

Coriolis Seminars  
for the Environment



Développement  
Durable à l'X



ÉCOLE  
POLYTECHNIQUE  
STEEM  
GRADUATE DEGREE



E4C  
INTERDISCIPLINARY  
CENTER

# Reshoring a Sustainable and Resilient PV Manufacturing in Europe

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Polytechnique – January 2025

## Global context

- ✓ Exponential growth of renewable energy over the last decade
- ✓ Rapid expansion of the photovoltaic industry via the gigafactory model

## Problem

- ✓ Centralization of manufacturing in Asia
- ✓ Supply chain dependence and regional imbalances

## Objective of the intervention

- ✓ To analyze the evolution of the market and technological innovations
- ✓ Identify the challenges and opportunities for reshoring in Europe



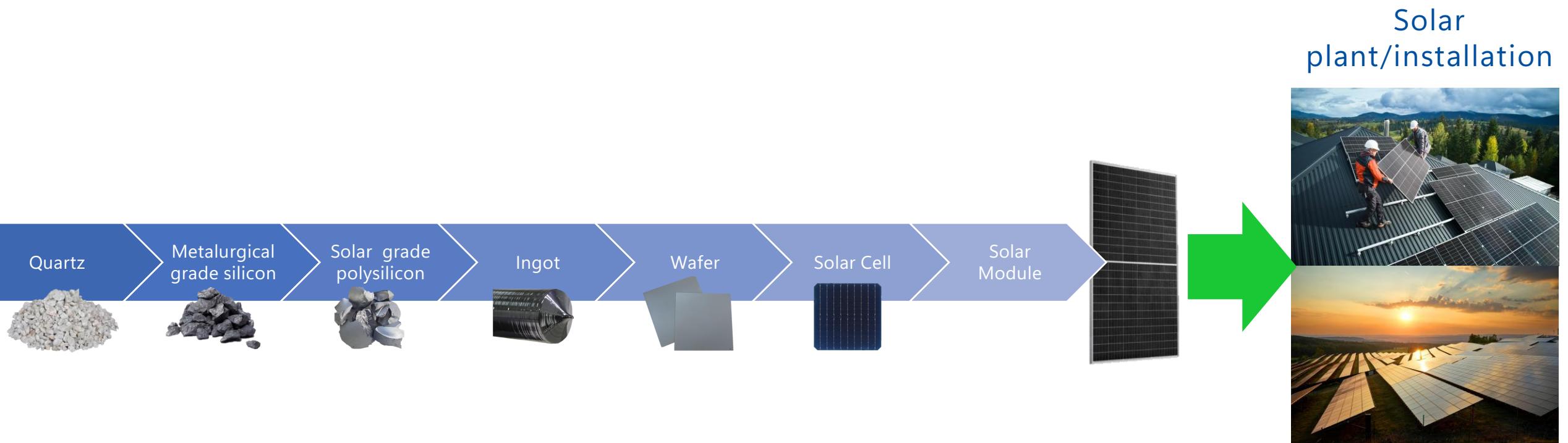
# **The solar value chain & current status in manufacturing**

