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Trinasolar

3 September 2024

10:00 am – 11:00 am | EDT, New York City 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm | CEST, Berlin, Paris 7:30 pm – 8:30 pm | IST, Delhi



Mark Hutchins

Magazine Director

pv magazine



Blathnaid O'Dea

Editor

pv magazine



UV-resilient i-TOPCon cell design



Ling ZhuangProduct Manager **Trinasolar**



Cherif Kedir
Chief Executive Officer & President
RETC



Welcome!

Do you have any questions? ? 🦞 🞉





Send them in via the Q&A tab. F We aim to answer as many as we can today!

You can also let us know of any tech problems there.

We are recording this webinar today.

We'll let you know by email where to find it and the slide deck, so you can re-watch it at your convenience. 👀 🦠



Reliability analysis of Trina Solar's UVID-resilient i-TOPCon cell design

Cherif Kedir | September 3, 2024





Since 2009, downstream manufacturers, developers, independent engineers, and financiers have trusted RETC to test and vet their modules, inverters, energy storage systems, racking and tracking products.

- Complete design review & support
- Certification testing
- Pre-certification support
- Best-in-class turnaround time
- World-renown bankability testing data
- Global partnerships
- Close relationships with developers & banks



A2LA ISO / IEC 17025 Accreditation Certificate Number: 3038.01



IEC CBTL (Certifying Body Test Laboratory)



VDE Qualified Test Laboratory



Certification

- √ UL61730
- ✓ IEC61215 / IEC61730
- ✓ UL2703, UL3703
- ✓ CEC/FSEC Listing
- ✓ JET Listing
- ✓ Australia CEC Listing
- ✓ UL Fire Type / Class
- ✓ Factory Audits

Photovoltaics

Bankability

- √ Thresher Test
 - **Annual PVMI**
- ✓ PVSyst PAN File
- ✓ AOI/IAM
- ✓ 3rd Party Sampling
- ✓ Hail Durability Test
- ▼ Tracker Compatibility
- **✓** Salt Spray Test



Engineering

- Production LevelTesting (PLT)
- ✓ InverterCharacterization
- ✓ On-site Field Forensics
- ✓ Failure Analysis
- ✓ Super UV
- ✓ Long Term Outdoor Energy Yield Study
- √ Soiling



Certification

- ✓ UL 1741
- ✓ IEC 62109
- ✓ SunspecCompliance
- ✓ CEC Efficiency
- √ Factory Audits

Power Electronics

Bankability

- ✓ PE Thresher Test
 - Inverter
 Performance &
 Durability
 - **ESS Performance**Validation
 - True Back-up power validation
- ✓ PVSyst OND File
- 3rd Party Inverter and ESS Sampling
- Extreme Weather Durability Test

Engineering

- Production Level Testing (PLT)
- ✓ Inverter Characterization
- **✓** ESS Characterization
- ✓ Battery Cycling
- ✓ On-site Field Forensics
- **✓** Failure Analysis
- ✓ Long Term Outdoor Energy Yield Study



PV MODULE INDEX OVERVIEW & RESULTS



About the PV Module Index (PVMI) Report

- Annual solar module technology report that compiles beyond-certification test results
 - Data aggregated between Q2 2023 and Q1 2024
 - Sources of data include RETC's Thresher Test product qualification sequences and California Energy Commission (CEC) testing
- Comparative test data informs science- and engineeringbased approaches to technical risk mitigation
 - The goal of a data-driven approach to project development is not to eliminate every risk at any cost but rather to allow stakeholders to balance risk mitigation based on a holistic cost-benefit analysis





Categories for high achievement

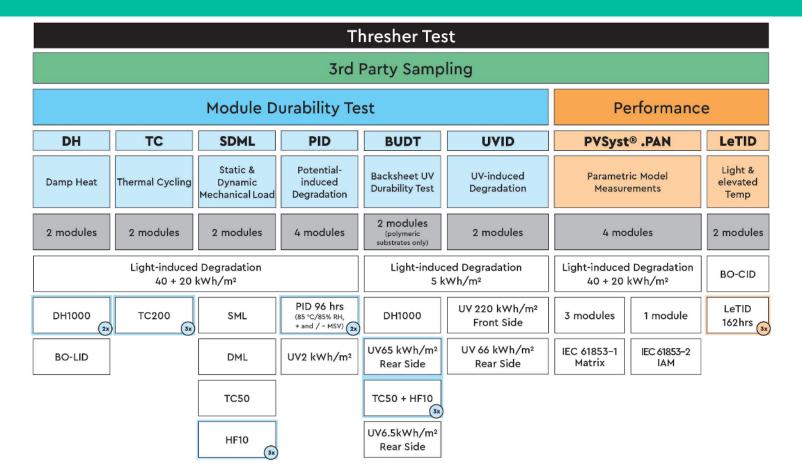
Interrelated disciplines

- Module Reliability
 - Seven test sequences
- Module **Performance**
 - Seven test sequences
- Module Quality
 - Three evaluation criteria





Thresher Test product qualification overview



Categories for recognition



- Complete RETC's full Thresher Test program
- Meet model-level high achievement requirements in both the reliability and performance disciplines
- Meet criteria for recognition in the quality discipline (p. 32)



 Meet model-level high achiever requirements for at least three of the seven tests sequences within the performance discipline only



 Meet model-level high achiever requirements for at least three of the seven test sequences within the reliability discipline only*



