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## ACTIVITIES

### Solar energy expo to open in Shanghai on May 16

The world's largest solar energy expo, the sixth SNEC International Photovoltaic Power Generation Exhibition, will open on May 16 at the Shanghai New International Expo Center. Highlights of the event include a "Solar Leaders Dialogue" on May 15 that will include representatives from industry associations in Asia, Europe and North America, CEOs from leading photovoltaic companies and other major stakeholders in the industry. At a May 17 session for advanced photovoltaic (PV) technologies, technical heads from leading photovoltaic companies and other industry experts will discuss the latest in cutting-edge technologies. On the same day, CEOs and top technical officers from Asia, Europe and North America will share their insights on future trends in the market and government policies for the PV industry. On May 18, the China Cross-Straits Workshop on PV Systems and Investment will be held. Extensive discussion on the possibility of installing photovoltaic systems on the roofs of Taiwan-invested factories on the mainland will be the focus of the workshop as it considers support policies from the central and local governments, grid connections and

electricity pricing.

## Shandong High-level Forum on Construction of Ecological Province & 5<sup>th</sup> International Exhibition on Green Industry, August 31 - September 2, 2012, Jinan

The Forum and Exhibition are organized by the Shandong Provincial Environmental Protection Department and sponsored by the People's Government of Shandong Province.

**Integrated Exhibition on Energy-Saving and Pollution Reduction Projects**  
Achievement Exhibition of Energy Saving and Pollution Reduction Projects: Achievements of "the Eleventh Five-Year Plan" on energy saving and pollution reduction, river basin management and ecological restoration, measures of economic growth transferring and industry reconstructing will be exhibited by all 17 municipal cities from Shandong province.

**Demand Exhibition for Energy Saving and Pollution Reduction Technologies:** In accordance with the "Twelfth Five-Year Plan" and combining environmental bottleneck problems, hundreds of projects which demand advanced energy-saving and pollution reduction technologies will be selected.

**Exhibition on Energy-Saving and Environmentally Friendly Technologies and Products and International Exhibition on Energy-Saving and Environmentally Friendly Technologies and Products:** Pollution prevention, cleaner production, energy-saving and emission reduction, comprehensive environmental service, comprehensive utilization of resources, environment monitoring, environment engineering design and construction, ecological restoration.

**Green Products Exhibition:** construction materials, transportation vehicles, home appliances and furniture, agricultural products.

**Technical Forum:** Forums and seminars will be organized based on the objectives and tasks presented in the Twelfth-Five Year Environmental Plan and in combination with the environmental bottleneck analysis. The topics refer to environmental protection, environmental protection industry policies, modern advanced technologies and products promotion, modern service and management practices on environmental protection, etc.

Exhibition fees: Booth: USD3,000/9m<sup>2</sup> (standard configuration), Raw space: USD300/m<sup>2</sup>  
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## ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

### First half of 2012 worst time for Chinese wind industry

China's wind market bubble will deflate as the industry enters the worst year in its history, said the Spanish wind turbine maker Gamesa. "The first half of 2012 is the worst time in the last four years, triggering a faster industry consolidation," said Jorge Calvet, Chairman of the company. Even though China consolidated its position as the world's wind power leader in both newly and cumulative installed capacities in 2011, with 18 gigawatt (GW) of wind turbines installed, that was down 6.9% year-on-year. As a result of the slowdown, Gamesa received no orders in the first quarter of 2012. "We will see even faster deflation in the first half of 2013," Calvet said. The Spanish turbine maker is the only wind company that recorded higher profits in 2011. China's wind industry has excessive capacity, going from 10 to 12 manufacturers in 2005 to more than 85 in 2011, according to Calvet. Li Junfeng, Director of the China Renewable Energy Industries Association, said China's wind power industry encountered many difficulties in 2011, including slower wind farm construction and many accidents in the sector, but nevertheless managed to overcome all the hardships and demonstrated excellent performance by the end of the year. In addition, quality issues last year led to the disconnection of 702 wind turbines from the power grid in the city of Jiuquan in Gansu province and 644 wind turbines in Zhangjiakou, Hebei province. Since then, China has attached greater importance to wind turbine quality. Gamesa plans to bring its first G10 model, a 4.5 MW wind turbine, to China this year and is currently in the process of site selection. About 95% of the components used in its 2 MW model, which is manufactured in Tianjin, are procured in China. Foreign turbine makers, apart from GE, occupied a smaller market share in newly installed capacity in 2011. Vestas dropped from the 6<sup>th</sup> place in 2010 to 8<sup>th</sup> place in 2011.

