_sunfab_3.html

4-20-09 Trina Solar Sales Agreements

Trina Solar Limited announced that it has entered into three sales agreements totaling approximately 42 MW of PV modules for delivery in 2009 with customers in Germany, including 12 MW with Bull Solar GmbH.

Press at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsASCO434.htm> and <http://tinyurl.com/dxfjwe>

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

4-20-09 Numeric Solar Energy Pvt. Ltd. Solar Farm, India

Chennai-based Numeric Power Systems is planning a 1-MW solar energy farm in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, through its newly established subsidiary, Numeric Solar Energy Pvt. Ltd.

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

Numeric Power Systems Limited: <http://www.numericups.com/>

4-20-09 Soliant Energy Interim CEO

Soliant Energy has appointed Marco DeMiroz as interim CEO, according to press at Greentech Media:

<http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/soliant-gets-interim-ceo-6061.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/dhbn05>

Soliant: <http://www.soliantenergy.com/>

4-20-09 Timminco Limited Update, President and COO

Timminco Limited announced an update on its on-going discussions with solar-grade silicon customers, and on operations, proposed financing, and its new president and chief operating officer.

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

Timminco: <http://www.timminco.com/PressRelease.aspx?prId=976557&id=24> or <http://tinyurl.com/dz5ocl>

4-20-09 Photovoltaic Manufacturer Shipments, Capacity & Competitive Analysis 2008/2009 Report [Laverne Gosling]

Navigant Consulting, Inc. announced that its Photovoltaic Services Program has released its annual report, Photovoltaic Manufacturer Shipments, Capacity & Competitive Analysis 2008/2009 by Paula Mints. The report provides an analysis of PV industry shipments, capacity, and average prices and revenues, along with an analysis of the industry's strong growth.

Press and information at: <http://tinyurl.com/db44sy>
<http://tinyurl.com/28h3mj>
<http://tinyurl.com/cf8hav>
Navigant Consulting: <http://www.navigantconsulting.com/>

4-20-09 PV Revenue Down, Report

Revenue from PV installations is expected to plunge 40% this year due to scaled back solar subsidies in Spain and a global credit crunch that has slowed development of new projects, according to a new iSuppli report.

Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/co5rdc>
PV Tech: <http://tinyurl.com/cz4oor>
EETimes: <http://tinyurl.com/dndk8x>
iSuppli: <http://www.isuppli.com/News.aspx>

4-20-09 Price of Solar-grade Polycrystalline Silicon

The international price level of solar-grade polycrystalline silicon will continue to decline in the long term although prices may fall more slowly in the first half of 2009 because of limited ramp-up at makers' new facilities, according to Motech.

Press at DigiTimes: <http://tinyurl.com/damx2e>

4-20-09 MuniMae Closing on Sale of MMA Renewable Ventures

Municipal Mortgage & Equity, LLC announced the successful completion of the second and final closing in the sale of substantially all of the renewable energy business operated by its subsidiary, MMA Renewable Ventures, LLC.

Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/cbchub>
MuniMae: <http://www.munimae.com/>

4-20-09 BioSolar Expansion of Product Line

BioSolar, Inc. announced that the company is nearing the completion of the commercialization of its BioBacksheet(TM) product and is entering the pre-production stage on new versions to address the entire flat solar panel market.

Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/d8hogf>
BioSolar: <http://www.biosolar.com/>

4-20-09 Tribute to Walter Hesse and Ishaq Shahryar

Scott Sklar pays tribute to two solar pioneers with extraordinary vision who recently passed away, at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://tinyurl.com/dn7ew4>
<http://tinyurl.com/d9g9lp>

4-20-09 Photovoltaics, Solar Energy Materials and Thin Films Symposium [Xavier Mathew]

The XVIII International Materials Research Congress Symposium: Photovoltaics, Solar Energy Materials, and Thin Films is set for 16-20 August in Cancun, Mexico. Information at:

<http://www.cie.unam.mx/IMRC2009/>

4-20-09 Other PV, Solar, Renewables Events

For additional sources for events listings, see:

enf.cn: <http://www.enf.cn/expo/>
PV Group: <http://www.pvgroup.org/Events/index.htm>
Photovoltaics World: <http://www.pvworld.com/pvworld/en-us/index/events.html>
And many others...

