

# Solar power's new dawn

## Energy Storage 2014 in Düsseldorf

**Berlin/Duesseldorf (gtai)** - Market research company EuPD has forecast a monumental rise in the sales of solar power storage systems over the next four years, the projections showing 100,000 units sold in 2018, up from 6,000 in 2013.

The most significant reason for the change is the cost reduction of PV-generated electricity, according to Germany's foreign trade and inward investment promotion agency, Germany Trade & Invest (GTAI).

"A battery is the next logical investment for people who are owners of solar power installations and whose systems are coming to the end of their 20 year contract lifetime," said Tobias Rothacher, Senior Manager Renewable Energies at GTAI.

"Most of these systems will still produce electricity even after their 20 year feed-in tariff period. The system owner can then decide if he wants to waste this electricity or if he wants to use his low-price electricity rather for himself by installing a battery system. We believe most people will decide for the latter."

Rothacher will be at the Energy Storage Trade Fair in Düsseldorf from Tuesday March 25 to Thursday March 27, explaining in more detail how Germany's Energiewende (energy transformation) is going, and particularly explaining this surge in popularity in solar installations.

GTAI will also be in China at the Intersolar 2014 Trade Fair from Wednesday March 26 to Friday March 28, elaborating on the multitude of investment opportunities the current surge in solar power installations and battery technology presents.

As the battery technology improves and the production capacity increases, batteries will fall in price – a process which has already begun.

Altogether there are some 1.4m solar installations in Germany, over 1m of which are on private buildings. The use of batteries enables energy to be supplied to those equipped houses through the dark hours as well as the light ones. The end of the feed-in tariffs means that self-sufficiency needs to become the norm through economic necessity for these households as well.



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