# SOLAR VALUE CHAIN – WHAT IS IT EXACTLY ?

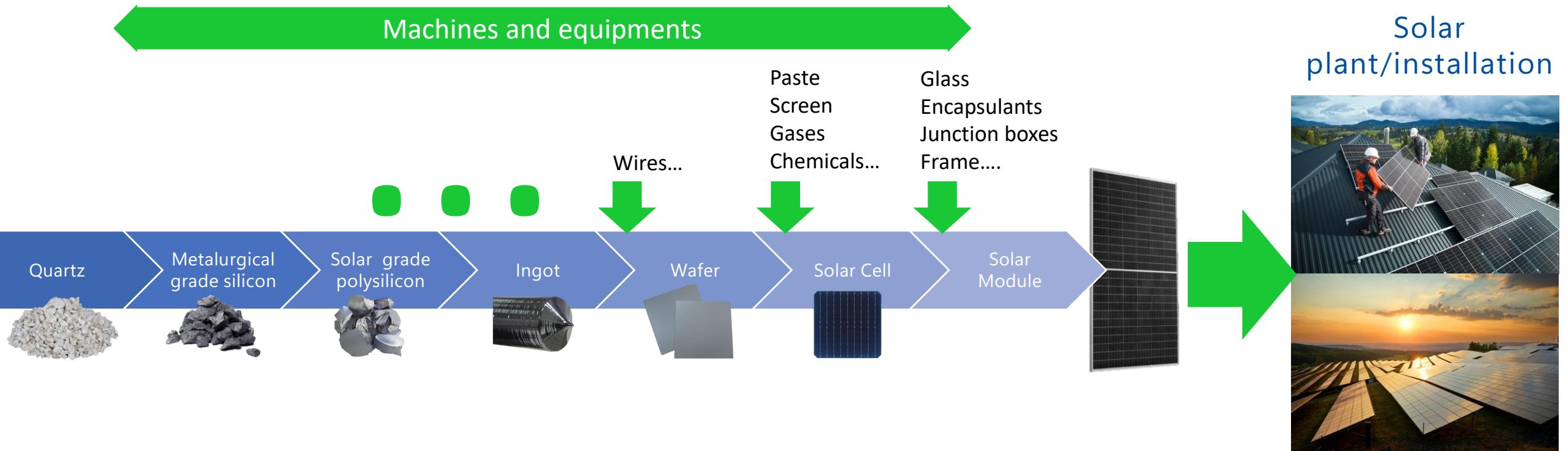
Solar  
plant/installation



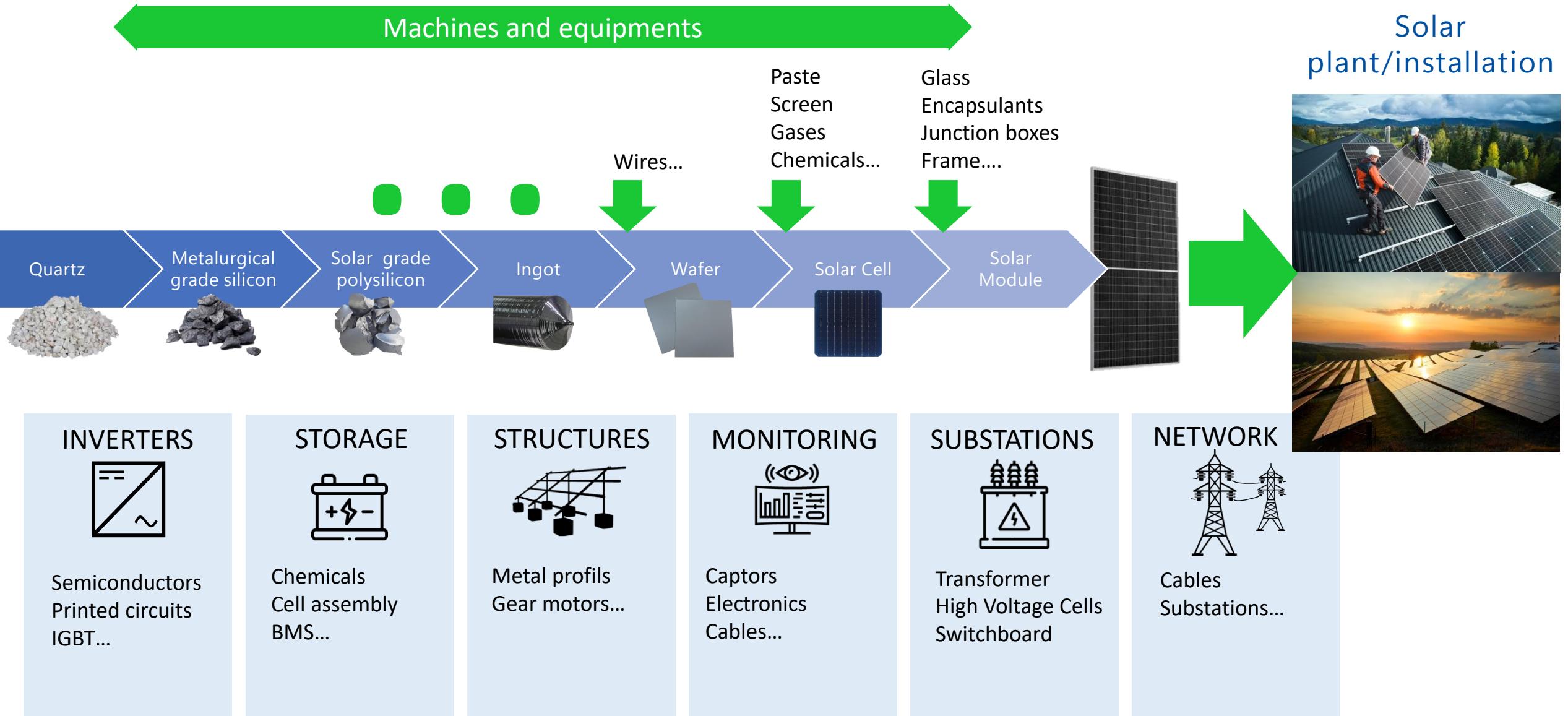
