

PRINT Back Back twice

Global PV demand should not be affected by recent policy changes

Nuying Huang, Taipei; Esther Lam, DIGITIMES [Wednesday 10 September 2008]

Executives from the solar industry in Taiwan expressed confidence about photovoltaic (PV) demand in 2009, despite beliefs that demand may be affected by the expiration of a solar system installation program in Spain in the near term. These executives were speaking about the industry during the ongoing PV Power Expo Taiwan 2008 (September 9-11).

Chi-Yao Tsai, general manager at E-ton Solar Tech, indicated that the upcoming expiration of a subsidy program at Spain will inevitably affect solar cell demand in 2009. But given that substantial demand should be seen in regions such as Abu Dhabi, Bulgaria, France, Germany and Italy, the market should not see too much of an effect, he said. Japan is also a region that is expected to deliver substantial growth as its planned policies for renewable energy will not be affected by the recent resignation of the country's prime minister, he added.

Chung-Wen Lan, director-general of Industrial Technology Research Institute (ITRI)'s Photovoltaics Technology Center, indicated that solar-cell demand may mostly come from Germany in 2009, as there is no subsidy ceiling for solar system installation and that the subsidy amount at Germany will be among the highest (US\$5 per watt).

Lan also pointed to Japan, saying Taiwan players should pay more attention to that market. Since the Japan government has set a goal of having four billion watts of solar energy installed by 2010, a minimum of installation amount of one billion watts has to be achieved in 2009 and 2010, he explained. Therefore, demand should be supported, he added.

Doris Hsu, general manager at Sino-American Silicon Products (SAS), indicated that polysilicon will still be in short supply for crystalline solar cells in 2009, implying that demand will remain strong. She only expects an ease of material supply in 2010 when polysilicon players from China, Europe and Russia increase their output. Given that the entire industry is dedicated to suppressing costs, the potential of achievement grid parity promises to deliver strong demand in the future, she said.



Doris Hsu from SAS, Lan from ITRI and Tsai from E-ton discuss global demand at the PV Power Expo (from left to

Global PV demand should not be affected by recent policy changes

right)

Photo: Nuying Huang, Digitimes, September 2008

Related stories:

[Price of polysilicon and solar wafers remain high \(Sep 4\)](#)

[Solar cell contract prices to be flat on year in 2009 \(Sep 4\)](#)

[E-ton: Solar-cell bookings to exceed capacity in 2009 \(Sep 3\)](#)

© DIGITIMES Inc. All rights reserved.

Please do not republish, publicly broadcast or publicly transmit content from this website without written permission from DIGITIMES Inc.
Please [contact us](#) if you have any questions.