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## Poly-Si spot prices fall to US\$150-175/kg, say Taiwan makers

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Major international suppliers of solar-grade polycrystalline silicon (poly-silicon or poly-Si) have lowered their quotes to US\$150-175/kg, a drop of 56-63% from the US\$400/kg quotes seen in October 2008 and the lowest level since February-March 2006, according to industry sources in the Taiwan.

This reflects continued decreases in the global demand for polycrystalline silicon cells, the sources indicated. Some new suppliers, whose product quality is not as stable as that of the major suppliers, have even offered spot market prices of below US \$100/kg, the sources pointed out.

For some long-term supply contracts, US\$150-175 may be lower than the contract prices, the sources indicated. However, there seems to be little room for spot market prices of poly-Si to drop further unless the business outlook for 2009 becomes worse than currently expected, the sources pointed out.

Main international suppliers of poly-Si include US-based Hemlock and MEMC, Norway-based REC, Germany-based Wacker as well as Japan-based Mitsubishi Material, Sumitomo Titanium and Tokuyama, the sources noted.

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