4-20-09 Surviving the Shakeout, Greentech Media Coverage

Greentech Media covers the "Surviving the Shakeout" solar summit held in Phoenix, Arizona at:

<http://tinyurl.com/d4bq5z>

Summit: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/events/live/az09/az.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/6cdd65>

4-20-09 CEC Central Station Renewable Energy Facility Plant Costs Workshop Recording

The WebEx recording of the 16 April Staff Workshop on Present and Future Central Station Renewable Energy Facility Plant Costs is available on the CEC Website at:

http://www.energy.ca.gov/2009_energypolicy/documents/index.html or <http://tinyurl.com/d6v5kz>

4-20-09 Solar Reports

Four reports are highlighted in the recent SEPA Newsletter, which is available through SEPA at:

<http://www.solarelectricpower.org/index.php?page=about&display=> or <http://tinyurl.com/co3qj9>

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

Solar Photovoltaic Financing: Residential Sector Deployment

<http://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy09osti/44853.pdf>

An Examination of the Regional Supply and Demand Balance for Renewable Electricity in the United States through 2015 <http://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy09osti/45041.pdf>

Feed-in Tariff Policy: Design, Implementation, and RPS Policy Interactions

<http://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy09osti/45549.pdf>

Solar Leasing for Residential Photovoltaic Systems <http://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy09osti/43572.pdf>

NREL Publications: <http://www.nrel.gov/publications/>

In related solar news...

4-20-09 Solar Thermal Plant in Arizona

According to this press, the Arizona Department of Commerce and Albiasa Solar of Spain are announcing a \$1-billion solar thermal power plant to be built near Kingman next year. Press at:

<http://www.azcentral.com/business/articles/2009/04/19/20090419biz-solarplant0420.html> or

<http://tinyurl.com/culhuf>

<http://www.eastvalleytribune.com/story/138164>

<http://www.azstarnet.com/sn/business/289455.php>

Albiasa Solar: <http://www.albiasasolar.com/>

4-20-09 ZenithSolar Solar Farm

ZenithSolar in Israel plans to launch a solar farm using new technology it says can produce cheap and efficient electricity while supplying hot water to homes. Press at:

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/environmentNews/idUKTRE53J0H220090420> or <http://tinyurl.com/cnv8f4>

ZenithSolar: <http://www.zenithsolar.com/>

4-21-09 First Solar and Juwi Holding AG Financing for 53-MW Plant, Germany

First Solar, Inc. and Juwi Holding AG announced they have secured financing for a 53-MW PV power plant near the German city of Cottbus. Construction began in January 2009, and the first 15 MW have been completed. The remaining 38 MW are scheduled to be completed by the end of 2009.

Press at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEUPR594.htm>

<http://tinyurl.com/chrbec>

<http://tinyurl.com/dxbavs>

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

Juwi: <http://www.juwi.de/>

4-21-09 OPEL International and BETASOL Utility-grade Solar Farm in Spain

OPEL International Inc. announced that BETASOL, its Spanish partner, has expanded its HCPV opportunity in Spain and has obtained a bank guarantee of more than US\$1,500,000 for a new 2.375 MW HCPV solar project in Spain. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/dbdzt9>

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

4-21-09 aleo solar Modules for Solar Farm, Bavaria

aleo solar AG announced it will supply solar modules for a 2-MW solar farm in Geiselhoring, Bavaria. Gold SolarWind Management GmbH is offering stakes in the solar farm. Press at enf.cn:

http://news.enf.cn/en/news/news_8572.html

Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEUPR595.htm>

aleo solar: <http://www.aleo-solar.de/news/index.php>

4-21-09 Sungevity Solar Software

Sungevity has launched a software tool kit that it says can cut down on the time and costs of designing a solar energy system, as well as generating a list of potential customers looking for local installers. Story at Greentech Media: <http://tinyurl.com/cdbkqh>

Sungevity: <http://www.sungevity.com/>

4-21-09 Solar in Massachusetts

Alteris Renewables and SunRun have partnered to introduce "Solar as a Service" to homeowners in Massachusetts. Story at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://tinyurl.com/dfhdbq>

SunRun in Massachusetts: http://www.sunrunhome.com/sunrun_home_solar/solar_in_massachusetts/ or <http://tinyurl.com/ckugfx>

Alteris Renewables, Massachusetts Renewable Energy:

<http://www.alterisinc.com/residential/rebates.php?sub=solar&state=MA> or <http://tinyurl.com/cu5yqt>

4-21-09 The True Cost of Solar Power, PHOTON Consulting Report [Betsy Quinonez]

PHOTON Consulting launched its report "The True Cost of Solar Power: Race to \$1/Watt", which analyzes the solar supply chain step-by-step to show how cost will determine the winners of this macroeconomic downturn, and which companies will be the first to reach parity with conventional electricity. The executive summary is available for download at: <http://tinyurl.com/cu2tyj>

