

“SOLAR VALLEY” WAS AWARDED BEST REGION FOR MANUFACTURING SOLAR TECHNOLOGIES WORLDWIDE



The trade magazine “Photovoltaics International” awarded the “Solar Valley Germany” in Thalheim/ Bitterfeld-Wolfen as the world’s best region for solar industry companies at the “Intersolar” International Trade Exhibition for Solar Technology.

A global jury, members of business, science and research gave the region the highest score from a total of six categories.

Some of the aspects that the judging was based on, included the concentration of manufacturers and suppliers, the number of jobs created, employee potential and the infrastructure for industry and logistics.

In the final round “Solar Valley” came out on top, above “Silicon Border” in Mexico and the State of Oregon.

“Solar Valley” focused on the solar industry and sub-suppliers, which is one of the fastest growing industrial areas in Central Europe. Today, more than 90 percent of all silicon solar cells made in Germany are produced in the “Solar Valley” region, anchored in Saxony-Anhalt. More than 20 percent of the worldwide production originates from this region of Eastern Germany.

Around 3,600 jobs have been created in the past few years at Q-Cells and Sovello as well as at Calyxo, Solibro or Sontor. Sontor GmbH and Sunfilm AG have just merged to become one of the world’s largest providers of tandem junction silicon-based thin-film modules. “Solar Valley” has the highest technological density for thin-film production worldwide. CIGS technology, micromorph silicon, string ribbon, amorph silicon and cadmium telluride technology – all techniques are used successfully for manufacturing solar modules.

In Eastern Germany companies are entitled to get financial support of up to 50 percent of their CAPEX. This makes manufacturing in the “Solar Valley” feasible at favourable costs combining with high quality – “Made in Solar Valley quality” within a short realisation period.

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