

NCPV Hotline — Week of March 24-31, 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>

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

3-24-08 Timminco Results

Timminco Limited has released its preliminary financial results for the 4th quarter and fiscal year ended 31 December 2007. Press at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNACO725.htm>
Timminco: <http://www.timminco.com/>

3-24-08 Mitsubishi Modules for Project, Italy

Mitsubishi Electric has installed PV modules in the new administrative headquarters of the Friuli-Venezia Giulia Autonomous Region located in Udine. The PV installation was built in conjunction with Copetti Impianti and has a peak capacity of 200 kW. Story and photo at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/news/NewsEUPR457.htm>
<http://www.mitsubishielectric.it/>

3-24-08 XL Telecom Solar Panel Order

XL Telecom has received an order to supply solar panels to a large power utility company in Europe. More at: <http://tinyurl.com/333hky>
XL Telecom: <http://www.xlteleenergy.com/>

3-24-08 WorldWater & Solar Technologies CEO

WorldWater & Solar Technologies Corp. announced that Dr. Frank W. Smith has been promoted from COO to CEO and elected to the Board of Directors. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/3e5dpj>
WorldWater & Solar Technologies: <http://www.worldwater.com/>

3-24-08 Solar Panel Production, Ohio

According to this press, Willard & Kelsey Solar Group LLC expects to produce 1 million to 1.5 million solar panels a year in Perrysburg starting in July according to documents filed with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. <http://www.toledoblade.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080322/NEWS08/803220382> or <http://tinyurl.com/ywbw3x>

3-24-08 Trina Solar Expansion

Trina Solar Ltd. is expanding its existing alternative energy business in Europe and will begin sales in the U.S. market as soon as it receives its UL certifications from the U.S. authorities. Story at: <http://www.chinaknowledge.com/News/news-detail.aspx?type=1&id=14100>
Trina Solar: <http://www.trinasolar.com/>

3-24-08 Q&A with Global Solar VPs

Greentech Media interviewed Tim Teich and Jeffrey Britt, Global Solar, for the article “ Q&A: Global Solar VPs Dish Thin-Film Details” at: <http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/qa-global-solar-vps-dish-thin-film-details-718.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/2lxk4x>
Global Solar: <http://www.globalsolar.com/>

3-24-08 Dye-sensitized Solar Cells

See the story “Cheap New Solar Cells Made Much More Efficient” with coverage of research on dye-sensitized solar cells by Annemarie Huijser, TU Delft, at:
<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2008/03/080320095008.htm>
TU Delft: <http://www.english.tudelft.nl/>

3-24-08 Octillion Process Streamlining

Octillion Corp. announced efforts to streamline the deposition of silicon nanoparticles on glass, an important process of the company’s NanoPower Window technology.
Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/2q4hp5>
Octillion: <http://www.octillioncorp.com/index.php>

3-24-08 Suntech in North America

Suntech Power Holdings Co. is seeking more San Francisco space. Story at:
http://www.bizjournals.com/sanfrancisco/stories/2008/03/24/story4.html?ana=from_rss or
<http://tinyurl.com/3dhf5q>
Suntech: <http://www.suntech-power.com/>

3-24-08 Third-party Ownership of Renewable Energy Systems, Nevada

The Public Utilities Commission of Nevada delayed a ruling on the legality of 3rd-party ownership of renewable energy systems in the state, saying it needs more time to deliberate how such a ruling would impact Nevada’s ability to meet its renewable energy targets. See more on the debate at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=51908>

3-24-08 UK Contribution to REEEP

UK Environment Minister Phil Woolas announced that the UK will remain the world’s leading Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership donor. Story at RenewableEnergyWorld:
<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=51934>
REEEP: <http://www.reeep.org/>

3-24-08 Renewables in Florida

See the story “Renewable Energy in Florida Part 1: Why Solar Makes Sense” at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/reinsider/story?id=51861> or <http://tinyurl.com/2mpj65>

