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Polysilicon spot price posts mild drop

Nuying Huang, Taipei; Esther Lam, DIGITIMES [Tuesday 22 July 2008]

Despite the spot price of polysilicon still remaining high, a mild weakening sign has been seen over the recent month. Some industry players attributed the drop to a decline of urgent orders as the solar system installation incentive program in Spain is going to expire soon.

The spot price of polysilicon dropped by about 6.6% to US\$420 per ton, down from US\$450 as recorded in mid June. The price at one point surged to US\$515 in the first half of 2008, said industry players. Price of scrap semiconductor wafer materials has also dropped by about 6-7% to US\$360 kg, down from US\$380-390 in May. The price of scrap wafer materials has surged by over 20% in the first six months of 2008 from US\$300 recorded in late 2007.

Some industry players explained the mild drop to the upcoming expiration of a solar-system installation incentive program in Spain, which resulted in a decline in urgent orders and corresponding polysilicon demand. But they noted that the price gap between spot and contract market is still huge. Settled contract price for per ton polysilicon is about US\$200 in 2008.

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