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10 December 2024

 11:00 am – 12:00 pm | PDT, Los Angeles

 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm | EDT, New York City

 8:00 pm – 9:00 pm | CET, Berlin, Madrid



Anne Fischer Senior Editor pv magazine USA



The benefits of hail and wind resistant solar modules



Billy Christie Director of Engineering Center Trinasolar



Jon Previtali Senior Principal Engineer VDE Americas



Tristan Erion-Lorico Vice President, Sales and Marketing Kiwa PVEL

pv magazine Webinars

Welcome!

Do you have any questions? ?
Send them in via the Q&A tab.
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.



December 10, 2024

Hail and High Wind in Solar



Billy Christie Director of Engineering Center

Trinasolar



Triston Erion-Lorico Vice President, Sales & Marketing



Jon Previtali Head Of Smart Tracking Technology

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AGENDA

- 1. Company intro
- 2. Product Development
- 3. Product Suite
- 4. Kiwa PVEL Module Testing
- 5. VDE Americas Hail Risk Advising
- 6. Wrap up





Company Intro

Trina Solar Confidential, Public

Company Intro

- Founded in 1997, Trina Solar has been supporting the solar industry for more than 25 years. By the end of 2023, Trina has shipped more than 190GW of modules throughout its existence.
- Trina has long been a leader in the technological advancement of the industry as a whole and has received extensive technical and brand recognition from renowned independent institutes worldwide:
 - 100% in BNEF Bankability Survey for 7 years in a row.
 - "Overall Highest Achiever" by RETC for 4 consecutive years.
 - Awarded AAA ranking for 5 years in a row in the PVTech Bankability Ratings report.
 - "Top Performer" for all 9 years of PVEL's Top Performer Scorecard.
- Large international presence as well as a strong presence here in the US. In 2023, Trina Solar US added 30% to its headcount with further investment coming in 2024. Trina's US manufacturing facility in Wilmer, Texas will add roughly 1,500 local jobs alone.



Trinasolar

Trina Solar US Manufacturing

Trina Solar U.S. Initial Phase - PV Manufacturing Facility and Jobs Coming to Wilmer, Texas

- Location: Wilmer, Texas
- **1.35 million square foot** solar photovoltaic (PV) manufacturing facility
- More than a **\$200 million investment** in property and equipment
- 1,500 local jobs
- 5 GW of modules, with polysilicon sourced from the United States and Europe
- Starting in 2024, the facility will produce innovative large power output Vertex modules using the state-of-the-art 210mm large size wafer and the most advanced technology in the solar industry.

Trinasolar





Complete Product Support – Trina Solutions

- Trina is now also a provider of a tracker product and energy storage product. Our goal is to support customers with a complete solar + storage solution.
- We believe our control of both module and racking design puts us in a unique position to create an optimized package to reduce cost, component count, and install time.
- Our integrated solution also reduces headaches with product compatibility, warranty and O&M issues, and overall project design.



Trina Storage is a business unit of Trina Solar, a company with over 20 years of solar experience. Supported by a Tier-1 supply chain, Trina Storage provides highly-scalable, easy-to-install energy storage solutions.

With an in-depth understanding of the technical requirements, Trina Storage designs flexible commercial and industrial solutions that meet unique customer needs for the generation, transmission and distribution of solar energy.

Trina Storage builds on a strong solar heritage to deliver energy storage solutions at scale. Our mission is to lead the transition to renewable energy through cost-effective and high-quality storage. We're dedicated to providing "Solar for Everyone".

Trina Storage provides the most reliable energy storage platform on the market - from consultancy and hardware to software and service.



Product Development For New Market Demands

Trina Solar Confidential, Public

Product Development

Utility-scale PV capacity in early-stage development by state, December 2023



Early-stage developmen capacity (MW) 0 - 1,000 1,000 - 2,500 2,500 - 5,000 5,000 - 10,000 10,000+

Utility-scale PV capacity in late-stage development by state, December 2023





0 - 1,000

1,000 - 2,500

2,500 - 5,000

5.000 - 10.000

Product Development









Source: Annual large hail probability from 1979 to 2015. Credit: Prein and Holland [2018]

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Product Development



- As climate change continues, hail events are predicted to be both more numerous and intense as time goes on.
- Hail damage has caused more than 50% of total insured solar project losses over the past five years, with events in Texas alone exceeding \$300 million in 2022.
- Although hail events account for less than 2% of solar project insurance claims by volume, they account for more than 50% of total dollar losses.
- Module recycling is still relatively minimal, so lots of damaged modules unfortunately end up in the landfill.





