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# Taiwan solar wafer maker Danen obtains orders from German solar cell maker

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Danen Technology, a Taiwan-based producer of solar-grade polycrystalline silicon wafers founded in November 2007, has obtained orders from a large maker of solar cells in Germany, with shipments beginning recently, according to company president James Fang.

Danen adopts two kinds of polycrystalline silicon (poly-Si) material to grow polycrystalline silicon ingots which are then sliced into wafers, one is solar-grade poly-Si made by UMG (upgraded metallurgical grade) process and the other is conventional semiconductor-grade poly-Si, Fang pointed out.

UMG solar-grade poly-Si is much less expensive but of lower silicon purity and thus entails higher manufacturing cost than semiconductor-grade poly-Si, Fang explained. The growing process of ingots from UMG solar-grade poly-Si is not the same as that from semiconductor-grade poly-Si, with the former accounting for 60% and the latter for 40% of Danen's total production capacity, Fang indicated. Among Taiwan-based fellow makers, the overall proportion of solar-grade polycrystalline silicon wafer output by using UMG solar-grade poly-Si is very low currently, Fang pointed out.

Danen will reach an annual production capacity of 60MWp (megawatt-peak) in equivalent at the end of 2008 and will expand the capacity to 200-250MWp in equivalent in 2009, Fang indicated. In the meantime, Danen will upgrade its wafer-slicing technology to a wafer thickness of 160  $\mu$  m (millionth of a meter), Fang noted.

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