3-24-08 Bright Solar Future

See the story “Applied bets on a bright solar future” at:
<http://www.statesman.com/business/content/business/stories/technology/03/24/0324applied.html?cxtype=rss&cxsvc=7&cxcat=3> or <http://tinyurl.com/2c9n6r>
See also “Applied materials adopt solar in china” at: <http://www.cctv.com/english/20080324/103060.shtml>
Applied Materials: <http://www.appliedmaterials.com/>

3-24-08 Solar Finance & Forecast

More than 150 industry leaders gathered in San Francisco for Greentech Media’s first finance-focused event. See “Sideshow: Solar Finance & Forecast” at:
<http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/slideshow-solar-finance-forecast-717.html> or
<http://tinyurl.com/364p54>

3-24-08 PV Presentation at Brookhaven

Vasilis Fthenakis, head of the National Photovoltaic Environmental Research Center at Brookhaven National Laboratory, will give a talk called "Solar Grad Plan" at the Laboratory on 21 April. Fthenakis coauthored the cover story of the January 2008 issue of Scientific American proposing an ambitious plan to free the U.S. for dependence on fossil fuels through a massive switch to solar power. More at: <http://www.azom.com/news.asp?newsID=11665>

In related solar news...

3-24-08 AquaCell Solar Powered Air Conditioners in Mexico

AquaCell Technologies, Inc., doing business as GreenCore Technology, announced that it has commenced sales of its solar powered air conditioner in the Baja region of Mexico through an exclusive distributorship agreement with Common Sense Energy. More at: <http://www.marketwire.com/mw/release.do?id=835311>

3-25-08 CIGS World Record

Researchers at the U.S. DOE's National Renewable Energy Laboratory moved closer to creating a thin-film solar cell that can compete with the efficiency of the more common silicon-based solar cell. The CIGS thin-film solar cell recently reached 19.9% efficiency, setting a new world record for this type of cell. Press from NREL: <http://www.nrel.gov/news/press/2008/574.html>
<http://www.nrel.gov/news/press/>

3-25-08 University of Delaware-IEC's Solar America Initiative Funding

The University of Delaware's Institute of Energy Conversion will receive \$3.75 million from the U.S. DOE's Solar America Initiative over the next 3 years to continue leading-edge research on PV solar cells. Press at:

<http://www.udel.edu/PR/UDaily/2008/mar/solar032408.html>

Solar America Initiative:

http://www.eere.energy.gov/solar/solar_america/news_detail.html?news_id=11637 or

<http://tinyurl.com/34m7ud>

http://www.eere.energy.gov/solar/solar_america/university_product_process_development_support.html

or <http://tinyurl.com/2vp5ae>

3-25-08 Suntech Deal with DC Chemical for Polysilicon

Suntech Power Holdings Co. Ltd. said it signed an 8-year deal with DC Chemical Co. Ltd. to buy polysilicon. Press at:

Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsASCO227.htm> and

http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080324/suntech_power_dc_chemical.html?.v=1 or <http://tinyurl.com/2q6gsn>

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

DC Chemical: <http://www.dcchem.co.kr/eng/main.asp>

3-25-08 More Polysilicon Supply Deals

M.Setek has started shipping polysilicon in small volumes ahead of schedule to E-Ton Solar Tech. Also, DC Chemical has signed a contract with Green Energy Technology to provide the company with polysilicon worth a total of US\$260 million between 21 March 2008 and 31 December 2016. Press at:

<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PD00000000000000000000000005116&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/337pbu>

M.Setek: <http://m-setek.co.jp/en/index.html>

DC Chemical: <http://www.dcchem.co.kr/eng/main.asp>

E-Ton Solar: <http://www.e-tonsolar.com/>

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

3-25-08 AES and Riverstone PV Investment

The AES Corporation and Riverstone Holdings LLC announced that they have committed up to \$1 billion as part of a new joint venture to develop a global platform of utility-scale PV projects. Under terms of the agreement, AES and Riverstone will each provide up to \$500 million of capital over 5 years to invest in PV projects around the world. Press at: http://www.ad-hoc-news.de/drucken.html?art_id=16045834
AES: <http://www.aes.com/aes/index?page=home>
Riverstone Holdings LLC: <http://www.riverstonellc.com/>