Product Suite and Testing

Vertex N

NE19RC

Maximum Power Output

Up to **620W**

Maximum Efficiency



Electrical Parameters

- Open Circuit Voltage : 49.6V
- Short Circuit Current : 15.91A

Mechanical Parameters

- Single Glass 3.2mm Fully Tempered
- 65mm Hail Test Performance
- High Load: +5400 / -2400 Pa
- Dimensions : 2382*1134*35mm
- Weight : 28.8kg



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Vertex S⁺

NE09RH.05

Maximum Power Output

 $\mathsf{Up to}\,445W$

Maximum Efficiency



Electrical Parameters

- Open Circuit Voltage : 35.1V
- Short Circuit Current : 16.07A

Mechanical Parameters

- Single Glass 3.2mm Fully Tempered
- 65mm Hail Test Performance Expected
- High Load: +6000 / -5400 Pa
- Dimensions : 1762*1134*35mm
- Weight : 21.5kg



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Hail Testing Results - RETC

Model #	Туре	Hail Size	Stow Angle	Testing Remarks
NEC10BC 30		45mm	50°	No Defect
NEGISKC.20		55mm	65°	No Defect
DEG21C.20	2.0mm+2.0mm dual glass	45mm	50°	No Defect
	modules	55mm	65°	No Defect
NEG21C.20		45mm	50°	No Defect
	3.2mm single	45mm	0°	No Defect
NE19RC	glass backsheet	55mm	50°	No Defect
	module	65mm	60°	No Defect



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Wrap Up





- Solar growth in hail prevalent areas such as Texas, climate change, and the increasingly large size format of utility scale solar modules are all driving the need for hail-hardened solar modules.
- Hail events can be catastrophic for solar plants if their effects are not mitigated. Hail accounts for less than 2% of solar insurance claims by volume, but more than 50% by dollar losses.
- Using modules specifically designed for hail events, along with proper tracker stow protocols, is the best way to prepare a plant for the possibility of a severe storm.
- Hail testing is an important way to ensure that hail-hardened modules can truly be expected to survive severe hail events and Kiwa PVEL is a leader in this area with hail testing being incorporated into their PQP testing protocol.
- VDE Americas' has developed statistical models that allow one to better understand the financial implications of the products they're using for their solar projects. This data can be used to better understand what losses an owner can expect from hail events throughout the life of a system and help negotiate for more favorable project insurance premiums.
- Trina offers 3.2mm/backsheet modules to serve the hail-hardened module market. Our NE19RC module is ideal for both the C&I and utility markets while the NE09RH.05 module is perfect for the residential space. These modules both utilize our top-of-the-line N-type TOPCon technology so that there is no detriment to performance in pursuit of higher durability.



Trinasolar

Thank you!

The benefits of hail and wind resistant solar modules

Insights from Kiwa PVEL's Testing

kiwa PVEL

> We Create Trust

Kiwa PVEL is the Independent Lab of the Downstream Solar Market

10+

Years of experience

Bills of materials tested in the lab

700+

Downstream partners

400+

Our mission is to support the worldwide solar and energy storage buyer community by generating data that accelerates adoption of solar technology.

Services at a glance:

Extended reliability and performance testing for PV modules

- Batch testing of PV modules
- Outdoor testing at PVUSA, an iconic grid-connected research site
- Data services for PV buyers and investors
 - See more details at kiwa.com/pvel



PQP Test Sequence

The PQP evolves every two years based on feedback from Kiwa PVEL's downstream partners, module manufacturers, and the industry's collective understanding of module failure modes and test mechanisms.

The most recent update introduced the new UVID test and streamlined many of the tests leading to faster execution of PQP projects.

Learn more about the current version of the PQP test plan at <u>kiwa.com/pvel/pqp</u>.





Mechanical Stress Sequence Trends





Mechanical Stress Sequence Outlier





Breakage occurred during SML (during downward pressure) Significant laminate deflection before breakage Frame was not robust enough

to prevent breakage



Mechanical Stress Sequence Outlier



- Breakage occurred during SML (partially through the second downward pressure cycle)
 Bent frame inducing structural failure and broken glass
 Aggressive frame design via
- Aggressive frame design via thin walls







Mechanical Stress Sequence Outlier





- Breakage occurred during SML (start of first upward pressure cycle)
- Frame adhesive failed, allowing laminate to pull out of frame channel



Hail Stress Sequence Trends – Breakage Rates





Hail Stress Sequence Trends – Power Loss





Hail Stress Sequence – Rear Glass Breakage





As reported in the 2024
 Scorecard: Only the rear-side glass broke on 40% of the G//G modules that experienced glass breakage.
 When this occurs, it's often during the 11th hail shot (which is aimed over the junction box).