Additional information at: <http://www.photonconsulting.com/>

4-21-09 Akeena Solar Panels for Partnership, California

Akeena Solar panels were installed in the first project of a public/private partnership between the California Department of Community Services and Development and MS Solar Solutions Corp, a subsidiary of Morgan Stanley's Commodities group. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/c75h5f>

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

4-21-09 SRS Energy BIPV System

SRS Energy will launch the Sole Power Tile(TM), a BIPV roofing product designed for curved roofing systems, at the American Institute of Architects 2009 National Convention and Design Exposition. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/cjqe3j>

SRS Energy: <http://www.srsenergy.com/Home.aspx>

4-21-09 CPV Today Newsletter

The CPV Today Newsletter is posted at: <http://tinyurl.com/d22zqw>

<http://social.cpvtoday.com/content/newsletters-0>

4-21-09 centrotherm photovoltaics US Managing Director

centrotherm photovoltaics AG has appointed Dr. Frank Faller as new managing Director at its Atlanta-based US-subsiary centrotherm photovoltaics Inc. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/c2qp7v>

centrotherm photovoltaics: <http://www.centrotherm.de/>

4-21-09 Wakonda Technologies Executive Chairman

Wakonda Technologies, Inc. announced that Dr. Peter Borden has joined the company as Executive Chairman and will focus on the strategic vision and direction of Wakonda, including work on product and market strategy and developing strategic alliances. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/cyeh2f>

Wakonda Technologies: <http://wakondatech.com/>

4-21-09 Dr. Ajeet Rohatgi Honors

Dr. Ajeet Rohatgi, founder and CTO of Suniva, was recently recognized by the U.S. EPA and the American Solar Energy Society for a lifetime contribution to making solar technology a realistic low-cost energy solution. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/dxehyg>
Suniva and Dr. Rohatgi: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vqu9T8tyuK4>
<http://www.suniva.com/founder.php>

4-21-09 Conergy AG Financial Statements Approved

The Supervisory Board of Conergy AG approved the consolidated financial statements for the 2008 fiscal year, as submitted by the Management Board. Conergy press at: <http://www.conergy.de/en/desktopdefault.aspx>

4-21-09 Nepali Government Panel on Solar Subsidies

The Nepali government has formed a subcommittee to develop an effective and efficient subsidy distribution mechanism for installation of solar panels at homes in urban areas.
Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/cek5jn>

4-21-09 Solar Goals in Portland, Oregon

Mayor Sam Adams announced that the City of Portland has adopted a new goal of obtaining 5 MW of city-wide solar by 2012. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/de4tej>

4-21-09 Tata BP Solar Over 100 MW Mark

Tata BP Solar has produced equipment to generate over 100 MW of power. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/dyd8qx>
Tata BP Solar: <http://www.tatabpsolar.com/>

4-21-09 Science Foundation Arizona Solar Investments, Solar Technology Institute

Science Foundation Arizona has announced 5 new solar investments totaling \$4 million and the opening of the Solar Technology Institute. Stories at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://tinyurl.com/cmd3kn>
PV-tech: <http://tinyurl.com/d565t3>
Science Foundation Arizona: <http://www.sfaz.org/our-investments/solarinitiatives.aspx>

4-21-09 Solar Energy Initiatives Revenue Guidance

Solar Energy Initiatives, Inc. announced that it is increasing revenue guidance for fiscal 2009.
Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/d2oags>
Solar Energy Initiatives: <http://www.solarenergy.com/>

4-21-09 Cleantech Legal Updates

Clean Edge has teamed up with Mintz Levin to provide quarterly key legal updates for the cleantech community. For example, see "Energy and Clean Technology Alert: Highlights of the Stimulus Package for the Energy and Clean Technology Sector" at: <http://www.mintzlevin.com/publications.php?PublicationID=1746>
Clean Edge: <http://www.cleantech.com/>

In related solar news...

4-21-09 Thermal Storage

See "Hot debate over thermal storage" at CSP Today: <http://social.csptoday.com/content/hot-debate-over-thermal-storage>

4-22-09 Exelon and SunPower PV Plant, Illinois

Exelon Corp. and SunPower Corp. unveiled plans to build a 10-MW, \$60 million solar power plant on Chicago's South Side. Press through Solarbuzz <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsPage.asp> at: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/features/lifestyle/green/chi-wed-solar-powerapr22,0,5438800.story> or <http://tinyurl.com/dc6uoe>

<http://tinyurl.com/clfmq3>

Exelon Corp.: <http://www.exeloncorp.com/>

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

4-22-09 Eos Estate Winery Solar

Eos Estate Winery is featuring three solar energy systems – a 504-kWp PV tracking system, a 36-kWp fixed-tilt PV system, and a 100-panel roof-mounted solar thermal system – using Conergy solutions.

