

MBIPV Industry News Q1/2008

PV Industry Development and Enhancement Program

Editorial

Dear MBIPV and industry stakeholders

This year's MBIPV theme is 'SURIA 1000 in bloom', but what about PV? Is 'PV in bloom'? Considering markets in Europe and in the USA; PV is certainly in bloom – or better phrased, the industry is b(l)ooming. Thanks to forward thinking politicians and an oil price recently closing in on the US\$100 mark, it is hardly surprising the current hype and booming development in the industry. And will the future for solar energy remain so bright? Different reports from global leading banks (e.g. Bank Sarasin and CLSA) and leading consulting companies and publishers (e.g. Navigant, Photon International) paint a very bright perspective, and forecast a yearly growth of 40-50% for the rest of the decade, and then a further 20-25% a year until 2020, until grid parity is achieved in few countries in Europe (Italy, Spain, France), in Japan and few states in the USA (California, Hawaii). And as soon as grid-parity is achieved, the market will sky rocket. So, for the PV industry the race for grid parity is on, to be the first to achieve the break-through with cost-effective products. Can Malaysia industry become a part of it? Follow our newsletter and read about our industry development program and events to upscale the local industry capabilities.

For further information regarding the activities in MBIPV, or the industry enhancement activities or if you are interested to send us your feedback, please send an email to nazri@ptm.org.my. Please visit also our website www.ptm.org.my/bipv for further information on events and facts & figures.

MBIPV C4 News

Industry development program in 2008

In five to ten years Malaysia can become a serious global player in the PV business providing that the government is committed to introduce a sustainable PV policy (feed-in tariff) in Malaysia. A critical success factors is to follow the learning curve and learn from international examples. In 2008, we'll conduct four industry missions, which serve this purpose and offer excellent opportunities for matchmaking, getting latest product and industry information, and to network. Please visit www.ptm.org.my/bipv/C4ms.html for detailed information and registration.

Industry Events

Finance and investment forum on PV technology, 17th March 2008

The Finance and Investment Forum on PV on 17th March 2008 will address the increasing interest and questions from the local finance sector concerning the PV technology. The event will also give an update of the key drivers for a strong market growth and is supported by IEA-PVPS. It will give exposure and increase of awareness for the local stakeholders on the finance opportunities in PV technology and PV business. The event will be held in the KL Tower (4th tallest telecom towers in the world), to give an elevated insight to the PV business and targets finance institutions, consulting companies and industry. Keynote speakers come from CLSA, Epuron, IEA-PVPS, MAVCAP and KSC. For registration, please visit our website www.ptm.org.my/bipv/C4ws.html

Seminar and colloquium on R&D and Quality control on PV technology, May 2008

The seminar and colloquium address the need for R&D on PV products and sound quality control, as well as the R&D activities in Malaysia with focus on PV products. The morning session is open for public with presentations from international and local experts. The afternoon session is in the form of a colloquium and limited to 30 pax from the Universities. The colloquium will discuss national research and development strategy, commercialization of R&D projects, project management and team building, product quality and testing. Participants are invited from Universities, TNB, ST, IKRAM and Ministries (MEWC, MOSTI, etc.), local industry (PV system integrators) and industry associations (MPIA, FFM, etc.). *Please check our website for final date.*

Asia PV News

Oerlikon Solar Invests in Singapore to Build up Asia Business

Oerlikon Solar announced on 11th January 2008 to invest approx. RM100 million in a new facility to boost its presence and proximity to customers in Asia, while continuing to expand production, development and support for their leading thin-film silicon solar energy solutions. The facility will initially employ approximately 100 people and is planned to be completed within a year.

Google investing in renewable energy, including PV

Search engine giant Google Inc. is devoting some of its vast fortune to the search for renewable energy sources, pledging tens of millions of dollars to finding ways of generating electricity in 2008. The company's initiative will focus on advanced solar thermal, photovoltaic and wind power technologies, as well as enhanced geothermal systems. The initiative is known as RE<C. The company also said it expects to invest hundreds of millions of dollars in "breakthrough" renewable energy projects over time, which will eventually pay off by lowering the cost of the massive amounts of energy its data centres around the world require.