It had 661.9 MW of wind turbines installed in China in 2011, holding 3.8% of the Chinese market. GE climbed from 14<sup>th</sup> place in 2010 to 11<sup>th</sup> place in 2011. It had 408.5 MW of turbines installed in China in 2011, taking a 2.3% market share. Gamesa rose from 8<sup>th</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> place, and had a global market share of 8.2%, according to the Danish consultancy BTM Consult. China's cumulative wind power capacity amounted to 62.4 GW, up 39.4% year-on-year, by the end of 2011, the China Daily reports.

### CNPC and Shell to explore for shale gas in Xinjiang

China National Petroleum Corp (CNPC) is negotiating with Royal Dutch Shell and another foreign firm to jointly explore shale gas in the Santanghu Basin of Xinjiang Uygur, the latest move after the two oil majors inked the country's first production-sharing contract (PSC) for a shale gas block in Sichuan province in March. The major aim of the cooperation is to introduce cutting-edge foreign technologies and management expertise to explore shale gas in a fast and efficient manner. The three are now in commercial talks on block division and work requirements during the exploration phase, CNPC said. Shell and New York-based Hess Corp will bear the entire investment during the exploration period before entering the development period, when a production-sharing contract (PSC) will be introduced. CNPC did not reveal the investment amount. CNPC President Zhou Jiping said in March that the company plans to produce 1 billion cubic meters (BCM) of shale gas by 2015. China aims to produce 6.5 BCM annually by 2015. The company will also set up pilot zones in Sichuan and Yunnan to turn the resources into reserves. If China exploits unconventional gas, the nation's dependence on imports of natural gas will be less than 10% within 20 years. Otherwise, the dependency rate may be as high as 70%, said Pan Jiping, Researcher at the Ministry of Land and Resources.

### Gearbox maker to diversify

China High Speed Transmission Equipment Group, the nation's largest producer of gearboxes for wind power turbines, plans to spend about CNY400 million this year to develop new businesses as growth of its core business slows and price competition intensifies. The new businesses include light-emitting diode (LED) lighting and coal mining equipment production. The Nanjing-based company, which also makes gearboxes for railway locomotives, vessels, construction and manufacturing equipment, is struggling with falling profits in the wind gearbox business that made up 67% of last year's sales. The firm posted a 59.7% decline in net profit to CNY556.97 million for last year, 27% lower than the CNY767.85 million average estimate of 21 analysts polled by Thomson Reuters. Underlying net profit slid 49.3% to CNY645.21 million. Gross profit margin for wind gearboxes tumbled to 27.2% from 31.2%, with the average selling price declining 12%. Chairman Hu Yueming said he could not see much improvement this year on both margin and prices, saying that the firm's target was to maintain last year's margin. He said it must look to new markets and products for growth. Hu said China has great demand for LED lighting, which can be 80% more energy-efficient than incandescent lamps, although he conceded China was behind the curve on technology development compared with Japan, South Korea and Taiwan. The firm aims to have sales from gearboxes account for less than half its total sales by 2015, he said. DBS Vickers Analyst Dennis Lam said its venture into coal mining machinery was understandable, given that it had been making gearboxes for such equipment, but investors would have a harder time buying its diversification into the unrelated LED business, the South China Morning Post reports.

### China to become largest market for solar devices

China, the world's largest solar panel producer, is likely to become the largest market for solar devices in 2012 as Europe, the largest importer of Chinese panels, sees its market for the products contract. China's capacity to generate solar power is expected to double to about 5 GW this year, according to Solarbuzz, a U.S.-based solar industry consulting firm. The firm said there was a 25 GW photovoltaic project pipeline in China as of the end of February. China's installed solar capacity reached 2.75 GW in 2011, according to Solarbuzz. Europe accounts for more than half of China's module market. Major solar markets including Germany, Italy, Britain and France have cut subsidies over the past year. Meanwhile, the United States has imposed duties on Chinese panels, denting the competitiveness of Chinese companies. The Chinese Ministry of Finance has issued standards for subsidies for on-grid electricity from renewable sources, including solar power. The standards specify subsidies of CNY0.01 per kWh for on-grid electricity transmitted up to 50 kilometers, rising to CNY0.02 for 50-100 km and CNY0.03 for more than 100 km. Under the government's Five Year Plan for the Solar Industry (2011-15), the nation aims to reduce the cost of solar power to CNY0.8 per kWh by

2015 and CNY0.6 per kWh by 2020, the China Daily reports.