3-25-08 Solar Energy Farm, Rhode Island

According to this press, a New York-based private developer plans to announce it will build a \$45 million solar energy farm on a former hazardous-waste dump in western Coventry. Allco Renewable Energy said it will sign a letter of intent with the Town of Coventry. Press at: http://www.projo.com/news/content/bz_solar_farm25_03-25-08_K19G9RN_v11.38e5188.html or <http://tinyurl.com/37cqzd>
Allco Renewable Energy: <http://www.allcous.com/>

3-25-08 Hoku Installation for Paradise Beverages

Hoku Solar has signed a definitive agreement with Paradise Beverages, Inc. to install a PV power system at its Oahu facility. More at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAPR1036.htm>
Hoku Solar: <http://www.hokuscientific.com/>

3-25-08 Clear Skies Group Partnership with SGFP 2 LLC

Clear Skies Group announced a partnership with SGFP 2 LLC to provide solar power to the real estate investment fund's active-living community project in DeKalb County, Georgia. Story at: http://www.businesswire.com/portal/site/google/?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20080325005415&new_sLang=en or <http://tinyurl.com/2r9q87>
Clear Skies Group: <http://www.ClearSkiesGroup.com/>

3-25-08 SolarCraft CFO, Expansion

SolarCraft announced that Bruce W. King has joined the company as CFO, and his experience will help lead the company as it continues to expand. Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/39zrmx>
SolarCraft: <http://solarcraft.com/>

3-25-08 Ascent Solar Talks with Investment Banks

According to this press, Ascent Solar Technologies Inc. is talking with investment banks about possibly underwriting its upcoming public stock offering either in addition to or as a substitute for Bear Stearns & Co. Press at: http://www.bizjournals.com/denver/stories/2008/03/24/daily2.html?ana=from_rss or <http://tinyurl.com/2meww9>
Ascent Solar: <http://www.ascentsolar.com/>

3-25-08 Suntech at Investor Events

Suntech Power Holdings Co., Ltd. announced that management is scheduled to present a number of upcoming investor conferences and industry events. See: <http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/080325/cntu036.html?.v=1>
Suntech Power: <http://www.suntech-power.com/>

3-25-08 Cleantech Consumer Market

Two new surveys find consumers want to buy more cleantech products, but suggest leading brands may not yet have emerged. See "Consumer cleantech market could hit \$104B" at Cleantech™: <http://media.cleantech.com/2620/consumer-cleantech-market-could-hit-104b> or <http://tinyurl.com/346v6t>

3-25-08 Mark C. Fitzgerald Memorial Award

Johnny Weiss from Solar Energy International was announced the winner of the 2008 ISP Mark C. Fitzgerald Memorial Award at a special ceremony as part of the "New Ideas in Education" Conference held at the Hudson Community College in Troy, New York. Story at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?id=51943>

In related solar news...

3-25-08 Solar in California

See information on large solar projects, under review or announced, in California at:
<http://www.energy.ca.gov/siting/solar/index.html>

3-25-08 China Solar & Clean Energy Solutions Acting CFO

China Solar & Clean Energy Solutions, Inc. announced the appointment of Mr. Yihai Yang to the position of Acting CFO. Story at: <http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/080324/cnm004.html?.v=10>
China Solar & Clean Energy Solutions, Inc.: <http://www.cn-cse.com/>

3-26-08 EDF Energies Nouvelles and First Solar Supplemental Agreement

EDF Energies Nouvelles and First Solar have signed a supplemental agreement for an additional 60 MWp of thin-film modules, increasing the order from 230 MWp to 290 MWp. Story at Solarbuzz:
<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEUCO524.htm>
EDF Energies Nouvelles: <http://www.edf-energies-nouvelles.com/>
First Solar: <http://www.firstsolar.com/>

3-26-08 Asola Contract with Krannich Solar

Quantum Fuel Systems Technologies Worldwide, Inc. announced that its German solar partner, Asola Advanced and Automotive Solar Systems GmbH, has won a \$20 million contract from Krannich Solar for the supply of high-efficiency silicon PV modules. Story at:
<http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/080326/law516.html?.v=4>
Quantum: <http://www.gtww.com/>
Asola: <http://www.asola-power.com/>
Krannich Solar: <http://www.krannich-solar.com/>

