

# MBIPV Industry News Q3/2008

## PV Industry Development and Enhancement Program

### Editorial

Dear MBIPV and industry stakeholders

Driven by fast escalating oil prices and global warming many Governments are forced to revise their energy strategy for the coming next decade. Renewable energies (RE), especially harvesting solar energy, are the most promising solution, despite strong lobbying and fairy tales on nuclear energy. Solar energy is projected to supply 30% of the world energy hunger by 2050, and creating an industry far exceeding today's global automotive industry. As with other power producers, even nuclear, a supportive mechanism for the development of these environmental benign technologies needs to be implemented. The best policy is the 'feed-in tariff', also for Malaysia, and it is high noon to switch to RE and open the door for the local industry to benefit.

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

### MBIPV C4 News

#### Thin Film Round-Table Discussions

Starting June 24, 2008, PTM/MBIPV team organized four round-table discussions with global leading thin film equipment solution providers, such as Oerlikon Solar, Anwell, Applied Materials and NanoPV. All events were a success and well attended with over 60 participants in each event. For those who missed the events, we have uploaded all presentations on our website at [www.mbipv.net.my/past\\_events.htm](http://www.mbipv.net.my/past_events.htm).

### Industry Events

#### National PV Conference

The conference and mini exhibition will be held on 14<sup>th</sup> August 2008 at Putrajaya Marriott Hotel in Putrajaya, Malaysia. This year, the theme of the conference is 'Movers and Shakers of PV Markets' with views from International PV Policy and Industry Experts from SEMI, Q-Cells, Sunpower and First Solar on what it takes to rock the PV markets in particular for Malaysia and the surrounding ASEAN neighbors.

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> PV Industry and Policy Mission to 23<sup>rd</sup> EU PVSEC in Valencia, Spain

MBIPV/PTM is organizing another PV Industry and Policy Mission in September 2008. In conjunction with the 23<sup>rd</sup> EU PVSEC in Valencia, Spain from 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> Sept 2008, we are visiting the conference and exhibition, and on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sept a 800 kWp PV system.

### SEA PV News

#### Sunpower to Build 1 GW Cell Fab in Malaysia

The two-phase capacity expansion will see the first phase come on-stream in 2010 with 14 solar cell production lines with a nameplate capacity of 40 MW each. Phase 2 will see Fab 3, top 1 GW in annual capacity. "Fab 3 campus in Malaysia will be a core element of our technology and manufacturing roadmap that drives us to our 50 percent cost reduction plan by 2012," said Tom Werner, CEO of SunPower Corp.



#### Singapore-based PV Company Delivering Higher PV Module Efficiency up to 20%

By utilizing quantum-dot nanotechnology and photonic technology, Mentarix Pte Ltd plans to design and manufacture products that can increase photovoltaic cell efficiency by at least 20% from today. The technology is applicable to traditional crystalline silicon cells as well as thin film cells based on cadmium telluride/cadmium sulfide (CdTe/CdS), copper indium gallium selenide (CIGS) and amorphous silicon.

#### First Solar inaugurates the Malaysian Manufacturing Plant in Kulim Hi-Tech Park, Kedah

22<sup>nd</sup> July 2008, First Solar inaugurated the first of its four solar module manufacturing plants. The investment of RM 2.2 billion will bring more than 2,000 jobs when fully operational. "We are confident that all Malaysians will benefit and applaud First Solar's commitment to their environmental responsibility," said YAB Dato' Seri Ustaz Azizan Bin Abdul Razak, Chief Minister of Kedah Darul Aman.

**Oversupply of Silicon to Be Worse Than Expected**

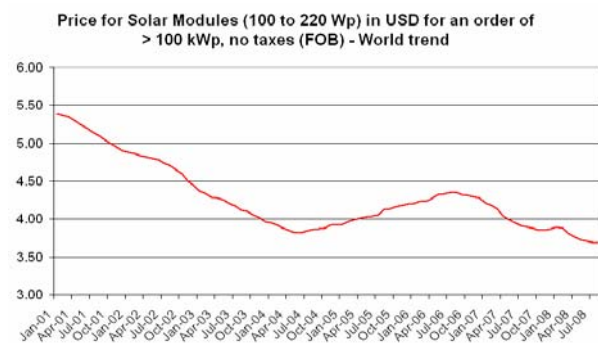
A solar industry forecast by the Prometheus Institute (USA) shows the solar industry increases its silicon production significantly but absorbing the material will take longer than originally predicted. The institute estimates the solar industry's supply of silicon will be 83% higher than its demand in 2010, cutting average module prices around 40% from 2007. In addition, they forecast that thin-film solar would make up to 30% of solar production capacity in 2010. Part of the reason for the anticipated drop is that the amount of silicon for the solar industry to quadruple from 30,000 tons in 2007 to 125,000 tons in 2012, and the demand will not really change at all. As a result, it is estimated that the oversupply problem will be worse than expected.

