

MBIPV Industry News Q1/2009

PV Industry Development and Enhancement Program

Editorial

Dear MBIPV and industry stakeholders

Happy New Year, Gong Xi Fa Chai – we hope this year will bring peace, good health and prosperity to you. In 2009, MBIPV's theme is 'attractive returns from PV' and hopefully this applies to all of our readers. The Ministry of Energy, Water and Communications is studying the possibility of adopting feed-in tariff (FiT) for the use of renewable energies (RE), as does the Government in the UK, Australia, India and other countries worldwide. The current looming financial crisis is no excuse not to embark on a RE/PV policy to stimulate the industry sector. The USA is, for once, a positive example in developing the local RE industry and has committed to provide significant stimuli in the near future. In slowing economic environment, countries have to look to invest in alternative energy and PV particularly, as an excellent way to support economic growth, create new jobs and increase national energy security.

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 such as Director General MIDA, CEO Motech Solar, CEO SERIS, CEO M+W Zander 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 conveniently 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/past_events.htm.

SEA PV News

Malaysia is rising from its Electronics Manufacturing Roots

Malaysia is becoming a major player in biotechnology, medical device manufacturing, semiconductors, solar power, and value-added hi-tech production. Malaysia's investments are attracting the brand-name companies of today and promising to woo the emerging-tech industries of tomorrow. The nation's economic and political stability, along with its pro-business government, offer a solid framework for technology companies to expand there. With Malaysia streamlining its business approval processes and investing more in capital improvements, economic development experts say this is just the beginning for the Asian nation. These measures undertaken by the government have resulted in Malaysia moving up its ease-of-doing business ranking four places to 20th out of a total of 181 economies surveyed in the World Bank's Doing Business 2009 report.

Asia PV News

Simon Tsuo (CEO Motech Solar) featured in CNN (January 2009)

Dr. Simon Tsuo – who has confirmed to participate in our PV seminar in Penang 15th June 2009 – was recently featured in CNN. Dr. Tsuo first saw the light in renewable energy 25 years ago. The then-researcher founded Motech Solar 8 years ago and turned it into a top ten PV manufacturing company with over 800 employees and generating annual revenues exceeding RM 2 billions. Dr Tsuo highlighted the biggest challenge for him is to be a leading researcher and a company CEO at the same time. We look forward to learn more from Dr. Tsuo in the upcoming PV seminar 15th June 2009 in Penang.



Toshiba opens Doors to PV Business

Toshiba Corp. has established a PV division to supply large solar power generation systems, combining its system integration know-how with their high-efficiency power conditioning systems and rechargeable ion batteries. The new unit will focus on megawatt-scale PV projects for utility and industrial plants. Toshiba plans to capture 1/10 of that market by 2015, utilizing existing global sales channels. Toshiba will procure PV panels from as-yet unselected outside companies – very unusual for a Japanese company not producing its own panels – and produce inverters and transformers in-house.

Asia PV News

Suntech Power (China) is reaching 1 GW Production Capacity

Suntech Power is the world's first PV company to achieve 1 GW of solar cell and module production capacity, and thus grabbing the pole position in PV manufacturing. Suntech Power also announced the opening of its new, state of the art solar headquarters in Wuxi, China. The HQ incorporates the world's largest grid-connected PV façade system (1 MWp), with over 2,550 semi-transparent Light Thru™ PV panels. In addition, the HQ features energy efficient building materials, geothermal temperature control, light sensors and a comprehensive water recycling system.



International PV News

UK and Australia progress on Feed-in Tariffs (FiT)

The Queen gave her "royal assent" to Britain's long-debated Energy Bill end 2008, putting into law Britain's commitment to dramatically cut its greenhouse gas emissions. The Energy Bill also contained provisions calling on the Labour government to implement a system of feed-in tariffs for small renewable energy producers by 2010. The feed-in tariff provisions were once unthinkable in the British political landscape. Australia meanwhile is still thrashing out a nationalised, uniform gross feed in tariff program as proposed in a bill earlier this year. While most states offer feed in tariffs, prices and conditions vary widely and most are based on a net model that provides little incentive for home owners to install solar power systems.

Masdar City rises from Desert Land powered mostly by Solar

Masdar City is the brainchild of Masdar, a government-funded initiative (in Abu Dhabi) to create a 6.5 km² eco-friendly city that would be able to house 50,000 people in a sustainable way. The energy is mostly provided by solar (PV and concentrating solar power). The kick-off is a 10 MWp PV power plant, which is currently being erected in the sand, and it's scheduled to be completed and hooked to the electric grid in March 2009. Suntech Power (China) and First Solar (USA) supply the turn-key solutions, each 5 MWp.



Important Events

February 9, 2009
2009 European Renewable Energy Policy
Conference
Brussels, Belgium
www.erec.org

February 25-27, 2009
PV Expo 2009: 2nd International Photovoltaic
Power Generation Expo
Tokyo, Japan
www.pvexpo.jp

February 25-27, 2009
Conference: World Sustainable Energy Days
2009
Wels, Austria
www.wsed.at

February 25-27, 2009
International Solar Energy Expo & Conference
(EXPO Solar)
Seoul, Korea
www.exposolar.org

March 3-5, 2009
Renewtech India 2008
Pune, India
www.online.com

March 3-6, 2009 PHOTON's Events:
PV Technology Show 2009 Europe
7th Solar Silicon & 4th PV Production Equipment &
4th PV Investors & 1st PV Bottleneck Conference
Munich, Germany
www.photon-expo.com

March 30 - April 1, 2009
4th Asia Solar Photovoltaic Exhibition
Shanghai, China
www.asiasolarexpo.com

April 8-10, 2009
International Green Energy Expo Korea 2009
Daegu, Korea
www.energyexpo.co.kr

April 21-24, 2009
PV Tech Expo China
Shanghai, China
www.nepconchina.com

May 6-8, 2009
SNEC PV Power Expo 2009
Shanghai, China
www.snec.org.cn

May 12-16, 2009
Conference & Exhibition: Solar 2009
Buffalo, New York, USA
www.ases.org

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

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.