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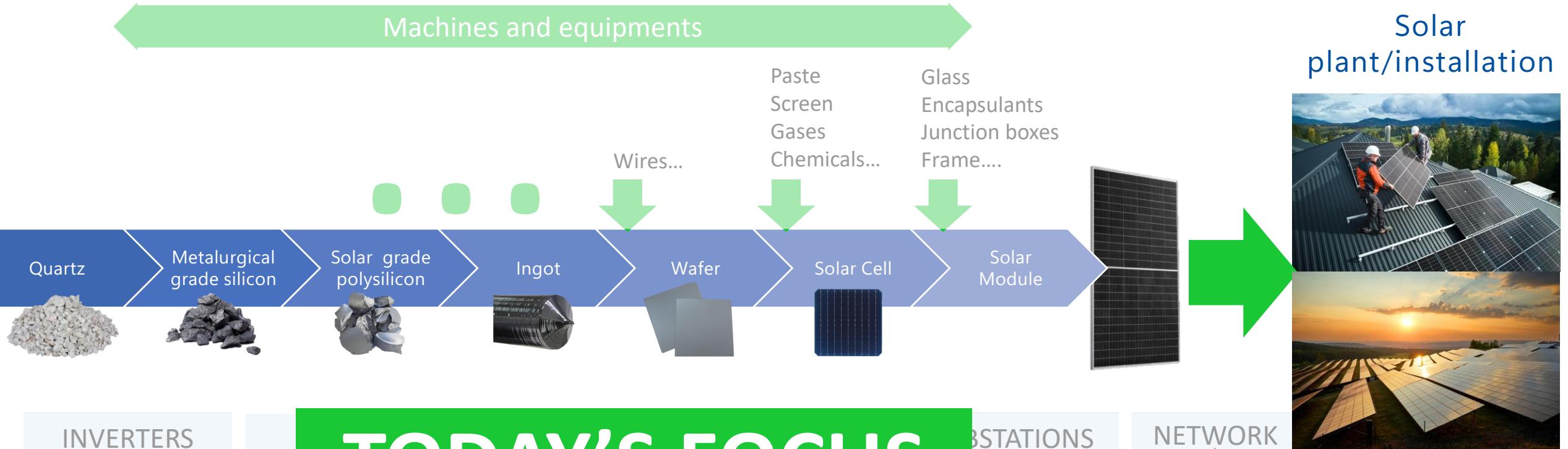
# SOLAR VALUE CHAIN – WHAT IS IT EXACTLY ?