3-26-08 Arizona PV Testing Lab Grant

Arizona State University's Photovoltaic Testing Laboratory received an \$800,000 grant through the Solar America Initiative to test new solar energy modules. More at:
<http://www.bizjournals.com/phoenix/stories/2008/03/24/daily18.html>
DOE Press: http://www.eere.energy.gov/solar/solar_america/news_detail.html?news_id=11637 or
<http://tinyurl.com/34m7ud>
ASU-PTL: <http://www.poly.asu.edu/ptl/>

3-26-08 Solar Silicon Wafer Orders

Both Green Energy Technology and Sino-American Silicon Products are said to be seeing an influx of unexpected solar silicon wafer orders since some China-based vendors have recently been unable to meet their shipments schedule due to difficulties in polysilicon procurement. Story at DigiTimes:
<http://www.digitimes.com/NewsShow/NewsSearch.asp?DocID=PD0000000000000000000000000005151&query=SOLAR> or <http://tinyurl.com/2k7llo>

3-26-08 OPEL Contract with Spectrolab

OPEL International Inc. announced that it has signed a 5-year solar cell supply contract with Spectrolab. Story at: http://biz.yahoo.com/cnw/080326/opel_supply_contract.html?.v=1
OPEL: <http://www.opelinc.com/>
Spectrolab: <http://www.spectrolab.com/>

3-26-08 PV, Solar Cells – 3 Part Series [John Perlin]

See the story "Photovoltaics: A Bright Idea", first in a 3-part series on PV solar energy by John Perlin at: <http://www.miller-mccune.com/article/245>. To read Part 2 of the series, "Solar cells From Space to Earth", see: <http://www.miller-mccune.com/article/250>

3-26-08 Solar Power, Inc. Results

Solar Power, Inc. announced 4th quarter and year-end 2007 results. Story at:

http://www.redorbit.com/news/business/1311363/solar_power_inc_announces_fourth_quarter_and_year_end_2007_results/ or <http://tinyurl.com/2qu4an>

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

3-26-08 More on AES – Riverstone Deal

AES and Riverstone Holdings have teamed up to pour \$1 billion into utility-scale PV projects. See “AES, Riverstone in \$1B solar venture” at Cleantech™: <http://media.cleantech.com/2624/aes-riverstone-in-1b-solar-venture>

Washington Post press: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/03/25/AR2008032502988.html?hpid=sec-metro> or <http://tinyurl.com/2nlnqw>

AES: <http://www.aes.com/aes/index?page=home>

Riverstone Holdings LLC: <http://www.riverstonellc.com/>

3-26-08 More on Solar Farm in Rhode Island

The developer of a planned solar energy farm in Coventry said that the project can go forward only if the state passes legislation that makes renewable energy projects more financially attractive to developers.

Allco Renewable Energy said its plan to build a 90-acre, 8-MW solar farm is contingent on the legislation.

Story at: http://www.projo.com/news/stategovernment/content/bz_solar_farm26_03-26-08_K19GN43_v11.2b29ebb.html or <http://tinyurl.com/38zdxl>

Allco Renewable Energy: <http://www.allcous.com/>

3-26-08 Intertek Expansion

Intertek announced the expansion of its PV module and inverter testing laboratories and capabilities in North America and China. Story at: <http://www.prweb.com/releases/2008/03/prweb802494.htm>

Intertek: <http://www.intertek.com/>

3-26-08 SMA IPO

According to this press, SMA Solar Technology AG aims to launch an IPO. Story at:

<http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/newstex/AFX-0013-24032654.htm> or <http://tinyurl.com/3a93nf>

3-26-08 Solar Silicon Conference, PV Technology Show [Maria Faidas]

For the program for the 6th Solar Silicon Conference, 1 April 2008 in Munich, Germany, go to:

http://www.photon-expo.com/en/pts_2008_europe/ssc_2008_program.htm

Registration for multiple events at: <http://www.photon-expo.com/ticket.aspx?>

See the “Preview of PHOTON’s Photovoltaic Technology Show Europe 2008” at:

<http://tinyurl.com/2dfy2u>

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

In related solar news...