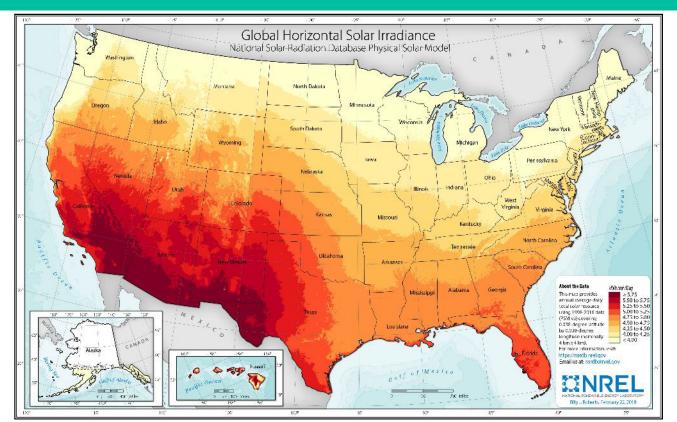
 Meet model-level high achiever requirements for one or more individual test sequences only

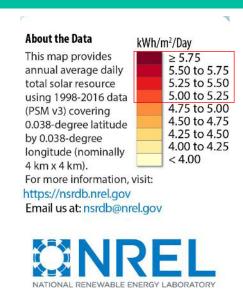


KEY TAKEAWAYS UVID RISK ON THE RISE



Determining UVID Exposure from National Irradiance

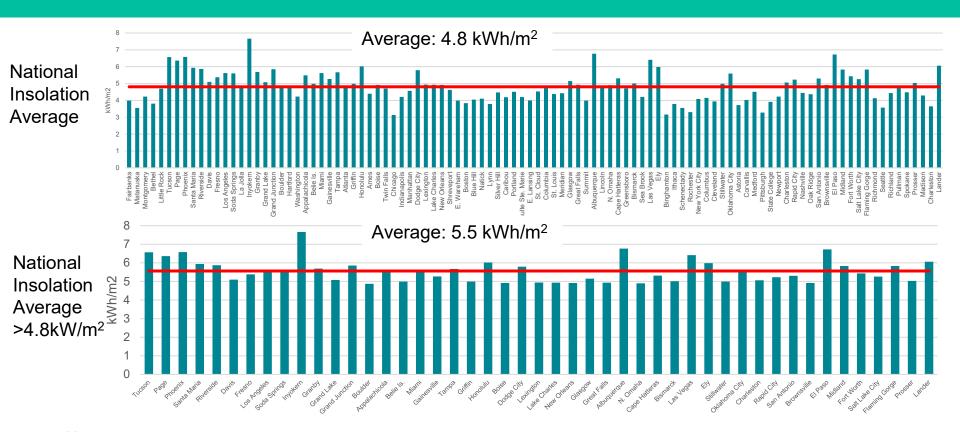




Billy J. Roberts, February 22, 2018



Determining UVID Exposure from National Irradiance





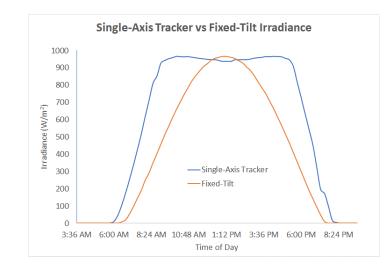
Determining UVID Exposure from National Irradiance

Reference Average Solar
Radiation for Midland Texas for
Fixed Tilt installations.
Source: NREL Solar Radiation Data Manual
for Flat-Plate and Concentrating Collectors
William Marion and Stephen Wilcox

Solar Radiation for Flat-Plate Collectors Facing South at a Fixed Tilt (kWh/m²/day), Uncertainty ±9%														
Tilt (°)		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
0	Average	3.3	4.2	5.5	6.5	7.0	7.3	7.0	6.5	5.4	4.6	3.6	3.0	5.3
	Min/Max	2.8/3.8	3.6/4.8	4.8/6.1	5.7/7.3	6.4/7.4	6.7/8.2	5.9/8.0	5.7/7.1	4.4/6.1	3.9/5.2	2.7/4.1	2.6/3.6	5.2/5.5
Latitude -15	Average	4.3	5.1	6.2	6.8	7.0	7.1	6.9	6.6	5.9	5.5	4.6	4.1	5.8
	Min/Max	3.6/5.2	4.3/6.0	5.2/7.0	5.9/7.7	6.4/7.4	6.5/7.9	5.8/7.8	5.8/7.3	4.8/6.7	4.5/6.3	3.4/5.4	3.3/5.0	5.7/6.1
Latitude	Average	5.0	5.7	6.5	6.7	6.5	6.5	6.4	6.4	6.0	6.0	5.3	4.8	6.0
	Min/Max	4.0/6.1	4.7/6.7	5.4/7.4	5.8/7.6	6.0/7.0	6.0/7.2	5.4/7.2	5.6/7.0	4.8/6.8	4.8/6.9	3.8/6.3	3.8/6.0	5.8/6.2
Latitude +15	Average	5.4	5.9	6.4	6.2	5.8	5.6	5.5	5.8	5.8	6.1	5.6	5.2	5.8
	Min/Max	4.3/6.7	4.8/7.1	5.2/7.3	5.4/7.1	5.3/6.2	5.2/6.2	4.7/6.2	5.1/6.3	4.6/6.6	4.9/7.1	4.0/6.8	4.0/6.6	5.6/6.1
90	Average	4.7	4.7	4.2	3.2	2.4	2.0	2.2	2.7	3.5	4.5	4.8	4.7	3.6
	Min/Max	3.7/6.0	3.8/5.7	3.5/4.9	2.9/3.6	2.3/2.5	2.0/2.1	2.0/2.2	2.6/2.9	2.8/4.0	3.6/5.3	3.3/5.8	3.5/6.1	3.4/3.9

