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Solar wafer maker SAS expects October revenues to hit all-time high

Nuying Huang, Taipei; Adam Hwang, DIGITIMES [Tuesday 3 November 2009]

Taiwan-based solar wafer maker Sino-American Silicon Products (SAS) expects to hit record revenues in October due to booming sales, according to company president Doris Hsu. SAS has fully utilized its production capacity for both solar-grade and semiconductor-grade wafers, as well as for patterned sapphire substrates for LEDs, Hsu added.

SAS will expand its solar wafer capacity to 400MWp by the end of 2009 and, depending on market demand, plans to further expand it to 600-800MWp in 2010, 800-1,000MWp in 2011 and 1,000-1,200MWp in 2012, Hsu said at an investors' conference on November 2.

Wafer Works, a Taiwan-based fellow maker, said it will expand its monthly capacity of 8-inch semiconductor-grade wafers from 320,000 wafers currently to 700,000 in three years. The capacity for patterned sapphire substrates will increase from 65,000 units to 100,000 units by the end of 2009, the company said at the same investors conference.

For solar-grade wafers, China-based Solargiga Energy, of which Wafer Works is a main shareholder, will hike its capacity of monocrystalline wafers from the previous 200MWp to 400MWp by the end of 2009, Wafer Works said.

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