## China drops from first place in clean energy spending

China invested USD45.5 billion in clean energy in 2011, less than the United States. Even so, China's ambitious goals will continue to make it a clean-energy hub for the world, The Pew Charitable Trusts, a Washington-based research group, said. In 2011, USD48.1 billion went into clean energy in the U.S., a 44% increase from 2010, making it the country where the most money was spent in 2011. China has the capacity to generate 133 gigawatt (GW) of clean energy, accounting for 26% of the world total, including more than 64 GW of wind energy. In 2011, the country's investments in solar energy increased to USD11.3 billion and 2.3 GW of capacity was installed.

## AMSC dispute goes to China's Supreme Court

A bitter intellectual property dispute between AMSC, an American technology company, and Sinovel, one of China's biggest wind turbine makers, has escalated to China's Supreme Court. AMSC is seeking USD1.2 billion from Sinovel. The Chinese turbine maker was once AMSC's biggest customer, accounting for 70% of revenues in late 2010. The U.S. company alleges that Sinovel made unauthorized use of proprietary turbine software code and breached its supply contracts. Sinovel has denied wrongdoing in previous statements. The dispute involves one of China's biggest intellectual property lawsuits in terms of damages sought, and has prompted U.S. politicians including Massachusetts Senator John Kerry to raise complaints over China's poor intellectual property protection. AMSC's experience is seen by many foreign executives in the wind industry as a sign of the lurking dangers for foreign businesses in China. The company's share price plunged more than 80% last year when its relationship with Sinovel turned sour. AMSC lodged an appeal with China's Supreme Court, asking for the reversal of a decision by the Hainan Supreme Court, which upheld a lower court decision to throw out AMSC's copyright suit against Sinovel and Sinovel's subsidiary Guotong on the grounds that it should be covered by arbitration proceedings, the Financial Times reports.

## Incentives needed if electric car sales are to succeed

Only one-tenth of the 500,000 electric cars and plug-in hybrid vehicles China's carmakers plan to produce by 2015 would be able to find a buyer in China unless the central government rolled out supporting policies or extra incentives to boost sales, analysts said. While sales of new-energy vehicles during the first quarter of this year exceeded those for the whole of last year, nearly 80% of the 10,202 units sold in the first three months were of conventional hybrid vehicles, which are partly fueled by petrol. Pure electric and plug-in hybrid cars accounted for only one-fifth of the sales, according to the China Association of Automobile Manufacturers (CAAM). China's car manufacturers have big plans for green vehicles. Beijing Automobile Works and Guangzhou Automotive are set to produce up to 200,000 new-energy vehicles a year by 2015, while Changan Automotives aims to make about 150,000 by 2014. "There are a lot of varieties under the umbrella of new-energy car. Among them, electric cars and plug-in hybrid vehicles still make up a very small portion because facilities for charging them are incomplete," Auto Analyst Yale Zhang said. Ouyang Minggao, Director of the Automotive Safety and Energy Laboratory at Tsinghua University in Beijing, said earlier this year that only 200,000 to 250,000 new-energy cars would be sold on the mainland by 2015, when they would account for only 1% of the projected total car sales that year. The Chinese government last week confirmed that the development of electric cars and plug-in hybrid vehicles is a priority, and set a target of producing at least 500,000 by 2015 and 5 million by 2020.

## Chinese solar companies expand business in Japan

Chinese solar companies are expanding into Japan, where the solar industry is receiving more government support following the Fukushima nuclear accident. Chaorisolar Energy Science and Technology Co and Sky Solar Holdings Co plan to develop 100 megawatt (MW) of solar projects with an investment of USD93.9 million in Japan this year. Chaorisolar is a Shanghai-based maker of photovoltaic products and Sky Solar builds solar farms, where solar electricity can be generated on a large scale. The project is expected to generate gross profits equal to as much as CNY10 a watt, Chaorisolar said. Hareonsolar Technology Co also plans to establish a subsidiary in Japan, while Yingli Green Energy Holding Co recently opened a subsidiary in Tokyo, and Trina Solar also set up an office in Japan, showing the companies'

interest in the market. Suntech Power Holdings Co, which makes the most solar cells of any manufacturer in the world, moved into the Japanese market in 2006 by acquiring MSK Corp, a maker of solar equipment. "Today, we are a strong player in the Japanese solar industry with a 5% market share," Yutaka Yamamoto, Suntech Japan President, said, and the company expects to command at least 10% of the Japanese market in 2012, when new feed-in tariffs will take effect. By 2011, Japan had 1.2 GW of solar capacity, a number expected to increase by 40% in 2012.