National GHI Average >4.8kW/m² is 5.5kWh/m². Equivalent average insolation at Latitude Tilt (Fixed installations) is 6.23 kWh/m²

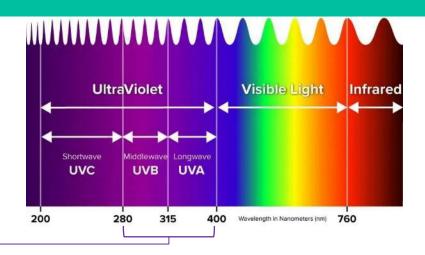
- Energy harvested on SAT is 15-30 percent compared to a fixed-tilt system.
- Assumed value increase in irradiance is 20%





Annual UV Dosage

- Average Insolation for locations likely to have PV: 6.3 kWh/m²
- Additional 20% harvest from SAT:
- $6.23 \times 1.2 = 7.5 \text{ kWh/m}^2$
- UV Component (5%): 7.5 x 0.05 = 373.8
 W/m²
- Annual expected UV Dosage on SAT: 136.4 kWh/m²
- Assuming a national average insolation of 5kWh/m², Annual UV dosage would be 110kWh/m²



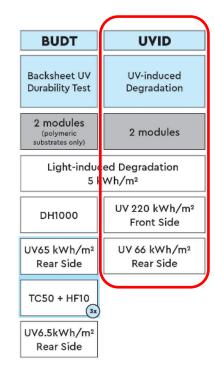
1 year in the field ~ 110kWh/m²



RETC UVID Protocol

- Front Side: 220 kWh/m2
 - Equivalent to 2 years in the field on a SAT
- Backside: 66kWh/m2
 - Assumption: 30% Albedo [best albedo from RETC BiFi Assessments]







SUMMARY DATA & RED FLAGS BY MODEL

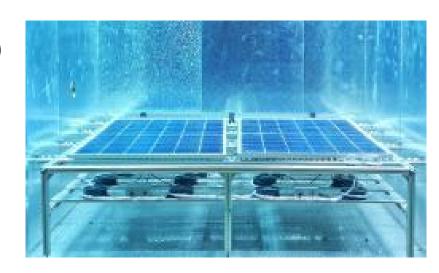
Dod Floor

High Achievement

PV Module Index Report	High Achieve	nent	Red Flag			
Test Category	Threshold Percentage		Threshold	Percentage		
Backsheet Ultraviolet Durability	No cracking	100%	Backsheet cracking	0%		
Potential-Induced Degradation	<2% degradation	83%	≥5% power degradation	6%		
Light- and Elevated Temperature-Induced Degradation	<0.5% degradation	82%	≥2.5% power degradation	0%		
Static and Dynamic Mechanical Load	<2.5% degradation	68%	≥5% power degradation	7%		
Thermal Cycling	<2% degradation	67%	≥5% power degradation	9%		
PAN File Characterization	>85% PR	65%	_	_		
Light-Induced Degradation	≤0.5% degradation	57%	≥5% power degradation	3%		
Module Efficiency	>21%	56%	_	_		
PTC-to-STC Ratio	≥94%	50%				
Ultraviolet-Induced Degradation	<2% degradation	40%	≥5% power degradation	40%		
Temperature Coefficient of Power	<0.3%/°C (abs)	27%				
Incidence Angle Modifier	>88% at 70° AOI	27%	_	_		
Damp Heat	<2% degradation	26%	≥5% power degradation	18%		
Hail Durability Test	>20-joule impact	17%	_	_		
OVERALL	See p. 17	8%	_	14%		

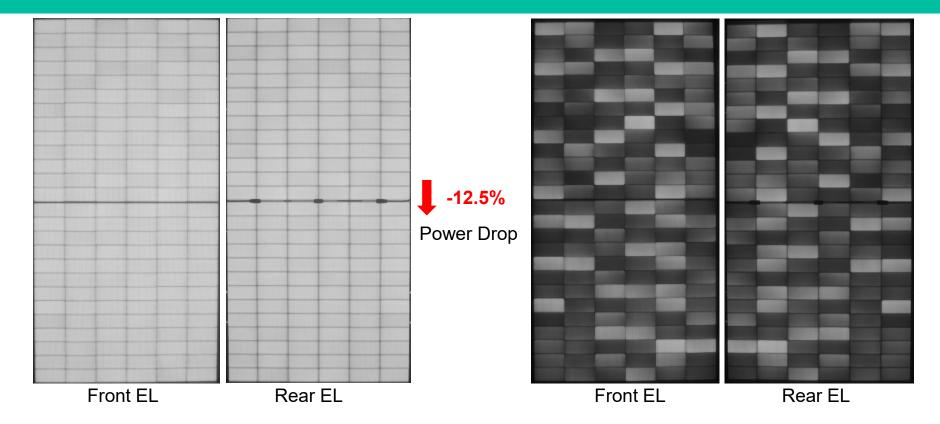
Ultraviolet-induced degradation (UVID)

- UVID testing in the 2024 PVMI
 - 220 kWh/m² of UV exposure (UV220)
 - Certification testing = 15 kWh/m² of UV exposure (UV15)
- 40% of models tested returned a red flag result
 - ≥5% maximum power degradation (red flag threshold)
 - 12-15% degradation noted in some products
- UVID risk appears high in new cell technologies, namely TOPCon
 - Possible causes:
 - Silicon Nitride degradation
 - Bulk defects



