

Global Solar Glass Market: Trends and Opportunities (2014-2019)



May 2014

Scope of the Report

The Report entitled "Global Solar Glass Market: Trends & Opportunities (2014-2019)" provide an insight into the market dynamics and various trends and challenges associated with the solar glass market. The report gives a detail insight into volume demand of solar glass over the past five years. A separate section on China solar glass market has been provided that discusses production capacity and market players. Major drivers and challenges are also covered in detail in the report. The competitive aspects of the market are also highlighted and key players namely Xinyi Solar, Asahi Glass, NSG Group and Saint Gobain are profiled with their main business strategies.

Geographical Coverage

- ⊕ Global
- ⊕ China

Company Coverage

- ⊕ Xinyi Solar
- ⊕ Asahi Glass Co.
- ⊕ NSG Group
- ⊕ Saint Gobain

Executive Summary

Solar or photovoltaic glass is generally used to cover the front sheet of solar modules to protect the solar cells. It minimizes light reflection and absorption thereby allowing more sunlight to pass through the protective glass to the solar cells. The demand for solar glass has grown at a remarkable pace over the past few years. Factors driving this demand include recovery in global economies and Government subsidies provided to encourage solar power generation. Although the percentage share of solar glass out of total flat glass produced globally is very minimal, its share is estimated to increase driven by rising solar panel installations.

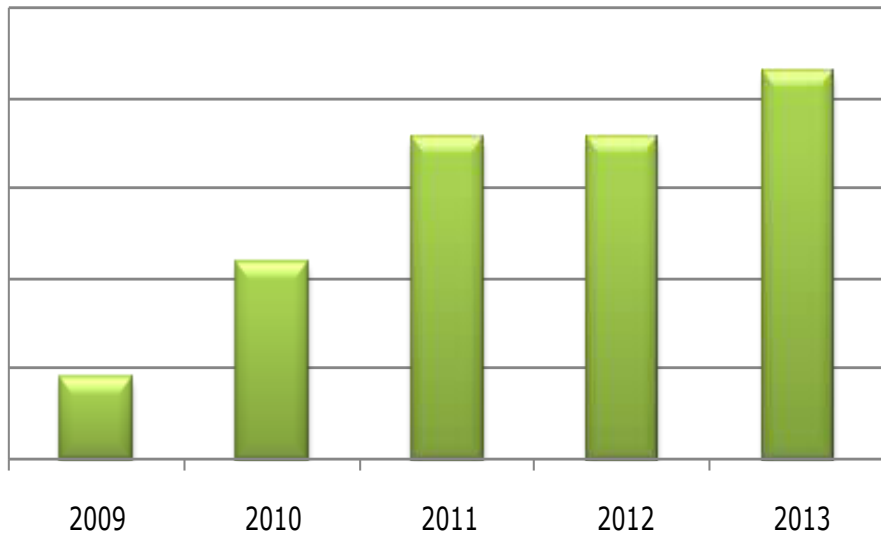
China has the largest manufacturing base for solar modules in the world. In 2012, the solar glass production capacity in China accounted for 90% of the global solar glass production capacity, with 58 solar glass manufacturers, out of which 38 produce ultra-clear photovoltaic raw glass. Xinyi Solar (XYS) is a leading global solar glass manufacturer in China and currently operates 4 ultra-clear PV raw glass production lines with an aggregate daily production capacity of 2,000 tons.

Factors like steady demand growth of photovoltaic modules especially in emerging markets like China, Japan and India, growing environmental concerns and rising feed-in-tariffs will drive the solar glass market in future. Initially the industry was dominated by leading glass manufacturers like Asahi Glass, Saint-Gobain, and PPG but at present many new players have entered the market that solely produces solar glass.