- China may approve fewer wind power projects this year than last year. The National Energy Administration (NEA) plans to approve 16.76 gigawatt (GW) of such projects in 2012, Shi Lishan of its Renewable Energy Division said. Beijing approved 26.83 GW last year. Authorities began tightening approvals last year after rapid growth of capacity led some wind farms to produce less power than they were capable of.
- Xinjiang Goldwind Science & Technology, China's second-largest wind power turbine maker, saw first-quarter net profit plunge 97% to CNY6.18 million as revenues slid 8.4% to CNY1.7 billion. Gross profit margin dropped to 11% from 22%. The company attributed the profit fall to lower selling prices for turbines amid keen competition and higher administration and financing costs.
- Two Chinese wind turbine makers, Xinjiang Goldwind Science & Technology and Sinovel Wind Group, are considering bids for world number one Vestas Wind Systems. They approached corporate bankers after a plunge in Vestas' shares.
- Yingli Solar said it plans to sell from 2,500 MW to 2,600 MW of solar panels in 2012, including 900 MW in China. If the goal is met, China will become the company's largest market for the first time.
- Shanghai will use shallow geothermal energy to heat and cool buildings covering a total of 4 million square meters by 2015, which could save 28,000 tons of coal, cutting the emission of 245,000 tons carbon dioxide and 2,000 tons of sulfur dioxide every year, the Shanghai Municipal Bureau of Planning and Land Resources said. About 1.3 billion people would not need heaters or air conditioners if all the resources of the energy could be used.

## POLLUTION

### 48 fashion brands found using textiles from notorious polluters

48 global fashion brands have been sourcing textiles from notorious polluters in China, according to a study by five Chinese environmental groups. It says two-thirds of the companies turned a deaf ear to the environmentalists' requests to clean up their supply chain. Investigators examined 6,000 officially blacklisted polluters in China's textile industry and found that many have been making products for some well-known brands. 48 brands were identified. Their products range from popular sportswear to luxury handbags. Ma Jun, Director of the Institute of Public and Environmental Affairs, said it was hoped the information would help consumers make a "green choice". "When you buy colorful textile products from these brands, you should know that their suppliers in China have dyed rivers and lakes with similar colors," he said. "If you stop buying, these brands will be forced to clean up their supply chains. Your choice can change the world." The investigators praised Nike, Esquel, Wal-Mart, H&M, Levi's, Adidas and Burberry for their cooperative attitude and prompt action. But 33 companies, including Marks & Spencer, Esprit, Calvin Klein, Armani and Carrefour, were criticized for not replying to the allegations. The textile industry discharged 2.46 billion tons of waste water in 2010, placing it third among 39 industries.

### Household garbage posing treatment problem

While China produces far less rubbish on a per-capita basis than countries like the U.S., its total production, at more than 300 million tons annually according to academic studies, is the largest in the world – and growing. Beijing's 20 million people produce 23,000 tons of waste each day, equivalent to the weight of nine filled Olympic-size swimming pools. Thanks to rising incomes and higher standards of living, China generates trash at a rate that has risen twice as fast as population growth over the last several decades. Even in the best-managed cities like Beijing, the government has struggled to keep up with the increasing volumes of waste. From 2005 to 2010, the capital collected an average of 3,900 tons of trash per day beyond what it

had the capacity to treat, according to government statistics. Places like Tongzhou were for years the site of illegal dumps that some dubbed the “seventh ring road” of the city, a reference to the highways that ring Beijing. These dumps eventually sparked a media outcry and in 2010 the government began a CNY10 billion clean-up campaign that targets illegal landfills and builds new facilities. China’s waste problem is most acute in the countryside, according to Xu Haiyun, Chief Engineer at the China Urban Construction Design Institute. “Outside of the cities there are vast areas that still have no collection system,” Xu said. “The environmental problems caused by trash will only get more serious with time.” Big cities are increasingly favoring incineration as a way to deal with the rubbish, and China is expected to build about 90 new plants over the next three years that will generate energy by burning waste. Beijing, which burned just 10% of its trash in 2010 and plans to raise that to 40% by 2015, is building Asia’s largest incinerator, the Financial Times reports.