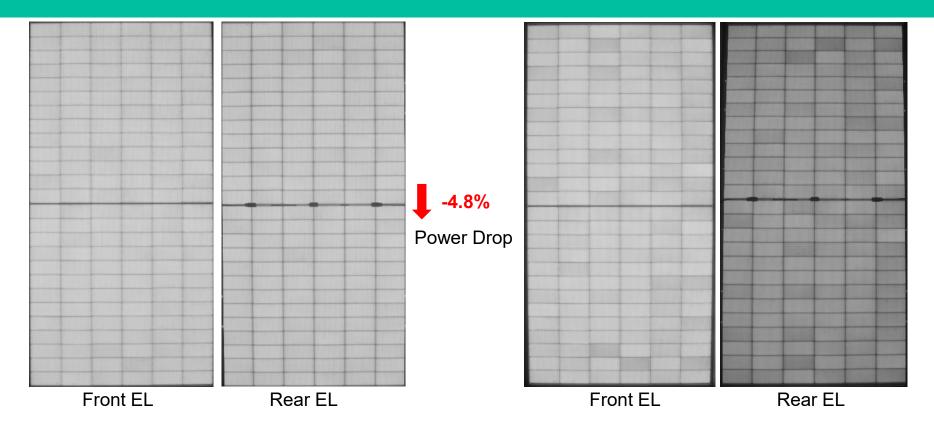


Front-side UV - (ANON)



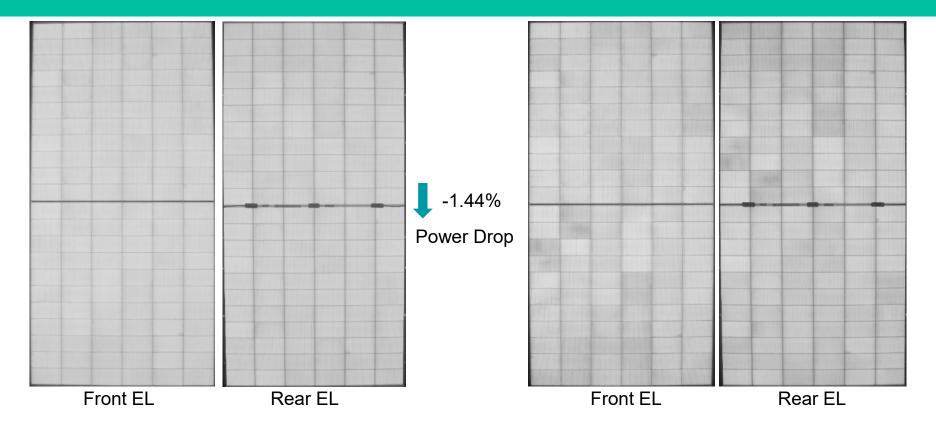


Rear-side UV - (ANON)



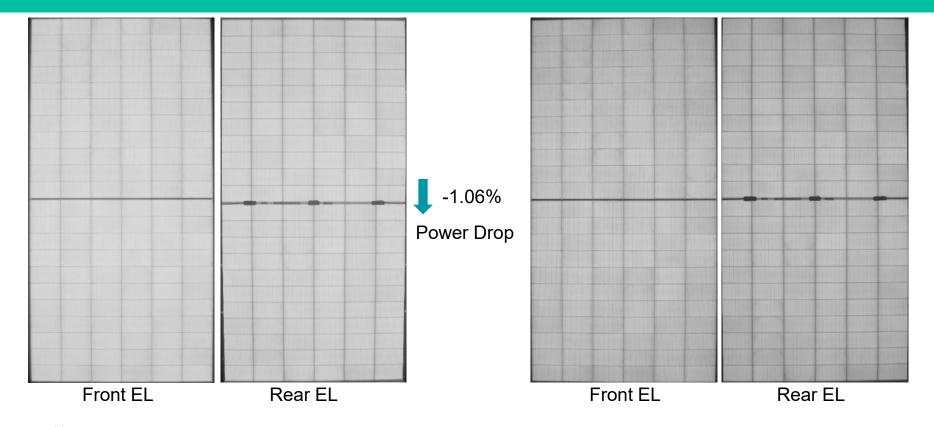


Front-side UV - (**Trina**)





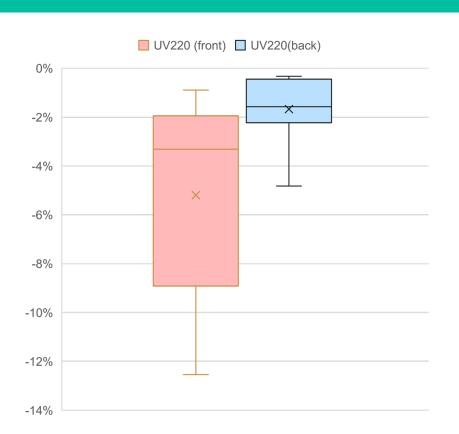
Rear-side U∨ - (**Trina**)

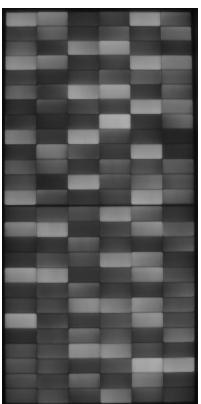




UVID Summary

- UVID on Front side
 - UV 220kWh/m2
 - Degradation observed up to -15%
- UVID on Rear side
 - UV 220kWh/m2
 - Generally lower degradation
- Degradation Theories
 - Silicon nitride passivation damage
 - Bulk Recombination