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# SOLAR VALUE CHAIN – WHAT IS IT EXACTLY ?



Semiconductors  
Printed circuits  
IGBT...

Chemicals  
Cell assembly  
BMS...

Metals  
Profil  
Gear motors...

Capacitors  
Electronics  
Cables...

Substations  
Transformer  
High Voltage Cells  
Switchboard

Network  
Cables  
Substations...

# REPARTITION OF PRODUCTION CAPACITY AS OF 2022

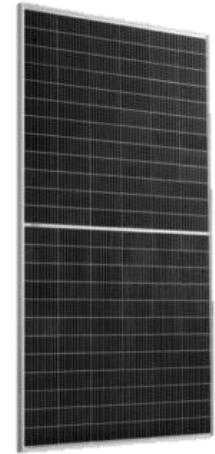
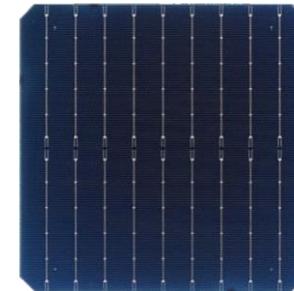
Solar grade  
polysilicon

Ingot

Wafer

Solar Cell

Solar Module



# REPARTITION OF PRODUCTION CAPACITY AS OF 2022

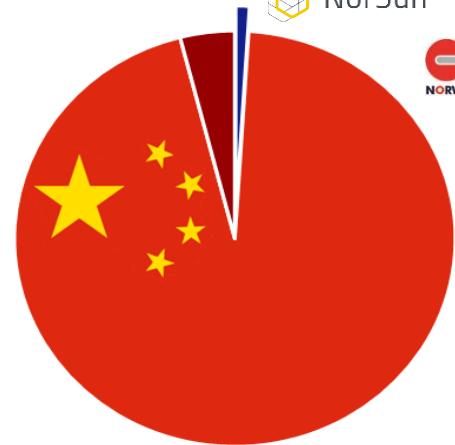
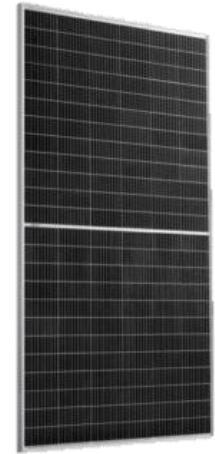
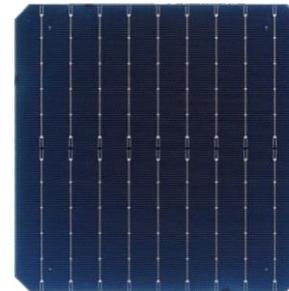
Solar grade  
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Ingot

Wafer

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Solar Module



NorSun

NORWEGIAN CRYSTALS

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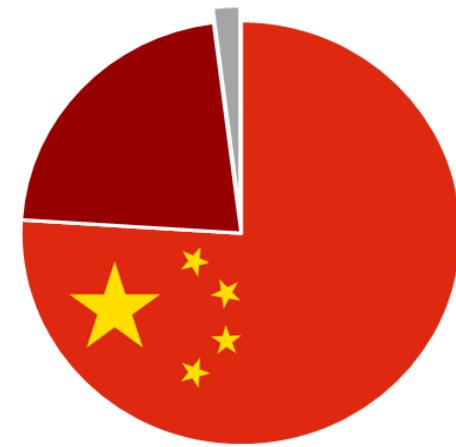
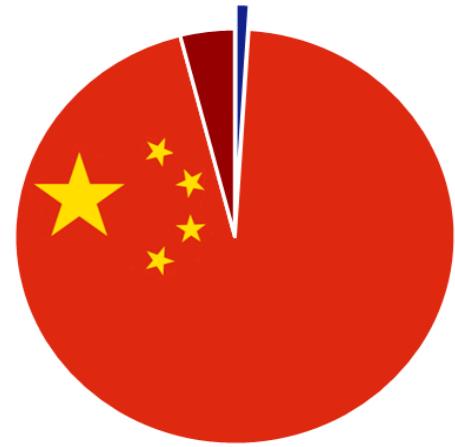
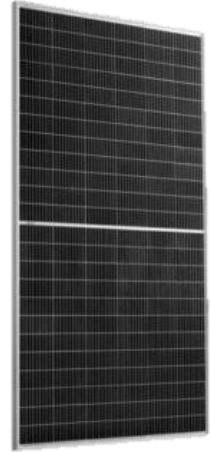
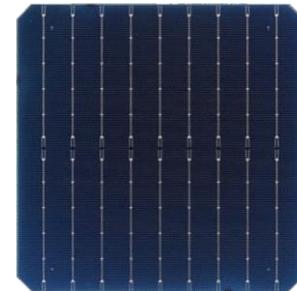
Solar grade  
polysilicon

Ingot

Wafer

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Solar Module



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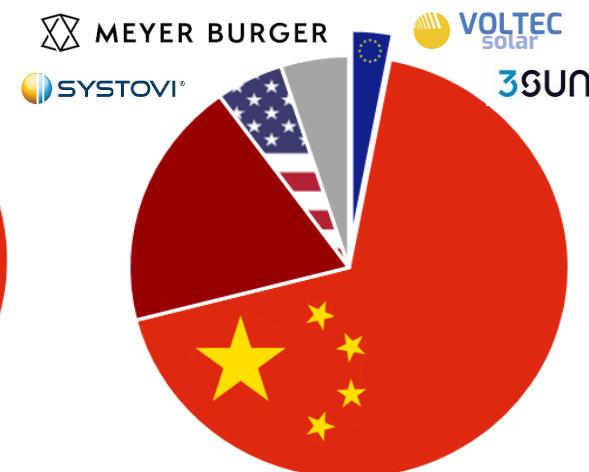
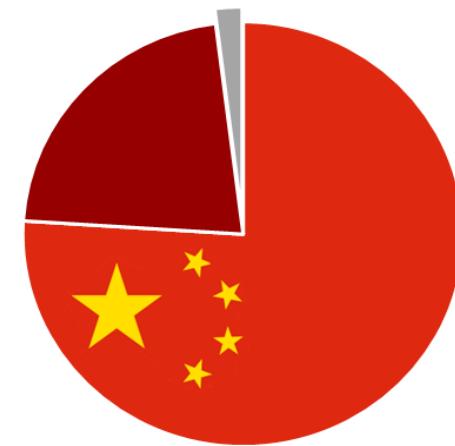
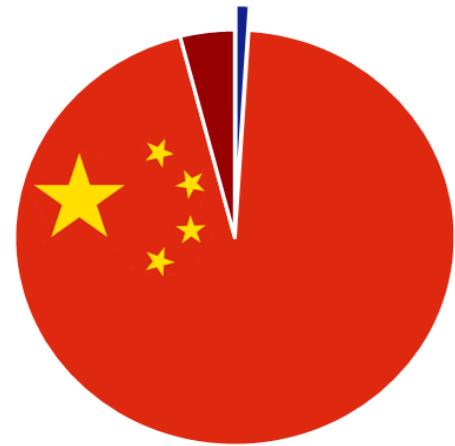
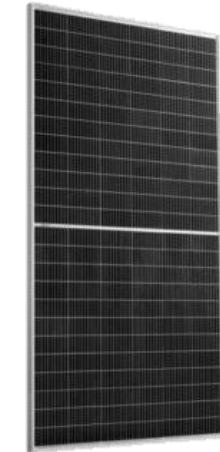
Solar grade  
polysilicon