3-26-08 Solar Thermal Power Plant, Kern County, California

According to press, Florida Power & Light Co.’s renewable energy subsidiary, FPL Energy, has filed an application with the California Energy Commission to build a \$1 billion, 250-MW solar thermal power plant in Kern County, California.

Stories at Greenwire [subscription]: <http://www.eenews.net/gw/>

http://www.eenews.net/eep/learn_more/

and <http://blogs.business2.com/greenwombat/2008/03/florida-utility.html>

Project description: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/beacon/index.html>

3-26-08 Apricus New Solar Thermal Facility

Apricus has announced the opening of its new production facility, an 80,00 square foot factory on 5.7 acres in Nanjing, China. Story at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=51955>

Apricus: <http://www.apricus.com/>

3-26-08 NTR in Talks with Stirling Energy

Irish utility group NTR is in preliminary talks with Stirling Energy about going into the solar energy

business in the U.S. Story at: <http://www.businessworld.ie/livenews.htm?a=2085553;s=rollingnews.htm>

or <http://tinyurl.com/yqtqlo>

3-27-08 New Sharp Thin-film Solar Cell Plant

Sharp Corp said it would spend 72 billion yen (\$729 million) to build a new thin-film solar cell plant in Sakai. Story at: <http://www.reuters.com/article/environmentNews/idUSTKV00307620080327> or

<http://tinyurl.com/2pl7nh>

<http://au.biz.yahoo.com/080327/44/1o70j.html>

Sharp: <http://solar.sharpusa.com/solar/home/0,2462,,00.html>

3-27-08 MIT Start-up Financing

1366 Technologies, a new MIT start-up aiming to make silicon solar cells competitive with coal, has secured \$12.4 million in a first round of financing co-led by North Bridge Venture Partners and Polaris Venture Partners. MIT professor, 1366 founder and CTO, Ely Sachs, noted the 1366 Technologies will be combining innovations in silicon cell architecture with manufacturing process improvements to bring multi-crystalline silicon solar cells to cost parity with coal-based electricity. More on the company and plans at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAC0728.htm> and

CNet News: http://www.news.com/8301-11128_3-9903728-54.html

MIT Technology Review: <http://www.technologyreview.com/Energy/20476/>

1366 Technologies: <http://www.1366tech.com/>

http://1366tech.com/v1/index.php?option=com_frontpage&Itemid=1

North Bridge Venture Partners: <http://www.northbridge.com/>

Polaris Venture Partners: <http://www.polarisventures.com/>

3-27-08 Hydro Investment in Ascent Solar [Brian Blackman]

Hydro has invested NOK 147 million in shares in Ascent Solar, increasing its stake from 22 to 34.8%.

The transaction is part of Hydro's engagement in energy solutions of the future. Press at Hydro:

<http://www.hydro.com/en/Press-room/News/Archive/2008/03/Hydro-strengthens-engagement-in-solar-energy-cells-of-the-future/> or <http://tinyurl.com/2rlyrh> and

<http://tinyurl.com/2orbyu>

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

3-27-08 Solar Semiconductor Private Limited Partnership with IBC Solar

Hyderabad-based Solar Semiconductor Private Limited (SSPL), a producer of PV modules, has entered into a partnership with IBC Solar AG of Germany for supply of its products worth \$575 million over the next three years. Story at: [http://www.business-](http://www.business-standard.com/common/news_article.php?leftnm=lmnu9&subLeft=3&autono=318186&tab=r)

[standard.com/common/news_article.php?leftnm=lmnu9&subLeft=3&autono=318186&tab=r](http://www.business-standard.com/common/news_article.php?leftnm=lmnu9&subLeft=3&autono=318186&tab=r) or

<http://tinyurl.com/3bu2po>

<http://tinyurl.com/3bu2po>

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

3-27-08 Platina Finance Limited Solar Energy Plant, Spain [Leo Wood]

Platina Finance Limited, a London and Paris based private fund manager specializing in renewable

energy investments, announced the start of construction of a solar energy plant in Ocana, Toledo, Spain.