TRINA SOLAR IN THE PVMI REPORT



Module reliability evaluation criteria

RELIABILITY DISCIPLINE CRITERIA						
Category	Evaluation Method	High Achiever				
Backsheet Ultraviolet Durability	DH1000 + [3 x (UV65 + TC50 + HF10)] + UV6.5	No backsheet cracking				
Damp Heat	DH2000 + B-O LID	<2% degradation				
Hail Durabilty Test	HDT + TC50 + Hot Spot	>20-joule impact				
Potential-Induced Degradation	PID192 + UV2	<2% degradation				
static and Dynamic Mechanical Load	SML + DML + TC50 + HF30	<2.5% degradation				
Thermal Cycling	TC600	<2% degradation				
Ultraviolet-Induced Degradation	UV220	<2% degradation				



Blue star indicates that Trina Solar met test category high achiever criteria



Module performance evaluation criteria

PERFORMANCE DISCIPLINE CRITERIA						
Category	Evaluation Method	High Achiever				
Module Efficiency	CEC testing	>21%				
Incidence Angle Modifier	CEC or Thresher Testing	>88% at 70° AOI				
Light- and Elevated Temperature-Induced Degradation	B-O CID + LETID486	<0.5% degradation				
Light-Induced Degradation	Outdoor light soaking per IEC 61215-2	≤0.5% degradation				
PAN File Characterization	IEC 61853-1 and Performance Ratio (PR)	>85% PR				
PTC-to-STC Ratio	CEC testing	≥94%				
Temperature Coefficient of Power	CEC or Thresher Testing	<0.3%/°C (abs)				



Blue star indicates that Trina Solar met test category high achiever criteria



Module quality evaluation criteria

QUALITY DISCIPLINE CRITERIA							
Category	Evaluation Method						
Bill of Materials	Third-party factory bill of materials verification						
High Achievement in Reliability	Product recognized as high achiever in three or more reliability categories*						
High Achievement in Performance	Product recognized as high achiever in three or more performance categories						

^{*}Glass-on-backsheet products must meet high achiever requirements for BUDT plus at least three additional reliability test sequences.



Blue star indicates that Trina Solar met test category high achiever criteria



Overall highest achiever in 2024 PVMI

















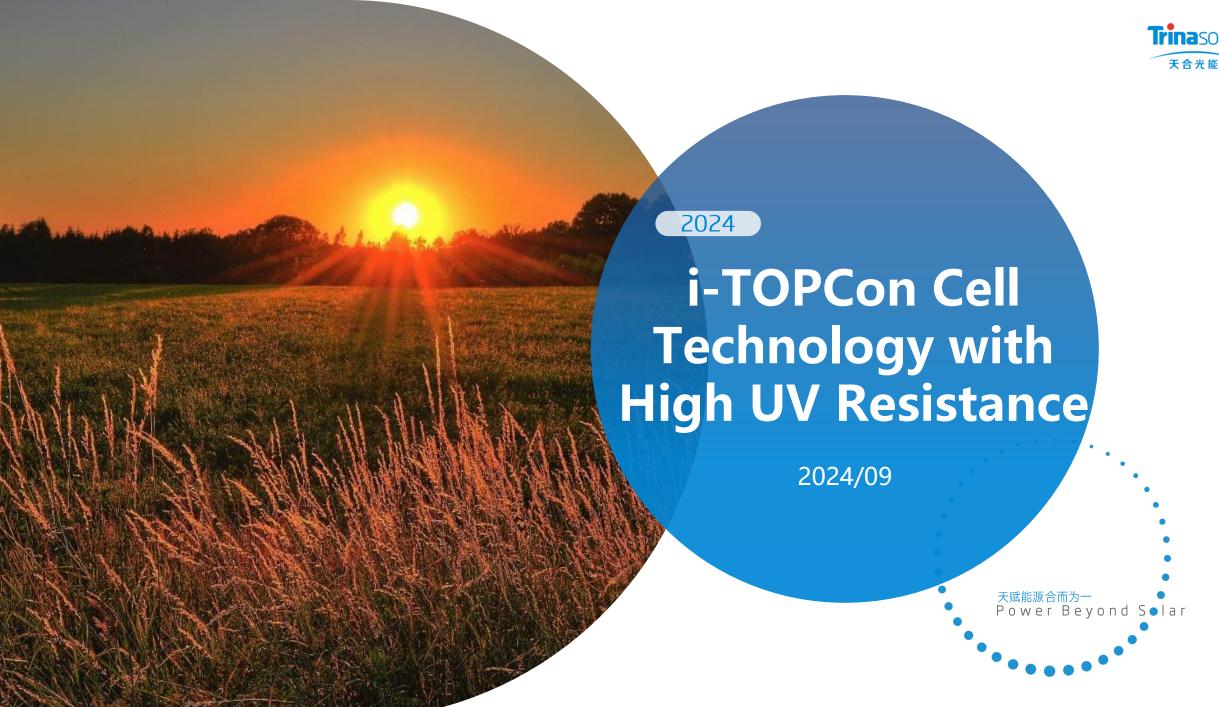
FOR MORE INFO

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Catalog

- 1. Vertex N Leading UV Performance
- 2. Trina internal test results
- 3. Advantages of Vertex N UV Resistance
- 4. Trina i-TOPCon Technology Roadmap
- 5. Trina Vertex N Product Family Introduction

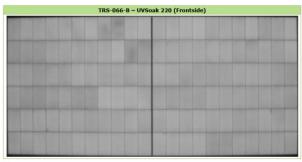
Outstanding UVID Test Data by 3rd Parties -- RETC

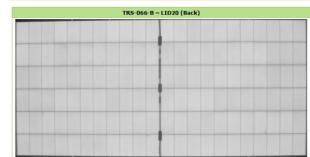


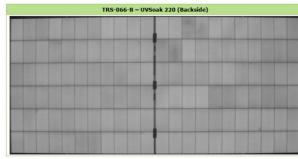
Performance Summary

RETC ID #	Sequence (Post)	Pmax	% Deg	Visual
TRS-066-B	Initial	595.15	-	No visual defects observed.
	LID40	594.28	-0.15%	n/a
	LID20	594.56	-0.10%	n/a
	UV Soak 220kWh/m2 (Frontside)	585.65	-1.44%	No visual defects observed.
TRS-066-C	Initial	597.25	-	No visual defects observed.
	LID40	596.26	-0.17%	n/a
	LID20	595.91	-0.22%	n/a
	UV Soak 220kWh/m2 (Backside)	589.18	-1.06%	No visual defects observed.