Trina's MS	S and HSS Re	sults	5	The 2024 PV Module Reliability Scorecard Welcome to the 2024 Scorecard				2024 PV MODULE RELIABILITY SCORECARD		
MANUFACTURER	MODEL TYPE	(立) で参	(³ ,	₩	Æ	A Contraction	盗	Ψ	MODULE DESIGN	CELL TECHNOLOGY
Trinasolar	TSM-xxxDEG19C.20	\checkmark	\checkmark	~	40,	~			bifacial - glass//glass	p-type PERC
Trinasolar	TSM-xxxNE09RC.05			~	45,	\checkmark	\checkmark		bifacial - glass//backshee	n-type TOPCon
Trinasolar	TSM-xxxNEG21C.20	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	40⁄	~	\checkmark	\checkmark	bifacial - glass//glass	n-type TOPCon

Learn more at: www.scorecard.pvel.com/Trina



Kiwa PVEL's Premium Partner Program

- Module purchasing companies can subscribe to the Premium Partner Program to receive a quarterly Dashboard of Kiwa PVEL's Product Qualification Program (PQP) test results. This allows for easy Approved Vendor List (AVL) management and identification of potential new suppliers.
- PQP results from over 45 module manufacturers are included in the Dashboard, with nearly 30 manufacturers sharing their non-anonymized results. Nearly 200 BOMs are included, with over 60% of BOMs non-anonymized.

Manufacturer	Module Model & Datasheet	PVEL Project #	BOM #	Factory Location	Wafer Edge Length (mm)	PQP Pass / Fail	Wet Leakage Result ❤	Visual Inspection Result	<u>TC 600</u>	<u>DH 2000/Post-BO</u>	<u>MSS</u>	<u>P.I.D. 192</u> (<u>Negative Bias)</u>	P.I.D. 192 (Positive Bias)	LID (>60 kWh/m2)	LETID (post-486h)
Manufacturer B	BBB-BB-BBB	2222	2	China	182	Pass	Pass	Pass	-2.15%	Test not required	Test not required	Test not required	Test not required	Test not required	-3.48%
Manufacturer B	BBB-BB-BBB	2222	3	China	182	Test not required	Pass	Pass	Test not required	Test not required	Test not required	Test not required	Test not required	Test not required	-3.57%
Manufacturer C	000-00-000	3333	1	China	166	Pending	Pass	Pass	Pending	-0.09%	Test not required	-0.20%	Test not required	NOD	-3.53%
Manufacturer C	222-22-222	3333	1	China	182	Pending	Pass	Pass	Pending	Pending	Test not required	Pending	Test not required	Pending	-3.35%
Manufacturer D	DDD-DD-DDD	4444	1	China	158.75	Pending	Pass	Pass	Pending	Pending	-2.97%	Pending	-1.04%	-0.27%	-0.50%
Manufacturer D	DDD-DD-DDD	4444	2	China	166	Pass	Pass	Pass	-1.11%	-0.28%	Test not required	-0.58%	Test not required	NOD	-0.57%
Manufacturer D	DDD-DD-DDD	4444	3	China	158.75	Pass	Pass	Pass	NOD	NOD	-0.50%	-0.08%	Test not required	-1.02%	-1.34%
Manufacturer D	DDD-DD-DDD	4444	1	China	182	Pending	Pass	Pass	Pending	-1.19%	Test not required	-1.95%	-1.29%	-0.24%	-1.23%
Manufacturer E	EEE-EE-EEE	5555	1	China	158.75	Pass	Pass	Pass	-2.16%	-0.28%	Test not required	-0.12%	Test not required	-0.85%	-1.01%
Manufacturer F	FFF-FF-FFF	6666	1	Turkey	158.75	Pass	Pass	Pass	-3.76%	-0.75%	-1.47%	-4.03%	Test not required	-0.11%	-1.65%
Manufacturer F	FFF-FF-FFF	6666	1	Turkey	182	Pending	Pass	Pass	Pending	Test not required	Test not required	Test not required	-0.99%	Test not required	-1.02%
Manufacturer F	FFF-FF-FFF	6666	2	Turkey	182	Pending	Pass	Pass	Test not required	-1.43%	Test not required	-2.27%	-0.85%	NOD	-1.13%
Manufacturer G	GGG-GG-GGG	7777	1	China	158.75	Pass	Pass	Pass	Test not required	Test not required	Test not required	-1.84%	Pending	-0.32%	-0.94%
Manufacturer G	GGG-GG-GGG	7777	2	China	158.75	Pass	Pass	Pass	Test not required	Test not required	Test not required	-1.17%	Test not required	Test not required	-1.60%
Manufacturer G	GGG-GG-GGG	7777	1	China	158.75	Fail	Pass	Fail PID-192	-1.72%	-2.07%	Test not required	-3.86%	Test not required	NOD	-2.09%

