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Neo Solar Power to start producing thin-film solar cells in 2009; aims for a power conversion rate of 10%

Nuying Huang, Taipei; Esther Lam, DIGITIMES [Thursday 14 August 2008]

Neo Solar Power held the opening ceremony for its new crystalline solar cell fab in Hsinchu, Taiwan, on August 13. Operation will be started as scheduled, and the company has also revealed more details regarding its thin-film solar cell deployment.

The specialized R&D team for thin-film solar cell believes that only products delivering a power conversion rate of over 10% will be competitive, therefore Neo Solar Power will set a conversion rate of 10% as its standard when moving products in volume, said company CEO Quincy Lin. He highlighted that this standard is much higher than the present average of 5-7% and the company will mainly produce its thin-film solar cells using a tandem junction process, he added.

FC Tseng, vice president of Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (TSMC), which also participated in the opening ceremony, stressed the importance of cost down when promoting solar energy. Since per unit electricity cost in Taiwan from solar is NT\$15-17, compared with NT\$2 using traditional sources of electric power, and there needs to be an urgency to narrow down the gap between the two methods, he said.



Powerchip Semiconductor Corporation (PSC) chairman Frank Huang (left), TSMC vice president FC Tseng (middle)

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and Neo Solar Power CEO Quincy Lin (right).

Photo: Nuying Huang, Digitimes, August 2008

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