210-Vertex awarded "Highest Achiever"

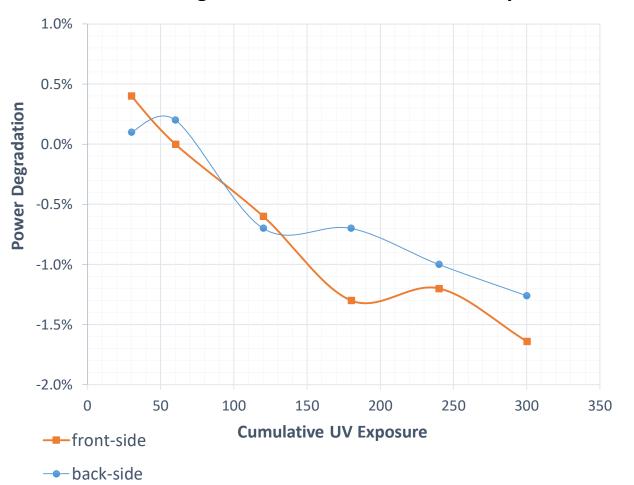
Product: NEG19RC.20 (Vertex N series 630W)

Result: The power degradation is kept within 1.5% after UVID 220 compare to industry level.

Outstanding UVID Test Data by 3rd Parties-CGC (China General Certification Center)



Power Degradation vs. Cumulative UV Exposure



Product: NEG21C.20 (Vertex N series 720W)

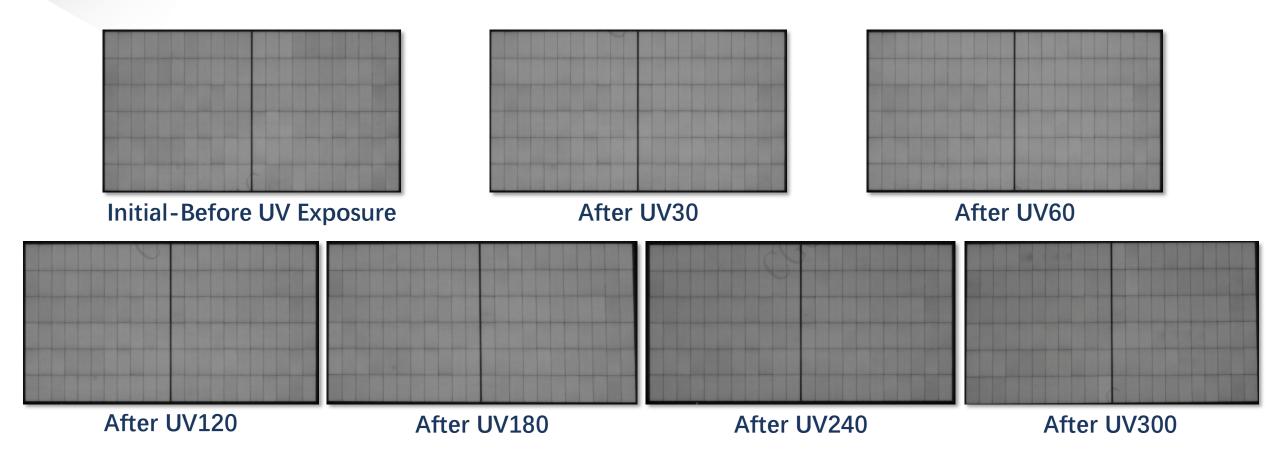
Result:

- After 300 kWh/m² of frontal ultraviolet irradiation (UV300), the power degradation is 1.64% on the front side and 1.26% on the back side.
- Passed the insulation test and the wet leakage current test after each UV test cycle.

Note: The accumulative irradiance level for UV300 are 20 times of the IEC basic UV test (UV15) and have been estimated by authorities to be equivalent to about 4 years of field UV exposure conditions.