Story at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://tinyurl.com/cqjolt>

Wine & Shine Tour 2009, April 24: <http://www.wineandshinetour.org/>

Conergy: <http://www.conergy.us/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-2054/>

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

Eos Estate Winery: <http://tinyurl.com/ce42y2>

4-22-09 Solar at Whole Foods

Whole Foods Market is to triple the number of stores with solar panels. Story at Solarbuzz:

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAPR1474.htm>

Whole Foods: <http://www.wholefoodsmarket.com/pressroom/>

4-22-09 Wal-Mart and BP Solar Expanded Initiative

Wal-Mart is announcing that it will as much as double the size of its solar-power initiative in the next 18 months by putting rooftop solar arrays on 10-20 stores and distribution centers in California. Wal-Mart is entering a 10-year power purchase agreement with BP Solar for the projects. Story through Solarbuzz

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsPage.asp> at:

http://www.usatoday.com/money/industries/environment/2009-04-21-walmart-solar_N.htm?csp=34 or

<http://tinyurl.com/dlgzq5>

BP Solar: <http://tinyurl.com/yvmcvm>

4-22-09 Topco Scientific PV System, Taiwan

Topco Scientific announced the completion of a 242.94 kWp solar power system in northern Taiwan.

Press at DigiTimes: <http://www.digitimes.com/news/a20090422PD202.html>

Topco Scientific: http://www.topco.com.tw/eng/page/about_main.asp

4-22-09 Spire Advanced Technology Center

Spire Corporation announced it has upgraded and expanded its Advanced Technology Center located at Spire's headquarters in Bedford, Massachusetts. The ATC consists of a state-of-the-art PV module production line for product development and PV material evaluations, including solar cells.

Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/cnu6I7>

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

4-22-09 iTi Solar Systems at NREL

iTi Solar announced the U.S. DOE's NREL has installed inkjet and spray workstations supplied by iTi Solar in NREL's advanced Atmospheric Processing Platform, located in the Process Development and Integration Laboratory. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/dhvt72>

iTi Solar: <http://www.itisolar.com/>

4-22-09 Indosolar Limited Project, India

Indosolar Limited is a Greenfield project being set up to manufacture 360 MW of mono and multi crystalline silicon cells in two phases at an investment of US\$309 million.

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

Indosolar Limited: <http://www.indosolar.co.in/>

4-22-09 JA Solar Phase II Plant

JA Solar Holdings has broken ground on its Phase II ingot, cell, and module facility in Yangzhou, China. Press at: PV-tech: <http://tinyurl.com/dhflna>
JA Solar: <http://www.jasolar.com/Web/index-en.asp>

4-22-09 Envision Solar Charging Station

Envision Solar International, Inc. joined Bright Automotive to announce the CleanCharge(TM)/Solar Tree(R) Charging Station. Bright Automotive unveiled its new hybrid electric vehicle called IDEA on Capitol Hill. Envision Solar and its CleanCharge(TM) initiative partners will engineer and implement the new charging stations nationwide. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/dkapzd>
<http://tinyurl.com/cbny5f>
Envision Solar: <http://www.envisionsolar.com/>
Bright Automotive: <http://www.brightautomotive.com/>

4-22-09 Beyond Fossil Fuels, Barry Cinnamon on Solar Power

See "Beyond Fossil Fuels: Barry Cinnamon on Solar Power" at Scientific American: <http://tinyurl.com/ctlw5q>
"Beyond Fossil Fuels: Energy Leaders Weigh In": <http://tinyurl.com/cr8bel>

4-22-09 XsunX Management Changes

XsunX Inc. announced management changes focused on broadening business development oversight and leveraging management skill sets of current members of the XsunX staff. Press at: <http://www.xsunx.com/news.aspx?news=214>

4-22-09 SOLAR TODAY [Carolyn Beach, Brooke Simmons]

The May digital edition of SOLAR TODAY, published by the American Solar Energy Society, is available at: <http://www.solartoday-digital.org/solartoday/200905/>
ASES: <http://www.ases.org/>

4-22-09 Los Angeles County Solar Map

Los Angeles County officials launched a new solar mapping website that lets residents and business owners determine whether their properties would benefit from solar power. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/d37bej>
http://www.dailynews.com/news/ci_12187884
LA County Solar Map: <http://lacounty.solarmap.org/>