A selection of the current Premium Partners:



Learn more at: www.kiwa.com/pvel/ppp





We Create Trust

Contact us Kiwa PVEL pvel@kiwa.com www.kiwa.com/pvel



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Safeguard solar assets with

Hail-Resistant PV Modules

VDE

Loss estimates comparing 3.2 mm front glass/polymer back sheet modules with 2 mm/2mm dual glass modules

Jon Previtali Senior principal engineer

& hail advisory services lead Jon.previtali@vde.com

About VDE Americas' engineering advisory services

VDE Americas provides technical advisory and risk mitigation services to owners, financiers, project developers, operators, equipment providers, and insurance companies working on solar, energy storage, and solar-plus-storage system transactions.

Cumulatively, we have served as a technical advisor for more than 10 GW of operating solar assets and more than 4.5 GW of BESS capacity.

We are the **world's leading expert on hail risk** assessment for utility scale solar farms.

Our parent company is one of the largest technology organizations in Europe.



High-level overview of VDE Americas' hail risk advisory products

Probable maximum loss (PML) reports

 P50 and downside PML risk estimates with average annual loss (AAL) estimates to support insurance coverage and quotes

Pro-forma risk exposure (PRE) reports

 P50 and downside risk estimates within typical (or userspecified) financial hold periods and outside insurance

Hail defense operationalization support

- Review/improve hail monitoring, alerting, and stow protocols
- Hail monitoring and stow specifications for project contracts

Post-event forensic investigations

 Process radar- and ground-observed data, review mitigation efficacy, assess module hail resilience vs. warranty, compare actual to modeled loss, and provide summary report

ArcGIS-based hail risk maps of the CONUS

- Naturally occurring hail return interval (meteorological risk)
- Technology-specific PML and AAL (financial risk) contour maps



DE

Small number of severe hail events have caused large financial losses

Notable hail loss events

- Midway Solar (2019)
 - >\$70M insured losses
 - Source: Insurance Insider magazine
- Texas Hail Season (2022)
 - >\$300M cumulatively (three events)
 - Source: GCube Q4 2023 report
- Fighting Jays Solar (2024)
 - \$50M claim estimate
 - Source: Insurance Insider magazine



Hail accounts for less than 2% of solar insurance claims by volume—but more than 50% of total dollar losses.

Population bias is pervasive in traditional hail risk maps and data



Source: FEMA

Population bias is pervasive in traditional hail risk maps and data



Source: FEMA

VDE Americas' hail return interval contour maps eliminate population bias



Source: VDE Americas



Factors that impact hail resilience or vulnerability



Hail risk is increasing due to 'perfect storm' of market & technology trends



Solar Panel Size Vs Power Output





VDE -

PV module construction details and Hail Resiliency Curves

Glass characteristics

Thickness and heat strengthening

Module size

Potential impact area

Module packaging

- Symmetric vs. asymmetric
- Glass-on-glass vs. glass-on-backsheet

Cell technology

Crystalline silicon vs. thin film

Frame details

Framed or frameless



Source: RETC article and data published in kWh analytics' Solar Risk Assessment 2023.

Freezer iceball (FIB) A laboratory-manufactured hailstone proxy with standardized physical characteristics created for the explicit purpose of conducting ballistic-impact testing to published engineering standards, such as PV module testing in accordance with IEC 61215.

Single-axis tracker defensive hail stow capabilities and response times

Maximum tilt angle

Defensive hail stow position

Wind resilience

Based on wind speed and direction

Response capabilities

Time required to execute hail stow

Reliability and availability

Tracker on target percentage

Hail stow confidence

 Will passive or automatic wind stow protocols override defensive hail stow?