Outstanding UVID Test Data by 3rd Parties -- CGC

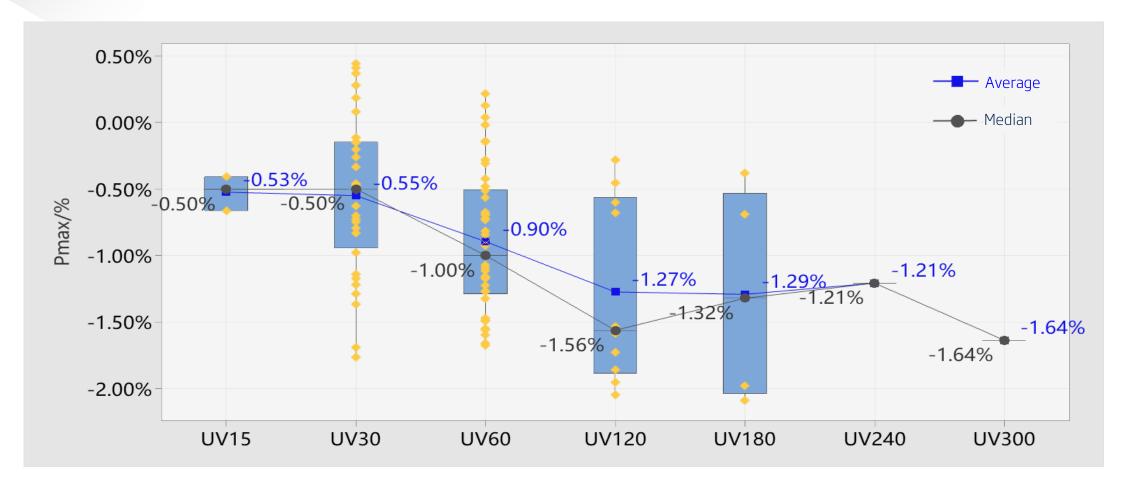




- The EL images before and after the test also show that the cells have no visible defects even after UV300.
- The performance of each cell on the module is very consistent.

Outstanding UVID Test Data by 3rd Parties -- CGC



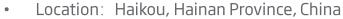


Hundreds of i-TOPCon modules (with different product types/production lines/production dates) were tested by CGC, with consistent test results.

Vertex N modules' Low Field Degradation - certified by CGC







Climate: High Temperature & High Humidity

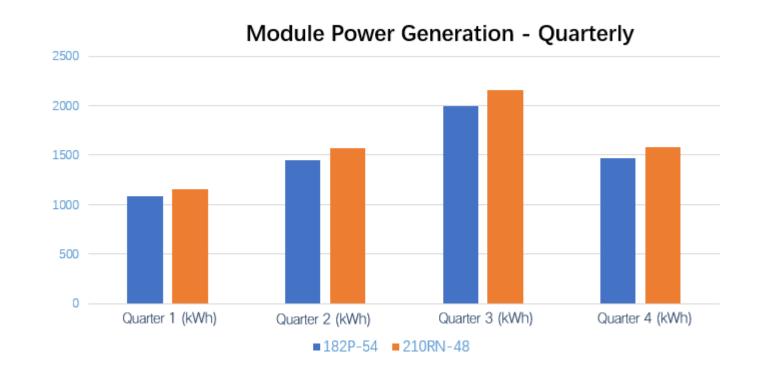
• Mounting Structure: Small Inclination Angle (9°) above the roof

Ground Condition: Concrete

• Test Period: 2022.10.29-2023.10.29

Test Module: 210RN-48 (NEG9R.28)

Reference Module: 182P-54



According to the module power measurement results at the lab, Trina's Vertex N mono-facial modules' annual power degradation is as low as 0.81%.



- 1. Vertex N Leading UV Performance
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- 3. Advantages of Vertex N UV Resistance
- 4. Trina i-TOPCon Technology Roadmap
- 5. Trina Vertex N Product Family Introduction

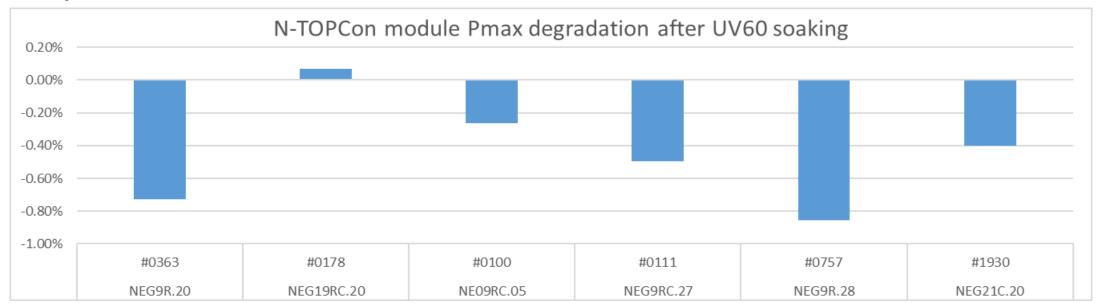
Trina Internal Test Results



Comparison of data with other mainstream manufacturers

UV60	Trina	Α	В	С	D
Front-side Degradation	-1.5% ~ -0.2%	-4% ~ -1%	-2.8% ~ -1.5%	-3% ~ -1%	-5% ~ -4%
Back-side Degradation	-1.2% ~ -0.2%	/	/	-3%	-5%

Comparison of data for different module sizes in Trina





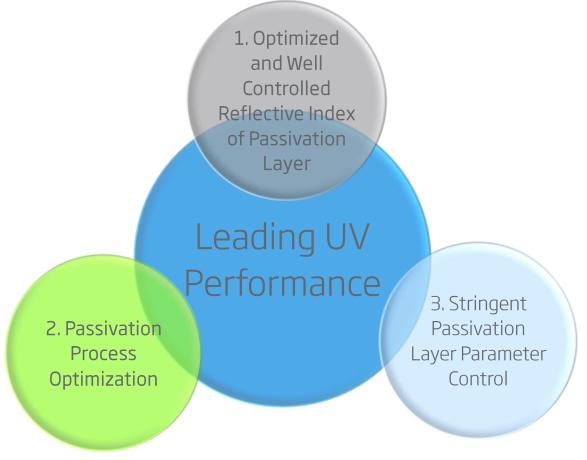
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Trinasolar 天合光能

Advantages of Vertex N UV Resistance

UVID is the key element new PV cell technologies and irreversible under normal field conditions. Ultraviolet light exposure can cause efficiency changes of PV modules.