4-22-09 Salt River Project Solar Rebates

Salt River Project will lower the amount of rebate incentives for solar projects effective June 1. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/df98rr>
<http://tinyurl.com/ddxydr>
Salt River Project: <https://www.srpnet.com/Default.aspx>
<http://www.srpnet.com/environment/earthwise/solar/default.aspx> or <http://tinyurl.com/co7pxv>

4-22-09 Solar Incentives in Texas

Texas would develop a \$500 million solar energy rebate program to help make it easier for homeowners and businesses to tap into sun power under a bill passed in the Senate. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/c5xsrr>

4-22-09 Cleantech Angel Investing

Kuwait Petroleum Energy Ventures, the CalCEF Clean Energy Angel Fund, and Keiretsu Forum's Cleantech Investment Committee signed an MOU to launch a strategic partnership in cleantech angel investing, dubbed Cleantech Angel Network-of-Networks. Press at Cleantech(R): <http://cleantech.com/news/4386/cleantech-angel-network-global>

4-22-09 AmeriStart Services

AmeriStart announced that it has launched services for companies in the renewable energy sector and will provide USA market-entry services for European and Asian companies in the PV, solar thermal, wind power, power storage and other renewable energy industries. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/cxqqle>
AmeriStart: <http://ameristart.com/services.html>

4-22-09 Semiconductors and Solar Cells Manufacturing Industry Report

Research and Markets announced the addition of "2009 U.S. Semiconductors & Solar Cells Manufacturing Industry Report" to its offering. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/d38tkq>
Research and Markets: <http://tinyurl.com/c2gllr>

4-22-09 Photovoltaics Summit Europe 2009

Intertech Pira, organizer of the Photovoltaics Summit Europe 2009 set for 30 June to 2 July in Rome, has announced its speaker line-up for the event. Press at PV-tech: <http://tinyurl.com/c6rm2u>
Photovoltaics Summit Europe 2009: <http://www.pvsummiteu.com/>

In related solar news...

4-22-09 Ausra Funding

Ausra, Inc. announced a \$25.5 million equity funding facility. Press at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNACO921.htm>
Greentech Media: <http://tinyurl.com/d7tj9m>
PR Newswire: <http://tinyurl.com/c82bcm>
Ausra: <http://www.ausra.com/>

4-23-09 SunEdison and REC Solar Deal

SunEdison announced that REC Solar has been signed as the company's first channel partner. SunEdison's solar channel partner program provides national installers and integrators increased project financing capabilities, including the ability to deliver projects via a solar power purchase agreement. Also, for PV systems developed under the program, Sun Edison will provide service, maintenance and monitoring. Story at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNACO922.htm>
SunEdison: <http://www.sunedison.com/>
REC Solar: <http://www.recsolar.com/cm/Home.html>

4-23-09 Mitsubishi Electric Modules for Italian Greenhouse

Mitsubishi Electric has supplied Ray Energy Group with PV modules for the largest Italian PV greenhouse. The 888-kWp system comprises 4,800 modules and 5 inverters. Story and photos at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEUPR597.htm>
Mitsubishi Electric: <http://www.mitsubishielectric.it/fotovoltaiico/>
Ray Energy Group: <http://www.rayenergy.it/>

4-23-09 Ascent Solar MOU with Bye Aerospace [Brian Blackman]

Ascent Solar Technologies, Inc. announced that it has signed an MOU to incorporate thin-film PV technology into aircraft platforms under development at Bye Aerospace.
Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/cq792b>
Ascent Solar: <http://www.ascentsolar.com/index.php>
<http://www.ascentsolar.com/x.php?page=20>
Bye Aerospace: <http://www.byeaerospace.com/>

4-23-09 SunPower PV Systems and R&D Center, Florida

FPL Group and SunPower Corporation have signed a supply agreement for SunPower's panels and tracker technology beginning in 2010 through 2012. Also, SunPower has separately agreed to locating an R&D center in Florida if the state continues its robust solar program.
Press at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNACO923.htm>
<http://tinyurl.com/cf99g6>

4-23-09 SunPower PV Systems and R&D Center, Florida - continued

SunPower Press: <http://investors.sunpowercorp.com/releasedetail.cfm?ReleaseID=379189> or <http://tinyurl.com/cvd46y>
SunPower: <http://us.sunpowercorp.com/about/>
FPL: <http://www.FPL.com/>
NextEra: <http://www.NextEraEnergyResources.com/>

4-23-09 American Solar Electric and SunRun Partnership, Arizona

American Solar Electric and SunRun Inc. are offering a lease option for solar panels that could open new markets in the Phoenix area.

Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/d8wqmu>
American Solar Electric: <http://www.americanpv.com/> http://www.americanpv.com/c_news.php
SunRun: <http://www.sunrunhome.com/>
http://www.sunrunhome.com/sunrun_home_solar/solar_in_arizona/

4-23-09 Solar Thin Films Shipments to Grupo Unisolar, S.A.

Solar Thin Films, Inc. announced that its subsidiary KRAFT Elektronikai Zrt. of Budapest, Hungary completed the second of three planned shipments of equipment for a 6-MW amorphous silicon PV module manufacturing facility located in Bejar, Spain for its customer Grupo Unisolar, S.A.

Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/ccds2x>
Solar Thin Films: <http://www.solarthinfilms.com/>
Grupo Unisolar: <http://www.grupounisolar.com/>

4-23-09 FATA Automation Solar Panel Lamination Lines

FATA Automation, Inc. announced their expansion into the alternative energy sector by delivering a number of automated lamination lines to Uni-Solar Ovonic. More in the press at Solarbuzz:

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAMA166.htm>
FATA Automation: <http://www.fatainc.com/>
Uni-Solar: <http://www.uni-solar.com/>

4-23-09 DuPont Photovoltaic Solutions Encapsulants Based on PVB Technology

DuPont Photovoltaic Solutions announced the commercial availability of new DuPont(TM) PV5200 Series PV encapsulant sheets based on PVB polymer technology.

Press at: http://news.yahoo.com/s/prweb/20090423/bs_prweb/prweb2342454_1 or <http://tinyurl.com/cv4te9>
DuPont Photovoltaic Solutions: http://www2.dupont.com/Photovoltaics/en_US/news_events/index.html or <http://tinyurl.com/ch7ksg> http://www2.dupont.com/Photovoltaics/en_US/index.html

4-23-09 Advanced Solar Photonics Latest Patent-Pending Method

Advanced Solar Photonics announced their latest patent-pending method e2, which increases a solar panel's overall efficiency.

Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/ceeqgh>
Advanced Solar Photonics: <http://www.advancedsolarphotonics.com/>
<http://www.advancedsolarphotonics.com/press/>

4-23-09 SAS UMG Plant in Russia

Sino-American Silicon Products will team up with Lite-On Technology and Actron Technology to set up a plant to produce upgraded metallurgical-grade silicon in Russia.

Press at DigiTimes: <http://www.digitimes.com/news/a20090423PD216.html>
SAS: http://www.saswafer.com/index/index_tw.aspx

4-23-09 Sempra Plans in Arizona

See the story "Sempra Wants 300MW Plus of Solar in Arizona" at Greentech Media: <http://tinyurl.com/chgwmx> <http://www.greentechmedia.com/>

4-23-09 Spectrolab Multijunction Cell Technology

See the story "Spectrolab to take its new C3MJ technology forward" at CPV Today:

<http://tinyurl.com/dz9teg> <http://social.cpvtoday.com/node>

Spectrolab: <http://www.spectrolab.com/>

4-23-09 BP Solar PV Systems for Wal-Mart [Tom Mueller]

BP Solar confirmed that it has been selected to provide PV systems for Wal-Mart stores in California, building on an established relationship between the two. Press at BP Solar: <http://tinyurl.com/cx3wtn>

4-23-09 Oerlikon Developments

See developments at Oerlikon in the Oerlikon press at: <http://tinyurl.com/dhklhb> <http://www.oerlikon.com/>

4-23-09 Aggressive Renewable Energy Goals

See the "Featured Content" on aggressive renewable energy goals, and other new related postings, at Greentech Media: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/>

4-23-09 More on iSuppli PV Report

The severe downturn in the global PV market in 2009 could have a positive outcome for the worldwide solar industry, yielding a more mature and orderly supply chain when growth returns, according to iSuppli Corp. More on their report at RenewableEnergyNews: <http://tinyurl.com/dbx5u8>
iSuppli: <http://www.isuppli.com/products/home.aspx>

4-23-09 Solar Cost Model, Perspective

See Neal Dikeman's coverage of his Dikeman Solar Cost Model – DiSoCo Model, at Cleantech(R): <http://cleantech.com/news/4395/moores-law-solar-neal-dikeman>

4-23-09 IREC State & Stakeholder Newsletter [Jane Pulaski]

The latest issue of IREC's State & Stakeholder Newsletter with coverage of state/local headlines, an interview of the week, current and best practices, an IREC extra, grants and RFPs, events, and other news is on line at: <http://tinyurl.com/cdlsqy>
<http://www.irecusa.org/index.php?id=11>