The plant, financed through Platina's Mistral Energy II renewables project fund, will be managed through

Mistral Energy II's Spanish investment company, Anemoi Renovables S.L. Press (not posted) from

Platina Finance Limited: <http://www.platinafinance.com/>

3-27-08 Phoenix Solar PV Projects, Spain [Andrea Zepf]

Phoenix Solar AG and KGAL signed an agreement with a project development company acquiring the project rights to a solar park in San Clemente in the Province of Castilla La Mancha. Phoenix Solar will plan and build a solar power plant with a peak output of 5.3 MW, complete it by July 2008, and hand it over to KGAL. The plant will be constructed using modules from First Solar. The Spanish subsidiary of Phoenix Solar AG, Phoenix Solar S.L., is set to build a ground-mounted power plant with a peak output of 1.2 MW on the island of Mallorca, also using First Solar thin-film modules. An additional PV power plant of 700 kW is to be built in the Province of Castilla La Mancha using First Solar modules.

Press at Phoenix Solar:

http://www.phoenixsolar.com/Press/PressReleases/_content/articles/PM_080327.html?uri=/index.html or

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

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

KGAL: <http://www.kgal.de/>

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

3-27-08 Timminco Silicon Supply to Q-Cells

Timminco's wholly-owned subsidiary, Becancour Silicon Inc., has entered an agreement to supply solar grade silicon to Q-Cells AG. Story at Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsEUCO526.htm>

See also "Q-Cells in new silicon supply contract, raises outlook" at Cleantech™:

<http://media.cleantech.com/2631/q-cells-in-new-silicon-supply-contract-raises-outlook> or

<http://tinyurl.com/3a3xjs>

Timminco: <http://www.timminco.com/>

Q-Cells: http://www.q-cells.com/cmadmin_2_474_0.html

3-27-08 aleo solar Results

aleo solar confirmed preliminary figures for 2007 and published its annual report. Press at:

<http://www.finanznachrichten.de/nachrichten-2008-03/artikel-10432499.asp> or <http://tinyurl.com/2lss88>

aleo solar: <http://www.aleo-solar.de/en/aleo-solar-download-the-sun.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/yv25yp>

3-27-08 Rooftop Solar Installation Announcement, California

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and Southern California Edison are expected to announce the largest rooftop solar installation ever proposed by a utility in the U.S. More at:

http://www.mercurynews.com/news/ci_8713962

http://www.usatoday.com/money/industries/environment/2008-03-26-solar-energy-california_N.htm?csp=34 or <http://tinyurl.com/2pbw3m>

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/03/27/business/27solar.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/ytxcz3>

3-27-08 EI Solutions PV System for Sony Pictures, California

EI Solutions has commissioned a 235 kW solar electric system constructed for Sony Pictures Entertainment at its historic studio lot in Culver City, California. Story and photo at

Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAPR1038.htm>

EI Solutions™: <http://www.eispv.com/>

3-27-08 SonnenEnergy Solar Parks, Germany

SonnenEnergy Corp. announced that it has completed the first phase of a 10-acre solar power park in Hausen, Germany ahead of schedule. Solar Park Hausen is the 2nd solar park owned by SonnenEnergy, which also owns and operates an 11-acre solar park in Waldstetten, Germany.

Press at: <http://www.newswire.ca/en/releases/archive/March2008/27/c7592.html> or

<http://tinyurl.com/2twkcx>

SonnenEnergy: <http://www.sonnenenergy.com/>

3-27-08 More on Belmar PV, Colorado

Continuum Partners announced that 8,300 solar panels will be installed on the roof of the parking garages at its Belmar development. Construction is underway and panel installation for the 1.7 MW array is expected to begin in August 2008. The project is being financed by MMA Renewable Ventures and designed and installed by SunPower Corporation.