## Ma Jun co-recipient of Goldman Environmental Prize

Ma Jun, Director of the Institute for Public and Environmental Affairs (IPE), has been awarded a top environmental award for his efforts in setting up an online database of polluters and for urging enterprises to clean up their practices. Six people — one each from Africa, Asia, Europe, Islands and Island Nations, North America, and South and Central America — shared the 2012 Goldman Environmental Prize. Each winner of the award, established by the philanthropists Richard and Rhoda Goldman in 1989 to honor grassroots environmentalists, receives USD150,000. In May 2006, Ma and his colleagues at the IPE began to gather data to create the first-ever maps of air and water pollution in China. The database now includes more than 90,000 threads of records, detailing breaches of environmental regulations committed by both Chinese and multinational companies. The public can now learn about the pollution levels and sources in their neighborhoods simply by a click of the mouse. Ma’s award highlights how improved environmental transparency can help China tackle the worsening pollution that often accompanies double-digit economic growth. Ma said that rising public awareness of environmental issues has already resulted in a number of promising changes, such as the inclusion of the measurement of PM2.5 in the air quality standards.

## Chinese cities have too many hazy days

About 140 days per year are hazy in Shanghai. Hao Jiming, Vice Director General of the Chinese Society of Environmental Sciences, said PM2.5 density in most Chinese cities exceeds the World Health Organization (WHO) Interim Target-1, the most lenient standard. “In many cities, PM2.5 accounts for 50% of PM10. In Beijing, the percentage is more than 60% and in Shanghai it is about 60%,” he said. Every year, there are about 100 hazy days in Beijing, 207 in Tianjin, 133 in Chongqing, 131 in Guangzhou and 239 in Chengdu, Hao said. He didn’t specifically define what constitutes a hazy day. He said developing public transportation and restricting the number of vehicles are the major solutions for Shanghai to improve its air quality and reduce hazy days. “It may take five to ten years for Shanghai to meet China’s new standard on PM2.5 of 75 micrograms per cubic meter,” he said. Exhaust from motor vehicles and boats is the biggest source of Shanghai’s PM2.5 emissions, accounting for one-fourth of fine particles in the city’s air, the Shanghai Daily reports.

- At least seven cities in Hebei province will begin monitoring PM2.5 data from June. The cities are Shijiazhuang, Qinhuangdao, Tangshan, Baoding, Zhangjiakou, Chengde and Langfang.
- More than 4 million tons of daily rubbish has for 17 years been piled in a disposal plant in Kaifeng, Henan province, due to the lack of a proper disposal facilities. Inspectors were sent to investigate pollution issues in the province and the provincial environmental protection department pledged to tackle the issue.
- Testing services for indoor air pollutants will be available free for Shanghai residents by contacting the Shanghai Environmental Protection Industry Association. Families with children, the elderly and those suffering from blood diseases will be prioritized, said Li Wei, Deputy Secretary General of the Association. It is the sixth year in which they have monitored indoor pollution for residents, but it is the first time PM2.5 has been included. More than 13,000 households have benefited from the free service in the past five years.
- Large amounts of new but defective electronic gadgets as well as discarded ones, manufactured by Hewlett Packard, Samsung, Panasonic and others, have been found

in a giant recycling hub in Guiyu town in Guangdong province and are suspected of causing children in nearby villages to have high levels of lead in their blood. The site processes 70% of all the electronic waste in the world, according to the Bund, a Shanghai-based magazine. Still, the electronics producing companies claim to engage in so-called green policies to protect the environment.

- Hebei province brought more than 80 enterprises to court last year for causing environmental pollution, including the Hebei branch of China Mobile. The provincial environmental authorities fined the involved companies a total of CNY8 million, with half fined more than CNY200,000. The Tangshan-based Sanyou Group's Dongguang Pulp Co drew the biggest fine of CNY500,000. The province plans to launch a 100-day campaign in June to examine oil processors, chemical manufacturers and heavy metal plants.

## GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

### China studying carbon trading systems

China has designated seven cities and provinces to launch carbon-trading systems in the next year and will introduce a nationwide carbon-trading program in 2015. Yao Fei, a senior official of the Beijing Municipal Development and Reform Commission, told China Daily that figuring out how to calculate the city's indirect carbon emissions is a top priority. About 70% of Beijing's electricity consumption is generated outside the capital, so it is necessary to include the emissions caused by power generated in other areas, he said. Beijing may consider a cap on emissions both from producers and consumers, Yao said, without elaborating. The city is studying how to allocate the emissions quota to districts, companies and industries. More than 600 companies with direct and indirect carbon emission exceeding 10,000 tons per year will be included on a mandatory list for capping emissions. Bi Jianzhong, Assistant General Manager of the China Beijing Environment Exchange, said the city's carbon-trading program is likely to have two layers, one for direct emissions targeting producers, to be implemented next year, and the other for indirect emissions targeting consumers, likely to be implemented in 2014.

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