4-23-09 Solar Hotspot in Ohio

The Ohio Third Frontier program's annual report noted the success of its new advanced energy program and singled out the Toledo area as a "Solar Hotspot" for &RD and commercialization of advanced solar technologies. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/dycnlt>
Third Frontier: <http://www.thirdfrontier.com/> (see Annual Report)

4-23-09 Low-Cost Lightweight Portable Photovoltaics, DARPA PV Solicitation

DARPA is soliciting innovative research proposals in the area of PV power sources that excel in efficiency, portability, flexibility, durability, and ease of manufacture. See DARPA-BAA-09-45 at: <http://tinyurl.com/df3b7z>

4-23-09 PHOTON Expo, 2010

The PHOTON Expo with an expanded trade fair will take place in Stuttgart in 2010. The trade fair and conference series is organized by PHOTON Europe GmbH. Information on the 2010 event, and coverage of this year's events, at: <http://tinyurl.com/d69huo>

4-23-09 Atlas Technical Conference on Ageing and Evaluation for Solar Energy Industry

Atlas Material Testing Technology is holding its next Atlas Technical Conference on Ageing and Evaluation, which will focus on the durability of materials, components, and systems for the solar energy industry, 8-9 December in Phoenix Arizona. Press at: <http://news.thomasnet.com/companystory/559380>
ATLAS: <http://www.solardurability.com/>

4-23-09 UC Berkeley Seminar on Finance Tool

The University of California, Berkeley will host a seminar for local government leaders to introduce an emerging finance tool – Clean Energy Municipal Financing, which allows local governments to fund upfront costs of energy improvements for property owners. Information at: <http://rael.berkeley.edu/financing/seminar>

4-23-09 CEC Recovery Funding Meetings

The California Energy Commission will conduct a workshop to discuss the ARRA provisions regarding distributing funds for specific energy related projects. Information on this and other funding allocation workshops at: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/recovery/meetings/>
California Economic Recovery: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/recovery/>

4-23-09 Financing Solar Energy Conference

The Institute for Professional and Executive Development is hosting “Financing Solar Energy”, 21-22 May in Alexandria, Virginia. Information at: <http://www.ipedinc.net/>

4-23-09 Latest Articles from Printed Electronics World

New listings at Printed Electronics World are available at: <http://www.printedelectronicsworld.com/>
[registration required]

In related solar news...

4-23-09 Lockheed Martin Solar Lab

Lockheed Martin celebrated Earth Day by unveiling a solar energy lab. Press and photos at:
<http://tinyurl.com/c7mm6u>
<http://tinyurl.com/cxztw8>
Lockheed Martin Press: <http://www.lockheedmartin.com/news/index.html> (April 22)

4-23-09 CSP Today Articles

See several new postings at CSP Today, including coverage of AARA, the center for solar thermal technologies in Australia, \$3M in funding to UC Davis by CEC, Symyx Technologies' grant, Albiassa Solar's plans in Arizona, and more at: <http://social.csptoday.com/node>

4-24-09 Concentrix New Tracking System for CPV at ISFOC [Silke Hajunga]

A new tracking system, installed for the first time by Concentrix Solar, was implemented into Concentrix Solar's concentrator power plant as part of the ISFOC project in Puertollano, Spain. The tracking system comes from its partner and investor Abengoa Solar and was customized especially for use with FLATCON(R) modules from Concentrix Solar.

Press from Concentrix Solar: <http://tinyurl.com/djr64e>
Abengoa Solar: <http://www.abengoasolar.in/sites/solar/en/index.html>
ISFOC: <http://www.isfoc.es/>

4-24-09 Solar Thin Films Announcement of BudaSolar R&D Awards

Solar Thin Films, Inc. announced that it has been notified that BudaSolar Limited was awarded two separate R&D contracts by the Hungarian National Office for Research and Technology – the first targeting efficiency improvements for silicon-based thin-film solar cells and the second aimed at developing improved in-line monitoring tools for thin-film processes. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/djw7ok>
Solar Thin Films: <http://www.solarthinfilms.com/>
BudaSolar: <http://www.budasolar.hu/>

4-24-09 SolFocus Plant, Mesa, Arizona

SolFocus announced the completion of an expansion project that will increase its capacity to make solar glass reflectors by 15 times. Press at: <http://www.eastvalleytribune.com/story/138309>
SolFocus Ribbon Cutting: <http://tinyurl.com/cb3jt9>
SolFocus: <http://www.solfocus.com/en/index.php>

4-24-09 Mercury Solar Systems in Northeast [Kellie Walsh May]