1.6MWp PV system at Google HQ

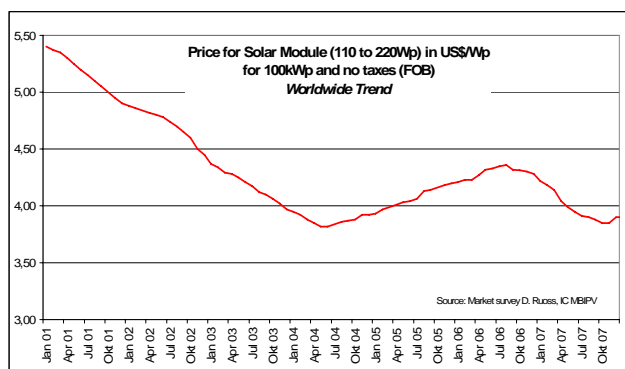
First Solar acquires Turner Renewable Energy for RM120 million in cash

First Solar Inc. said it has acquired Turner Renewable Energy LLC for RM120 million in cash and First Solar stock. The company will operate as a subsidiary of First Solar under the name First Solar Electric LLC. Turner Renewable Energy has operated under the name DT Solar, a Turner Renewable Energy company, since January, when entrepreneur Ted Turner (CNN founder) invested in the company, First Solar said. DT Solar designs and deploys commercial solar projects for utilities and companies.

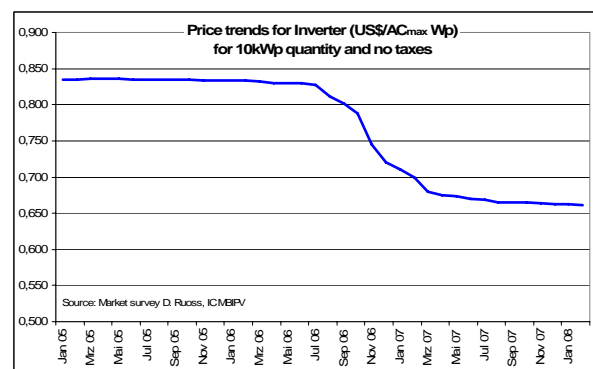
Price Index

The following graphs present the **global trend for the price of solar modules and inverters**. The price is reflecting retail cost, includes no taxes and serves as an indication only.

Solar modules (1st February 2008)



Inverters (1st February 2008)



Important Events

<p>February 17-21, 2008 3rd Int. Solar Cities Congress Adelaide, Australia www.solarcitiescongress.com.au</p>	<p>March 5-7, 2008 World Sustainable Energy Days 2008 Wels, Austria www.wsed.at</p>	<p>May 10-12, 2008 SNEC & CESEE Exhibition Shanghai, China www.snec.org.cn</p>	<p>July 30 - August 1, 2008 Trade fair: PV Japan 2008 Tokyo, Japan www.pvjapan2008.org</p>
<p>February 19-23, 2008 Trade fair: Solar Energy 2008 Berlin, Germany www.messen-profair.de</p>	<p>March 5-7, 2008 2008 Asia Solar Energy Photovoltaic Exhibition and Forum Shanghai, China www.asiasolarexpo.com</p>	<p>May 21-23, 2008 International Green Energy Expo Korea 2008 Daegu, Korea www.energyexpo.co.kr</p>	<p>September 1-5, 2008 23rd European Photovoltaic Solar Energy Conference and Exhibition Valencia, Spain www.photovoltaic-conference.com</p>
<p>February 27-29, 2008 1st Int. PV Power Generation Expo Tokyo, Japan www.pvexpo.jp</p>	<p>March 31 - April 2, 2008 4th Newgrace International Solar PV Exhibition Shanghai, China www.ch-solar.com</p>	<p>June 4-7, 2008 Conference & Exhibition: Renewable Energy Asia 2008 Bangkok, Thailand www.cmpthailand.com</p>	<p>October 13-17, 2008 Solar Power 2008 San Diego, CA - United States www.solarpowerconference.com</p>
<p>March 1-8, 2008 WIREC 2008 Washington DC, USA www.wirec2008.org</p>	<p>April 2-4, 2008 Photovoltaic Technology Show 2008 Europe Munich, Germany www.photon-expo.com</p>	<p>June 12-14, 2008 Intersolar 2008 Munich, Germany www.intersolar.de</p>	<p>October 21-23, 2008 Trade fair & Conference: Power-Gen Asia 2008 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia www.powergenasia.com</p>

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.ptm.org.my/bipv.