Press at: <http://www.sunherald.com/447/story/453865.html>

MMA Renewable Ventures: <http://www.mmarenewableventures.com/>

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

3-27-08 Polysilicon Plant in Saudi Arabia

Swicorp Joussour, Chemical Development Company, and NorSun are investing in the construction of a polysilicon plant in the city of Jubail in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Story at: <http://www.albawaba.com/en/countries/Saudi%20Arabia/224450>

3-27-08 Solarfun Results

Solarfun Power Holdings Co., Ltd. reported its unaudited financial results for the 4th quarter and year ended 31 December 2007. Press at: <http://au.biz.yahoo.com/080327/43/1o72m.html>

3-27-08 OptiSolar Plant, California

OptiSolar, Inc. is taking advantage of the \$20 million incentive offered by the County of Sacramento to locate its 600,000 square foot solar plant in McClellan Park. Story at:

<http://www.industryweek.com/ReadArticle.aspx?ArticleID=16043&SectionID=3> or <http://tinyurl.com/yteout>

OptiSolar: <http://www.optisolar.com/>

3-27-08 3S Swiss Solar Systems Semi-automatic Production Lines

3S Swiss Solar Systems is now entering into the field of complete, semi-automatic production lines. More at: <http://tinyurl.com/33js73>

3S Swiss Solar Systems: <http://www.3-s.ch/de/3s-startseite/>

<http://www.3-s.ch/en/3s-homepage/>

3-27-08 Inkjet Technology for Solar Cells

FUJIFILM Dimatix announced that its cartridge-based Dimatix Materials Printer has been used in the world's first known demonstration of inkjet technology manufacturing for PV solar cells. Researchers from Konarka Technologies published the results of using FUJIFILM Dimatix inkjet technology as a fabrication tool for the controlled deposition of its PV material, in the journal, Advanced Materials. Story at:

<http://tinyurl.com/2gyua4>

FUJIFILM: <http://www.dimatix.com/>

Konarka: <http://www.konarka.com/>

3-27-08 Navigant Consulting PV Manufacturer Shipments & Competitive Analysis 2007/2008 [Dan Tomlinson]

Navigant Consulting, Inc. announced its Photovoltaic Services Program is accepting orders for its report, Photovoltaic Manufacturer Shipments & Competitive Analysis 2007/2008. The report is due to be published mid-April. Paula Mints, Principal Analyst with the Photovoltaic Services Program, is the author of this report. More on the report at RenewableEnergyWorld:

<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?id=51978>

Navigant Consulting:

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

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

3-27-08 Zenith Solar Coverage

See coverage of Zenith Solar, an Israeli start-up at:

http://www.businessweek.com/globalbiz/content/mar2008/gb20080326_485582.htm?chan=globalbiz_europe+index+page_top+stories or <http://tinyurl.com/2saeub>

3-27-08 SatCon Results

SatCon Technology Corporation© announced its operating results for the quarter and year ended 31 December 2007.

Press at: <http://tinyurl.com/ys6gcx>

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

3-27-08 Clear Skies Solar President

Clear Skies Solar Inc. has hired Tom Oliveri as President.

Story at: <http://www.tradingmarkets.com/site/news/Stock%20News/1260740/>

Clear Skies Group: <http://www.ClearSkiesGroup.com/>

<http://www.clearskiesgroup.com/finance.htm> (see press)

3-27-08 Dyesol's Managing Director, Global

Dye solar cell technology company, Dyesol Limited has appointed Dr. Gavin Tulloch as Managing Director, Global, as the next step in globalizing its business.

Press from Dyesol: <http://tinyurl.com/yuqx7v>

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

3-27-08 PV Investors Conference [Maria Faidas]

For information on PHOTON's 3rd PV Investors Conference, 3 April 2008 in Munich, Germany, see the program at: http://www.photon-expo.com/en/pts_2008_europe/pvic_2008_program.htm or

<http://tinyurl.com/2gxj3n>

3-27-08 Renewable Energy Sector Investments

Hudson Clean Energy Partners and Credit Suisse announced that they have reached an agreement in principle whereby Credit Suisse, together with its clients and affiliates, will commit at least USD 300 million to make principal investments in the renewable energy sector through Hudson. Story at:

<http://tinyurl.com/34mspd>

Hudson Clean Energy Partners: <http://www.hudsoncep.com/>

Credit Suisse: <http://www.credit-suisse.com/us/en/>

3-27-08 Interstate Renewable Energy Council Connecting to the Grid Newsletter

The April 2008 issue of the Interstate Renewable Energy Council's "Connecting to the Grid" newsletter is available online at: <http://www.irecusa.org/index.php?id=33>