Remote operations center's alert, command, and control capabilities



Regional and project-specific weather alert provider sends **severe hail alert**

Hail stow command sent from remote operations center – preemptive (regional) and immediate (project-specific).

Trackers rotate modules to the **defensive hail stow position**

Automating tracker defensive hail stow based on real-time weather alerts reduces project risk but does not obviate the need for manual oversight.

Review of Trina's Hail-Resistant Modules



Three representative hail risk locations on a 55 mm hail Return Interval (RI) map used to model a 100 MWdc project with a \$0.51/W module replacement cost and \$25/MWh revenue rate.



Source: VDE Americas

PML (Probable Maximum Loss) & AAL (Average Annual Loss) Estimates – Moderate Risk



PML (Probable Maximum Loss) & AAL (Average Annual Loss) Estimates – Severe Risk



PML (Probable Maximum Loss) & AAL (Average Annual Loss) Estimates – Extreme Risk



40-yr P-50 and P-95 Downside Proforma Risk Exposure (PRE) – Moderate Risk





40-yr P-50 and P-95 Downside Proforma Risk Exposure (PRE) – Severe Risk





40-yr P-50 and P-95 Downside Proforma Risk Exposure (PRE) – Extreme Risk





Business Interruption Loss Estimates– Moderate Risk



Case Study Project: 100 MWdc with a \$0.51/W module replacement cost

Repair duration period: 3 to 9 months Average energy revenue rate: \$25/MWh



Business Interruption Loss Estimates– Severe Risk



Less loss than Moderate Location because of ~5% higher solar irradiance in CO v. this location.

Case Study Project: 100 MWdc with a \$0.51/W module replacement cost

Repair duration period: 3 to 9 months Average energy revenue rate: \$25/MWh



Business Interruption Loss Estimates– Extreme Risk



Case Study Project: 100 MWdc with a \$0.51/W module replacement cost.

Repair duration period: 3 to 9 months Average energy revenue rate: \$25/MWh



In Conclusion: Summary of Savings with Trina 3.2mm front glass/polymer back sheet Hail-Resistant Modules Compared to 2mm/2mm dual glass modules

PML (Probable Maximum Loss)

- Flat (0°): 23% 26%
- 50° tilt: 61% 83%
- 60° tilt: 76% 100%
- 75° tilt: 100%

AAL (Annual Average Loss)

- Flat (0°): 58% 61%
- 50° tilt: 75% 86%
- 60° tilt: 84% 100%
- 75° tilt: 93% 100%

PRE (Proforma Risk Exposure) 40-yr P50

- Flat (0°): 62% 76%
- 50° tilt: 80% 100%
- 60° tilt: 91% 100%
- 75° tilt: n/a 100%

PRE (Proforma Risk Exposure) 40-yr P95 Downside

- Flat (0°): 51% 70%
- 50° tilt: 67% 95%
- 60° tilt: 77% 100%
- 75° tilt: n/a 100%

Please note

100% savings is modeled zero risk, but risk of hail damage is never completely zero. n/a means modeled risk is zero for both module types, so there was no delta.

BI (Business Interruption) 6 or 12 months

- Flat (0°): 3% 4%
- 50° tilt: 4% 7%
- 60° tilt: 25% 41%
- 75° tilt: 100%
- Lower savings are for modules facing into the wind during a hailstorm while higher savings are for modules facing out of the wind.
- Wind direction cannot be reliably predicted when hail falls.

Null hail event study and hail forensics database

Public database

- Anonymized project data
- Hosted by NREL DuraMat Data Hub

Project partners

- VDE Americas
- NREL
- SEIA
- FM Global
- CAC Specialty

Please contact me (jon.previtali@vde.com) to contribute to the forensics database or null event study.



Hail stow best practices tech memo (by VDE America & Wells Fargo)



We are protecting critical energy assets to ensure a worthwhile future.

Please join us.

For more information:

Jon Previtali

Senior principal engineer & hail advisory services lead Jon.previtali@vde.com



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Q&A



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Fossil fuel companies sued by all New England states, except one

by Anne Fischer

Ten reasons why small-scale, non-utility solar is important

by Ryan Kennedy





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CLEAN ENERGY CONFERENCE

Date February 19, 2025 Place Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

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Anne Fischer Senior Editor pv magazine USA

Thank you for joining today!

