Shan Yang Starts Initial Pilot Polysilicon Production

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Published 20th May 2008

Taiwan Semiconductor Corporation (TSC) has started constructing a polysilicon factory in Yilan, eastern Taiwan. Shan Yang Technologies, the new subsidiary, aims to produce polysilicon with the purity of 9N level.

"The technology we are using is a new American method, which is neither using metallurgical silicon nor silane gas." said Mr. Jiang, a manager of the new factory. "But at the moment we cannot guarantee our products can reach 9N level when we start mass production."

Polysilicon samples have been sent to PV companies to test for validation. Shan Yang Technologies hopes to start commercial production in 2009, with the eventual production reaching 5,000 tons annually.

At present, TSC is the largest investor of the new company with a 45% stake. Another key shareholder is Enerage, an R&D company based in US and Taiwan that is focused on fuel cell technologies. Enerage are heavily involved in developing Shan Yang's new polysilicon technology. Shan Yang has a registered capital of around €17 million. The company plans to raise funds in late 2008 and expand the capital size to €25-32 million.