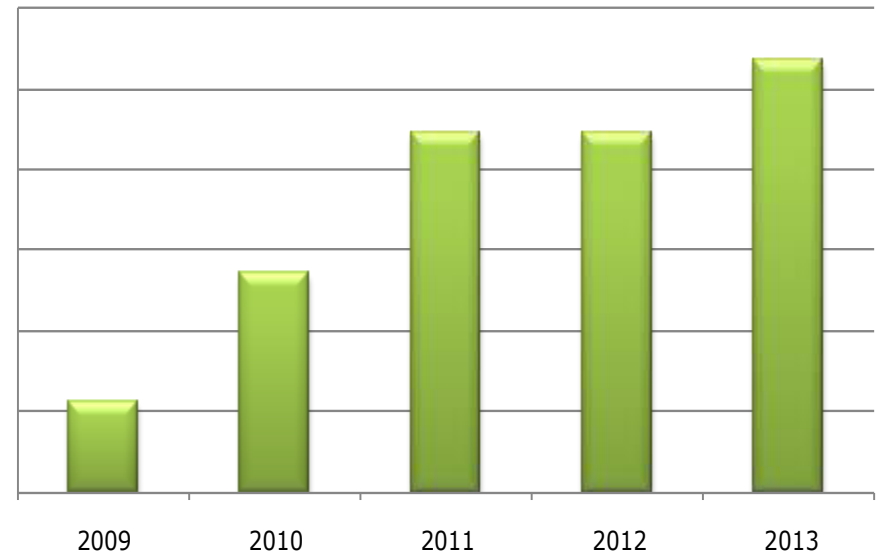
Global Solar Glass Demand: Overview

With increase in investments in solar farms and solar generation capability, the global demand for solar glass has increased at a CAGR of% over the period 2009-2013 and reached million tonnes in 2013. In 2013, the global solar industry has shown signs of rebound that is principally driven by the demand growth for solar modules in China, Japan and the US.

Global Demand of Solar Glass by Volume, 2009-13 (Million Tonnes)



Global Demand of Solar Glass by Total Surface Area, 2009-2013 (Million Square Meters)

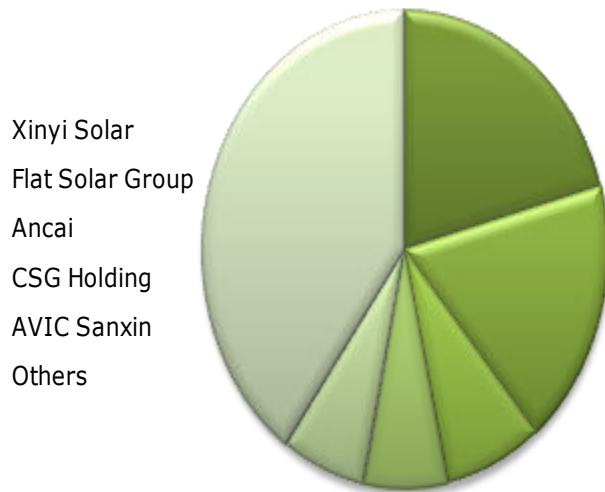


- In terms of surface area, demand for solar glass increased from million square meters in 2009 to million square meters in 2013.
- Growth in the market is due to

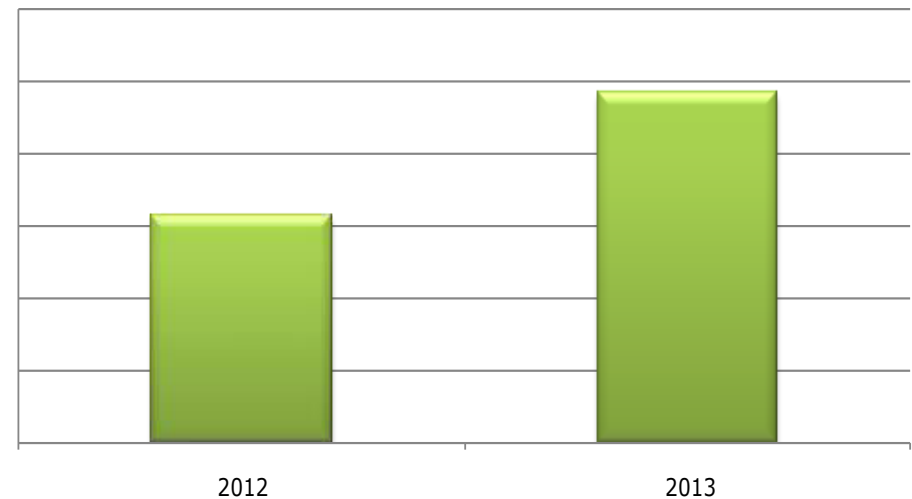
China Ultra-Clear Photovoltaic Raw Glass Market

In 2012, the solar glass production capacity in China accounted for% of the global solar glass production capacity. The total production capacity of solar glass increased from tonnes per day at the end of year 2012 to tonnes per day as of 30 June 2013.

Market Shares of Chinese Ultra-Clear Photovoltaic Raw Glass Manufacturers, June 2013



Production Capacity of Solar Glass in China, 2012 vs 2013 (Tonnes per Day)



- The top five ultra-clear photovoltaic raw glass manufacturers in China account for approximately% of the domestic ultra-clear photovoltaic raw glass market.
- Xinyi Solar (XYS) is a leading global solar glass manufacturer in China.