**Storm Clouds on Horizon for Solar Business**

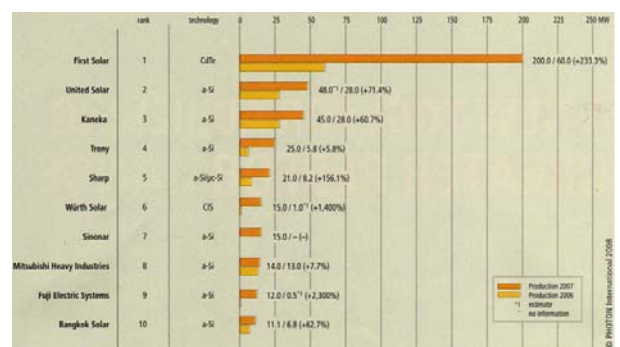
The PV business is bracing itself for a collapse in prices that could lead to a shake-out in one of the most promising areas of the renewable energy sector. Expectations of falling prices have been sparked by a huge surge in the production capacity. This is likely to lead supply to outstripping demand by end of 2008. Another factor driving prices is uncertainty over the degree of government subsidies in some key markets for the technology. Prices for solar components would drop and this could prompt consolidation in the sector within the next six months, with smaller players falling prey to longer established companies.

The following graphs present the **global trend for the price of solar modules and the top 10 PV thin film module producers**. The price is reflecting retail cost, no taxes and serves for indication only. The latest graph on the top 10 PV thin film module producers in 2007 (ref: Photon International, April 2008).

Solar modules (1<sup>st</sup> Aug 2008)



Top 10 PV Thin Film Module Producers 2007



**Important Events**

<p><b>August 14, 2008</b>  <b>Conference: National PV Conference 2008</b>                      Putrajaya, Malaysia  <a href="http://www.mbipv.net.my">www.mbipv.net.my</a></p>	<p><b>September 27-30, 2008</b>  <b>10th China Solar PV Conference &amp; Exhibition</b>                      Changzhou, China  <a href="http://www.trinasolar.com">www.trinasolar.com</a></p>	<p><b>October 13-17, 2008</b>  <b>Conference &amp; Exhibition: Renewable Energy 2008</b>                      Busan, Korea  <a href="http://www.re2008.org">www.re2008.org</a></p>	<p><b>November 25-28, 2008</b>  <b>PV Tech Milan 2008 - 5th International Exhibition on Photovoltaic Industry &amp; Technologies</b>                      Milan, Italy  <a href="http://www.artenergy.it">www.artenergy.it</a></p>
<p><b>August 21-23, 2008</b>  <b>Conference &amp; Exhibition: Renewable Energy India 2008 Expo</b>                      New Delhi, India  <a href="http://www.renewableenergyindiaexpo.com">www.renewableenergyindiaexpo.com</a></p>	<p><b>October 7-8, 2008</b>  <b>Photovoltaic Forum &amp; Exhibition Taiwan 2008</b>                      Taipei, Taiwan  <a href="http://www.taiwantrade.com.tw">www.taiwantrade.com.tw</a></p>	<p><b>October 21-23, 2008</b>  <b>Trade fair &amp; Conference: Power-Gen Asia 2008</b>                      Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  <a href="http://www.powergenasia.com">www.powergenasia.com</a></p>	<p><b>November 26-28, 2008</b>  <b>ISES 3rd Asia Pacific Congress</b>                      Sydney, Australia  <a href="http://www.ises.org">www.ises.org</a></p>
<p><b>September 1-5, 2008</b>  <b>23rd European Photovoltaic Solar Energy Conference and Exhibition</b>                      Valencia, Spain  <a href="http://www.photovoltaic-conference.com">www.photovoltaic-conference.com</a></p>	<p><b>October 7-10, 2008</b>  <b>Conference &amp; Exhibition: Clean Energy Asia 2008</b>                      Singapore  <a href="http://www.terrapinn.com/2007/solar/">www.terrapinn.com/2007/solar/</a></p>	<p><b>October 27-30, 2008</b>  <b>5th International Congress of Nanotechnology</b>                      San Francisco, California, USA  <a href="http://www.ianano.org">www.ianano.org</a></p>	<p><b>December 2, 2008</b>  <b>1st PHOTON PV Start-up Conference</b>                      San Francisco, California, USA  <a href="http://www.photon-expo.com">www.photon-expo.com</a></p>
<p><b>September 9-11, 2008</b>  <b>Trade fair: Semicon Taiwan 2008</b>                      Taipei, Taiwan  <a href="http://www.semi.org">www.semi.org</a></p>	<p><b>October 13-17, 2008</b>  <b>Solar Power 2008</b>                      San Diego, United States  <a href="http://www.solarpowerconference.com">www.solarpowerconference.com</a></p>	<p><b>November 20-23, 2008</b>  <b>Exhibition: Photovoltaic 2008</b>                      Athens, Greece  <a href="http://www.leaderexpo.gr">www.leaderexpo.gr</a></p>	<p><b>December 3, 2008</b>  <b>1st PHOTON PV Thin-film Conference</b>                      San Francisco, California, USA  <a href="http://www.photon-expo.com">www.photon-expo.com</a></p>

**Further Information**

Following links provide further information on industry and country news:

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