Mercury Solar Systems, Inc. and its sister company Energy Enterprises, Inc. announced the completion of several installations in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/d3vpnk>
Mercury Solar Systems: <http://www.mercurysolarsystems.com/indexflash.aspx>

4-24-09 Company Results

SunPower announced financial results for its 2009 first quarter, which ended 29 March.
Press at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNACO924.htm>
SunPower: <http://us.sunpowercorp.com/?re=1> <http://investors.sunpowercorp.com/releases.cfm>

MEMC reported first quarter results. Press at Solarbuzz:
<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNACO925.htm>

MEMC: <http://www.memc.com/default-netscape.asp>

Oerlikon Group reported first quarter results. Press at Solarbuzz:
<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEUCO747.htm>

Oerlikon: <http://www.oerlikon.com/>

Jetion Holdings Limited announced its preliminary results for the 12 months ended 31 December.
Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/c98r6l> Jetion Holdings Limited: <http://www.jetion.com.cn/>

4-24-09 Kenmec Expansion into PV

Taiwan-based Kenmec Mechanical Engineering has set up a pilot production line for amorphous silicon thin-film PV modules at its factory in northern Taiwan and has successfully developed laser scribes and cleaners used to make PV modules. Also, Kenmec is developing manufacturing equipment for CIGS thin-film PV modules. Press at DigiTimes: <http://www.digitimes.com/news/a20090423PD218.html>
Kenmec: <http://www.kenmec.com/003/about05.aspx>

4-24-09 Solar in Senegal

See the story "Senegal Solar: Uninterrupted Power for Vital Medical Care" by Lars Waldmann, Schott Solar AG, at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://tinyurl.com/c4queb>
Schott Solar: <http://www.schottsolar.com/>

4-24-09 Taiwan Green Energy Development, PV

Taiwan's Executive Yuan approved a national plan to boost development of the island's green energy industries, aiming to make Taiwan the world's largest producing country for LED chips/modules, and among the top 3 for PV products. Press at DigiTimes:
<http://www.digitimes.com/news/a20090424PD200.html>

4-24-09 PHOTON International April 2009 Contents

The table of contents for PHOTON International, as well as several live links for April, are on line at:
<http://www.photon-magazine.com/> <http://www.photon-magazine.com/photon/index.htm>

4-24-09 SOLAR 2009

SOLAR 2009, the 38th ASES National Solar Conference, is set for 11-16 May in Buffalo, New York.
Press at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://tinyurl.com/daztb2>
Web site at: http://ases.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=18&Itemid=147 or
<http://tinyurl.com/dm8g2h>

4-24-09 Meeting the Energy Challenge for Renewables in Europe

RenewableEnergyWorld's Webcast, meeting Europe's renewable energy challenge, is set for 28 April.
Information and registration at: <http://tinyurl.com/djyjm9>

4-24-09 CEC Renewable-Based Energy Secure Communities

The California Energy Commission posted a notice of proposed awards and RD&D Committee funding recommendations for the Renewable-Based Energy Secure Communities grant solicitation. Notice at:
<http://www.energy.ca.gov/contracts/index.html#nopa>

4-24-09 Wine & Shine Tour 2009, California [Terri Steele]

This Earth Week, J. Lohr Vineyards & Wines, Eos Estate Winery, Clautiere Vineyard are affording businesses throughout the Paso Robles region a first-hand look at how they are using solar energy solutions from Conergy. See "Going Green Reaches Economic Tipping Point at Wine & Shine 2009" at: <http://www.prweb.com/releases/2009/04/prweb2353644.htm>
Wine & Shine Tour 2009: <http://www.wineandshinetour.org/>
Conergy: <http://www.conergy.us/desktopdefault.aspx>

4-24-09 Post-Stimulus Renewable Finance Summit

The Post-Stimulus Renewable Finance Summit is set for 27-29 May in New Orleans, Louisiana. Information at: http://www.altaterra.net/events/event_details.asp?id=55872
AltaTerra Research Network Events:
http://www.altaterra.net/events/event_list.asp?DGPCrSrt=&DGPCrPg=2 or <http://tinyurl.com/czbfwr>

4-24-09 Materials and Technologies for Solar Energy, SRI Consulting Report

SRI Consulting published its new Materials and Technologies for Solar Energy report that details the solar materials and technologies used in first through fourth generation PV applications, including an overview of solar thermal. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/d2j6ud>
SRI Consulting: <http://www.sriconsulting.com/SSC/>

4-24-09 Photovoltaic Barometer, Report

EurObserv'ER has published the "Photovoltaic Barometer" report. Information and download at: <http://www.eurobserv-er.org/downloads.asp>