3-27-08 FPL Renewables RFP

Florida Power & Light Company announced it will issue a request for proposals to identify and select new renewable generation sources. Information at: <http://tinyurl.com/33zg2l>

3-27-08 EUCI Conferences, Grid Integration and Interconnection

See information on "Grid Integration and Storage Strategies for Renewable Energy," 22 May 2008 at:

https://www.euci.com/web_conferences/0508-REstorage/agenda.php

See also "Interconnection of Small-Scale Grid-Tied PV Systems," 26 June 2008 at:

https://www.euci.com/web_conferences/0608-ssinterconnect/agenda.php or <http://tinyurl.com/3bu6hs>

In related solar news...

3-27-08 Stirling Energy Featured

See the story "Stirling Energy takes on the solar power challenge" at USA Today:

http://www.usatoday.com/money/industries/energy/environment/2008-01-20-solar-power_N.htm?csp=34

or <http://tinyurl.com/24b8qx>

Stirling Energy: <http://www.stirlingenergy.com/>

3-28-08 More on Southern California Edison PV Roofs

Southern California Edison plans to install up to 250 MW of advanced PV generating technology on 65 million square feet of roofs on Southern California commercial buildings. Stories at RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=51983> or <http://tinyurl.com/3cazvl>

Solarbuzz: <http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNAPR1040.htm>

Cleantech™: <http://media.cleantech.com/2637/california-dreamin-of-miles-of-solar> or <http://tinyurl.com/2du5uf>

SCE Press: <http://www.sce.com/feature/solarevent.htm?from=mediawindow> or <http://tinyurl.com/2kqp4s>

3-28-08 Multi-million Dollar Deals

See the story “Solar jumps to the front of the pack” at Cleantech™:

<http://media.cleantech.com/2632/solar-jumps-to-the-front-of-the-pack> or <http://tinyurl.com/2kclcg>

3-28-08 VC Big Spending

See the story “Blood and Gore: Veep’s Firm to Spend Big on VC” through SolarPlaza

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

<http://blogs.wsj.com/environmentalcapital/2008/03/27/blood-and-gore-veeps-firm-to-spend-big-on-vc/?mod=WSJBlog> or <http://tinyurl.com/yrw47o>

3-28-08 Solar-Fabrik AG Results

Solar-Fabrik AG increased its consolidated sales in 2007, representing an increase of 104% over the previous year. More at: http://www.presseportal.de/pm/43993/1161725/solar_fabrik_ag/rss or <http://tinyurl.com/2gsoz7>

Solar-Fabrik: <http://www.solar-fabrik.com/index.php?id=27>

3-28-08 Chinese Solar Cells in Germany

See the story “Chinese solar cells swamping subsidized German market” at The Earth Times:

<http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/195187,report-chinese-solar-cells-swamping-subsidized-german-market.html> or <http://tinyurl.com/yskzbh>

3-28-08 Interview, Clear Skies Solar

The news and research portal for the renewable energy sector within InvestorIdeas.com has a close-up audio interview featuring Ezra Green, CEO and Chairman of Clear Skies Solar, Inc. Audio/Podcast at:

<http://s3.amazonaws.com/static.investorideas.com/podcasts/2008/030408a.mp3> or

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

InvestorIdeas.com: <http://www.investorideas.com/>

<http://www.renewableenergystocks.com/Companies/RenewableEnergy/NewsReleases.asp> or

<http://tinyurl.com/2lxsby>

3-28-08 Solar Electric Light Fund in Benin

The Solar Electric Light Fund is working to install low-cost micro-irrigation and solar water pumps in two villages in Kalalé District. See the story “Solar Electric Light Fund Tackles Benin’s Arid Land” at

RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=51912> or

<http://tinyurl.com/3962oj>

Solar Electric Light Fund: <http://www.self.org/>

3-28-08 Wall Street Green Trading Summit VII

For more on the Wall Street Green Trading Summit VII, 2-3 April in New York, go to

RenewableEnergyWorld: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?id=51992> or

<http://tinyurl.com/2ymqsg>

Summit: <http://www.wsgts.com/>