

MBIPV Industry News Q2/2009

PV Industry Development and Enhancement Program

Editorial

Dear MBIPV and Industry Stakeholders

Since 10th April 2009, PTM is under the Ministry of Energy, Green Technology and Water, with Y.B. Datuk Peter Chin Fah Kui as its new Minister. The change in name is promising; green technologies such as mini-hydro, biomass, wind and solar, offer a needed change towards a knowledge-based and high-tech industry, providing enormous business opportunities and at the end also save our planet Earth. Green technologies can transform Malaysia into a leading global player in a future growth market following the success story of Islamic banking or Halal food business.

For further information regarding the activities in MBIPV or the industry enhancement activities, please send an email to nazri@mbipv.net.my. Please visit also our website www.mbipv.net.my for further information on events and facts & figures.

MBIPV C4 News

Upcoming PV seminar 'Solar Energy – A Window to the Future' in Penang, 15th June 2009

This outstanding and timely seminar with high-level speakers, including the Director General MIDA, General Manager SEA Solar Business of Applied Material Asia, CEO Solar Research Institute of Singapore, CEO M+W Zander Asia, MD Solarworld Asia and many others, is supported by SEMI, NCIA and MIDA. The seminar will give great exposure and increase the level of awareness of PV business and understanding for the local industry stakeholders and the established semiconductor and electronics industry players. The seminar will be held in Penang and targets a maximum of 300 participants. Seating is limited to 3 pax per organisation – on a first come, first serve basis. To view the program and the registration please visit our website at www.mbipv.net.my.

SEA PV News

The Philippines passes tax incentives for renewable energies

The president of the Philippines, Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, signed a renewable energy law designed to expand the supply of electricity from renewable energy sources in the Philippines with the help of tax incentives and investment support. Power plants in the Philippines using renewable energy sources will be exempt from income tax for the first 7 years of operation. The new energy law also contains a passage that guarantees that electricity from renewable sources will receive preferential feed-in. By 2010, the country wants to cover 60 percent of its energy demand with its own renewable resources.

Asia PV News

China introduces a PV subsidy system

The Chinese Ministry of Finance's announced on March 31st 2009 a PV subsidy scheme to stimulate the local market and the local manufacturer. The program covers both non-BIPV rooftop applications as well as BIPV, but the incentive for the non-BIPV applications will be lower than the \$2.90/W (around 40% of the turn-key cost) announced for BIPV. The subsidy amounts are expected to decline year-by-year and the Ministry of Finance has yet to decide on a specific annual cap for the subsidies.



BIPV in Wuxi, China

Suntech is one of many other PV companies facing demand constraints

Suntech Power Holdings Co. from China, No.2 global PV manufacturer, is another big solar player to report a bumpy first quarter in 2009. "2009's business depends almost entirely on the availability of credit and the project financing environment continues to be still on shaky legs" CEO Shi Zhengrong explained. He said there had been signs that demand would pick up in Europe after a rough winter, noting that the company's order flow had increased. But the ongoing financial crisis has slowed the company's plans for expansions. In 4th quarter 2008, Suntech laid off 10% of its 8,000-strong workforce and had suspended a plan to expand capacity by 40% in 2009. Across the globe, the once red-hot solar sector is feeling the chill of the global financial crisis as funding for solar projects remains scarce and a dramatic drop in oil prices curtails demand for renewable energy.

International PV News

\$789 billion American Recovery and Reinvestment helps the US solar industry ride out the financial crisis

For the US solar market, the most important aspect of the new law is its creation of an uncapped grant program to be run by the US Department of the Treasury. Many solar industry representatives are calling the new grants, as well as several other provisions in the mammoth spending bill, the saving grace of 2009 that will create 60,000 jobs in the US PV industry in 2009 alone. Also up to \$2.3 billion is available for renewable energy manufacturing, which will boost the local PV industry significantly.



Is Italy following the same boom to bust scenario we saw in Spain last year?

The Spanish market rocketed in 2008 past all of the market forecasts to reach more than 2.5 GW of PV capacity and introduced for 2009 a draconian cap of 500 MW. This boom to bust cycle that isn't good for the industry is something Italy could mimic. The growing activities and the recent aggressive moves by Suntech, Trina, Sunpower and others into the Italian market could mean that installations go through the roof and the Italian Government is forced to impose a cap in 2010. Looking at the forecasted scenarios recently released by the European Photovoltaics Industry Association (EPIA) for the Italian market, the 'moderate scenario' projection points to 400 MW installed in 2009, and the 'policy-driven' scenario points to 500 MW for the year. The problem is that an Italian agency reported that in 2008 338 MW of PV capacity was installed and that could reach 900 MW in 2009. Though many companies are banking on Italy filling some of the void left by Spain, the industry hopes not to see Italy become the next Spain, cutting back the market by over 75%.

No recovery in the global stock market for PV titles

In October 2008 the global stock market came crashing to a halt, courtesy of the global credit crisis and solar stocks were down around 75% on average. Within a short time all public-listed PV companies saw their market capital falling out of the sunny sky back into reality. Benchmarking with 1st January 2008, the PPVX (Photon PV Stock Index) is still down at -70.6%, indicating no recovery since the collapse. In future we will update this section quarterly and provide news on stock market highflyers or losers.

PV Stock Market News

Important Events

May 20-22, 2009 Exhibition: Semicon Singapore 2009 Singapore www.semiconsingapore.org	June 1-3, 2009 Conference: Photovoltaics Summit 2009 San Francisco, California, USA www.photovoltaicssummit.com	June 15, 2009 Seminar: Solar Energy – A Window to the Future Penang, Malaysia www.mbipv.net.my
May 25-26, 2009 5th PV Industry Forum 2009 Munich, Germany www.pvindustry.de	June 2-3, 2009 Conference: CSP, CPV & Thin-Film Technologies Summit MENA Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates www.newsolaraday.com/mena09	June 17-19, 2009 Exhibition: Indo Renergy 2009 Jakarta, Indonesia www.indorenergy.com
May 26-29, 2009 PHOTON's Events: PV Technology Show 2009 Asia 8th Solar Silicon & 5th PV Production Equipment & 5th PV Investors & 3rd PV Glass Conference Shenzhen, China www.photon-expo.com	June 7-12, 2009 34th IEEE Photovoltaic Specialists Conference Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA www.34pvsc.org	June 23-24, 2009 Conference: 6th Annual Renewable Energy Finance Forum - Wall Street New York, USA www.acore.org
May 27-29, 2009 Trade fair: Intersolar 2009 Munich, Germany www.intersolar.de	June 10-12, 2009 Exhibition: Solar Taiwan 2009 Taipei, Taiwan www.optotaiwan.com	June 24-26, 2009 Trade fair: PVJapan 2009 Makuhari, Japan www.pvjapan.org/PVJAPAN-EN/index.htm

Further Information

Following links provide further information on industry and country news:

- www.solarbuzz.com
- www.epia.org
- www.renewableenergymagazine.com
- www.iea-pvps.org
- www.solarplaza.org
- www.prometheus.org
- www.photon-magazine.com
- www.renewableenergy.com
- www.refocus.net
- <http://en.china-solarenergy.com>
- www.enf.cn
- www.marketwatch.com

The MBIPV project is a national project initiated by the Government of Malaysia with co-financing from Global Environment Facility whose fund is disbursed through the United Nations Development Programme.

The MBIPV project objective is to reduce the long term cost of the BIPV technology in Malaysia. This is achieved through the widespread implementation of BIPV applications and creation of enabling environments on policy and industrial side in Malaysia. To have further information on MBIPV, please visit www.mbipv.net.my.