Top-list of utility-scale solar constructors; New #1. US and European EPCs strong thanks to resurgent domestic markets

US, European and Indian companies continue to dominate the list of top EPC contractors, according to Wiki-Solar's latest 'league table' released today. Swinerton Renewable Energy has leapfrogged it's US compatriot First Solar to top of the table, as the latter trims its downstream activities. India retains four companies in the top 12.

Renewed growth from unsubsidised projects at home has helped European companies in particular. "German EPCs Belectric, Enerparc and juwi have been in the top ten for years," says Wiki-Solar founder Philip Wolfe, "and are now joined by Spain's ACS Cobra, which has shot up the list as it builds its 850-MWp project – presently Europe's largest – in and around Escatrón, Zaragoza."

		Cumula	ative to date	Change since end 2018		
Rank	EPC contractor	Plants	GWac	Plants	GWac	Rank
1	Swinerton Renewable Energy [US]	118	5.008	12	1.332	2
2	First Solar [US]	58	4.461	4	0.554	7
3	Sterling & Wilson [IN] (part of SP Group)	62	2.810	7	1.391	1
4	Belectric [DE] (now part of Innogy)	144	2.306	15	0.481	12
5	Mahindra [IN]	40	2.234	3	0.762	5
6	Enerparc [DE]	237	1.917	44	0.334	21
7	juwi AG [DE] inc. JSI Construction	126	1.899	11	0.384	18
8	ACME Solar [IN]	47	1.804	6	0.105	
9	ACS Group [ES] inc. Maetel and others	26	1.791	5	0.804	4
10	Abengoa Solar [ES] inc. Abener Energia, Teyma	30	1.679	0		
11	Mortenson Construction [US]	18	1.600	2	0.343	20
12	Larsen & Toubro [IN]	47	1.561	7	0.469	13
13	Biosar Energy [GR]	48	1.393	8	0.488	11
14	Cypress Creek Renewables [US]	80	1.340	9	0.260	23
15	Acciona Energía [ES]	23	1.330	7	0.553	8
16	Scatec Solar [NO]	27	1.171	9	0.813	3
17	Eiffage [FR]	11	1.156	2	0.588	6
18	SunEdison [US] (in insolvency)	48	1.101	0		
19	BayWa r.e. [DE]	72	1.074	23	0.526	9
20	McCarthy Building [US]	41	1.068	5	0.279	22
21	TSK Group [ES]	15	1.030	3	0.429	14
22	Egnatia Energy [GR] inc. Metka-Egn	68	1.021	7	0.508	10
23	Canadian Solar [CA] inc. Recurrent Energy	29	0.993	5	0.255	24
24	Signal Energy [US]	8	0.869	3	0.392	17
25	RES Group (Renewable Energy Systems) [GB]	18	0.850	4	0.412	15
26	Datong Guotou [CN]	1	0.820	0	0.410	16
27	Elecnor [ES]	32	0.809	1	0.004	
28	RCR Tomlinson [AU] (in insolvency)	8	0.769	2	0.241	25
29	Bechtel [US]	3	0.753			
30	Gransolar [ES]	12	0.705	2	0.350	19

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Wiki-Solar's database holds EPC contractors for 35.5% of active plants (19.3% by these 30 listed companies) so some participants may not be shown, and for others figures may be understated by affactor of 3 on average.

Latest list of the world's top utility-scale solar constructors



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Other significant European climbers are Scatec from Norway, Greece's Biosar and Metka-EGN, BayWa re from Germany, British RES Group and Spain's Gransolar and Elmya (also involved in the Escatrón project). Abengoa's position derives from its historical thermal projects, and is declining as PV accelerates ahead of CSP.

Wiki-Solar reminds readers that the involvement of participants from some countries – most notably China – is usually understated, owing to the scarcity of information about project contributors.

Many of the top constructors also appear in the list of leading operation and maintenance contractors, which Wiki-Solar has recently updated on its website.

TEXT ENDS

Notes for editors:

- [1] This release on the utility-scale solar market is available here:

 http://wiki-solar.org/library/public/201013 Top-list Utility-scale solar EPCs.pdf
- [2] The top-list, with further details of the role of the EPC contractor is shown on Wiki-Solar's website here; and equivalent details for O&M contractors are given here.
- [3] Wiki-Solar defines 'utility-scale solar' as 4 MW_{AC} and above (≈5MW_P for PV; ≈ electricity for 1,500 households in Europe) see: http://wiki-solar.org/data/glossary/utility-scale.html.
- [4] *'Solar Photovoltaic Projects in the mainstream power market'* was <u>published</u> in 2012.
- [5] Wiki-Solar is the leading authority on utility-scale solar with a database covering over 14,000 utility-scale solar projects, of which about three-quarters are operational. All figures are based on the AC export rating of operational plants. Projects under development are excluded until they have been commissioned.

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