To solve this problem, Trina Solar focused on UVID resistance during the TOPCon cell design stage in various perspectives:



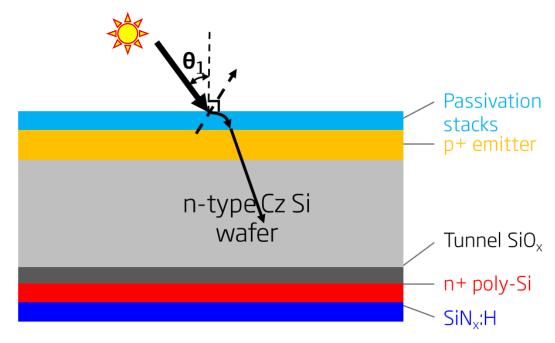
2019 I rina Solar. All rights rese

Advantages of Vertex N UV Resistance - Cell design



The unique anti-UV design of the cell reduces the degradation rate.

Design: The Positive film passivation structure integrated low light self-absorption, low reflection, strong protection blocking ability during design and development, to achieve high cell efficiency with excellent UV resistance.



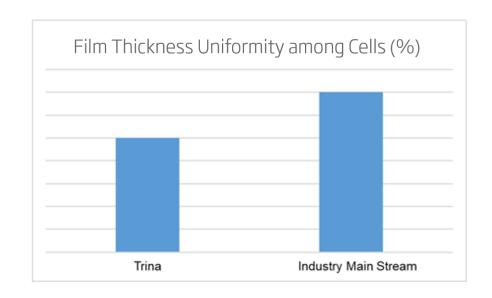
The unique process of the passivation layer are with a good balance between chemical passivation and field-effect passivation. With the passivation process combining stronger passivation capability and higher stability, the resultant passivation layer has achieved optimal efficiency and enhanced UV resistance.

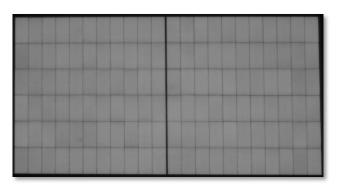
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Advantages of Vertex N UV Resistance - Strict Control



- A more strict control standard leads to a better film uniformity and more consistent passivation capability among cells. When the consistency of cell passivation capability is ensured, UV resistance is also improved.
- > Follow more rigorous monitoring methods and standards of passivation film thickness could achieve more accurate and better inter-sheet uniformity.
- > To calculate the uniformity, other manufacturers use the average film thickness of each cell while Trina uses the average film thickness of several selected points on each cell.





Excellent Cell Uniformity Verified by EL

Strict Process Quality Control



Key Characteristics Recognition & Standardization

Process control of coating



Process control

IPD (Integrated Product development)
ECCB (Engineering Change Control Board)

ORT Monitoring

Regularly check
ORT: ongoing reliability monitoring

Process Monitoring Intelligent information management of cell



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Trina i-TOPCon Technology Roadmap



2015-2019

i-TOPCon

 In 2015, Base on Trina Solar's State Key Laboratory of Photovoltaic Science and Technology(PVST), i-TOPCon Lab was established.

- Innovative hydrogen passivation
- Wafer size 158.75mm×158.75 mm
- Cell efficiency 23.07% (JET certificate) 24.58% (ISFH certificate) mass production efficiency 23.2%
- 500 MW mass production line



2019.12 250MW Tongchuan 'Top Runner' technical leader project



• The first TOPCon Cell World Record in China, 23.5% (2019)

2020-2022

Plus

- Wafer size: 210mm×210mm+ 18BB
- 500 MW TOPCon pilot line
- Average production cell efficiency 24.5%

i-TOPCon

• Cell efficiency 25.15% (ISFH certificate)



Vertex S in Europe



e 2020.9.30 137MW Yellow River hydropower in Qinghai

Cell efficiency record

- 25.25% (2022/2, ISFH certificate)
- 25.42%(2022/3, ISFH certificate)
- 25.5%(2022/3, China National Metrology Institute certificate)

2023-2024

i-TOPCon

Advanced

- Selective emitter, Rear planar reflector, Highly low rear TOPCon structure, Laser induced Firing, Edge Recovery Technology
- Large wafer: 210,210R
- Lab efficiency reach 26% (German thirdparty certificates)
- Comprehensive product portfolio

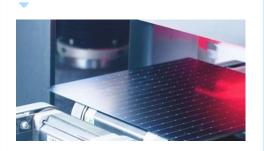


i-TOPCon

Ultra & Tandem

2025+ -----

- i-TOPCon cell efficiency can be improved by more than 1%, and module power can be improved by more than 30W
- i-TOPCon + Perovskite Tandem Cell: Efficiency > 30%







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Trina Vertex N Product Family Introduction





Vertex

N-type industry average level



- Small format module: 2m² extreme design , leading power and efficiency.
- Medium format module: excellent installation and electrical compatibility, best partner for tracker.
- Large format module: ultra high power, "designed for optimal LCOE".





210+N VERTEX DNA

210

Innovative Technology Platform

210/210R



advanced wafer products in mass production

Half-cut technology



High shadow tolerance and reduced risk of hot spots

Non-destructive cutting



Lower risk of hidden cracks, higher product reliability

MBB (multi-busbar)



Perfect balance of efficiency and reliability

High density packaging



Reduced risk of hidden cracks, higher reliability



N

Trinasolar i-TOPCon



i-TOPCon Advanced technology upgrade drives continuous efficiency improvement.

Laser induced Firing, Rear planar reflector, Highly low rear TOPCon structure, Edge Recovery Technology



TOPCon core patent group, globally Risk-free

Stand at the forefront of the industry with over a hundred patents in the TOPCon field.



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Mark Hutchins
Magazine Director
pv magazine



Blathnaid O'Dea

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