

Top constructors add 30% to utility-scale solar capacity

The thirty EPC contractors in the ‘Gigawatt Club’ have installed a further 16 GW_{AC} since the start of 2021, increasing their cumulative installed capacity by over 30%. “Several of the top EPC companies have added 50% or more in the last year”, says Wiki-Solar founder Philip Wolfe; “with US and European constructors continuing to show strongly”.

Rank	EPC contractor	Cumulative to date		Change since end 2020		
		Plants	GWac	Plants	GWac	Rank
1	SOLV Energy [US] (formerly Swinerton)	153	9.450	22	3.108	1
2	First Solar [US]	59	4.728	1	0.200	18
3	Sterling & Wilson [IN] (part of SP Group)	69	3.762	5	0.756	9
4	Eiffage [FR]	72	3.431	26	1.500	3
5	McCarthy Building [US]	56	3.084	12	1.653	2
6	ACME Solar [IN]	50	2.931	5	1.200	5
7	Belectric [DE] (now part of Elevion)	160	2.847	11	0.444	11
8	Mahindra [IN]	43	2.555	2	0.369	13
9	Enerparc [DE]	259	2.340	1	0.004	
10	Mortenson Construction [US]	24	2.262	2	0.328	14
11	juwi AG [DE] inc. Juwi Shizen	142	2.252	11	0.153	
12	Abengoa [ES] inc. Abener Energia	31	2.188	2	0.160	
13	BayWa r.e. [DE]	102	2.183	22	0.922	7
14	Vinci Energies [FR] inc. Semi, Omexom & others	38	2.107	2	0.048	
15	Bouygues [FR]	155	2.090	32	0.437	12
16	Signal Energy [US]	12	1.861	4	0.884	8
17	Metka-Egn [GR] (part owned by Mytilineos)	79	1.727	12	1.050	6
18	Larsen & Toubro [IN]	47	1.656	3	0.145	
19	Scatec ASA [NO]	31	1.489	3	0.128	
20	Acciona Energía [ES]	23	1.460	1	0.201	17
21	Biosar Energy [GR]	47	1.436	1	0.028	
22	Cypress Creek Renewables [US]	79	1.374	0	0.000	
23	SPIC [CN] inc. Shanghai Electric	3	1.358	3	1.358	4
24	Blattner Energy [US]	10	1.173	1	0.642	10
25	TSK Group [ES] inc. TSK Electronica y Electricidad	19	1.151	2	0.105	
26	Sener [ES]	18	1.129	0	0.000	
27	SunEdison [US] (in insolvency) inc. Enfinity	46	1.049			
28	Elecnor [ES]	39	1.030	7	0.181	19
29	Gransolar [ES]	16	1.022	2	0.240	15
30	Goldbeck Solar [DE]	60	1.013	3	0.217	16

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[a] GWac figures are totalled for projects over 4 MWac, so GWp totals are typically 25-50% higher than shown here.
 [b] Wiki-Solar's database holds EPC contractors for 31.1% of active plants (17.5% by these 30 listed companies) so some participants may not be shown, and for others figures may be understated by a factor of 3 on average.

The ‘Gigawatt Club’ – the world's top utility-scale solar constructors with over 1,000 MW_{AC} cumulative capacity

SOLV Energy (the former Swinerton) holds top spot for the second year with almost 50% cumulative growth. Another US constructor, McCarthy Building, doubled its installed capacity to rise to number 5 on the list. Compatriot First Solar still holds the #2 slot, but is phasing out its EPC work.

In Europe, Baywa r.e. came close to doubling its capacity, moving into the top 15 global businesses. Eiffage retained 4th position with 1.5GW_{AC} of new installations, while Greece’s Metka EGN climbed up



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the table more than doubling its cumulative installed capacity. Belectric, Juwi, Abengoa and Bouygues still rank highly.

Indian contractors also continue to feature prominently in the list, led by Sterling & Wilson at #3. Meanwhile China's State Power Investment Corporation ranked fourth for new capacity, thanks to projects by its subsidiary Shanghai Electric in the Middle east and elsewhere.

Readers are reminded that Wiki-Solar measures capacity in MW_{AC} including only projects over 4MW_{AC}, so the listed PV companies have all installed comfortably over 1.25 GW_P, measured by the DC solar array output.

Most, but not all, of the leading operation and maintenance contractors – which Wiki-Solar lists separately [on its website](#) – are companies in this top constructors table.

“This table is subject to the usual caveat because of the opacity of the market in China”, says Wolfe; “we hold less data about Chinese companies, so their involvement is sure to be understated.”

T E X T E N D S

Notes for editors:

- [1] This release on the utility-scale solar market is available here: http://wiki-solar.org/library/public/2204_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 ($\approx 5\text{MW}_P$ for PV; \approx 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 [published](#) in 2012.
- [5] Wiki-Solar is the leading authority on utility-scale solar with a database covering over 18,000 utility-scale solar projects, of which about three-quarters are operational. All figures in this release are based on the AC export rating of operational plants. Projects under development are excluded until they have been commissioned.

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