Ingot

Wafer

Solar Cell

Solar Module



EU players have had huge issues in the last years

Many bankruptcies

Delocalisation to the US

How did we come to this situation?



How did China  
become such a leader

## THROWBACK AT 2000 AND 2010

Year	Global Module Manufacturing Capacity (GW)	Asia (%)	Europe (%)	North America (%)	Rest of the World (%)
2000	~1 GW	30%	50%	15%	5%

### In 2000

- ✓ EU (and Germany) dominates PV market
- ✓ Asia manufacturing is almost exclusively made in Japan

## THROWBACK AT 2000 AND 2010

Year	Global Module Manufacturing Capacity (GW)	Asia (%)	Europe (%)	North America (%)	Rest of the World (%)
2000	~1 GW	30%	50%	15%	5%
2010	~30 GW	60%	20%	15%	5%

### In 2000

- ✓ EU (and Germany) dominates PV market
- ✓ Asia manufacturing is almost exclusively made in Japan

### In 2010

- ✓ EU loses leaderships
- ✓ Aggressive investment of Chinese manufacturers
- ✓ China starts to overtake the global market

# CHINA'S STRATEGIC POLICIES IN SOLAR MANUFACTURING

## Government Support

- ✓ China's government has provided consistent support to the solar industry, including subsidies, tax incentives, and favorable policies, fostering rapid growth and development.

## Early Investment

- ✓ Significant investments in renewable energy technologies since the mid-2000s have positioned China as a leader in solar manufacturing.

## Economies of Scale

- ✓ A vast domestic market, strong supply chains and the gigafactory model have enabled Chinese manufacturers to achieve economies of scale, reducing costs and increasing global competitiveness.

## Innovation

- ✓ Continuous advancements in technology and manufacturing processes have allowed China to dominate the global solar market, now accounting for over 90% of global solar cell exports.

# RECENT INNOVATION THAT RESHAPED THE MODULE MARKET

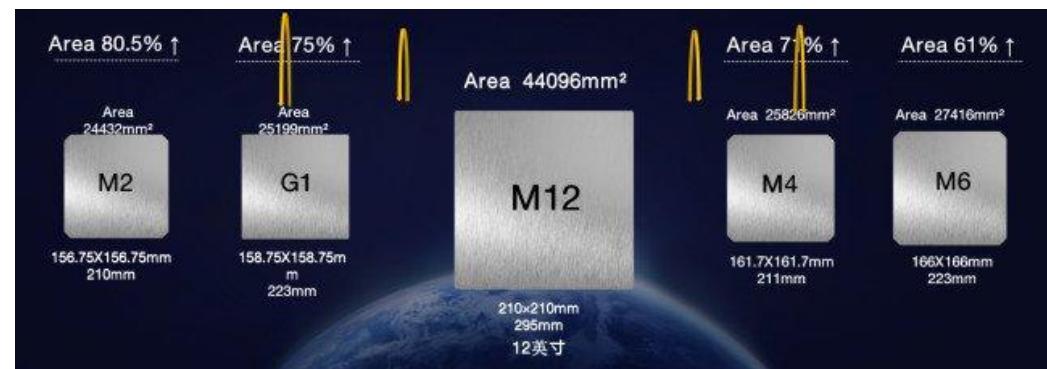
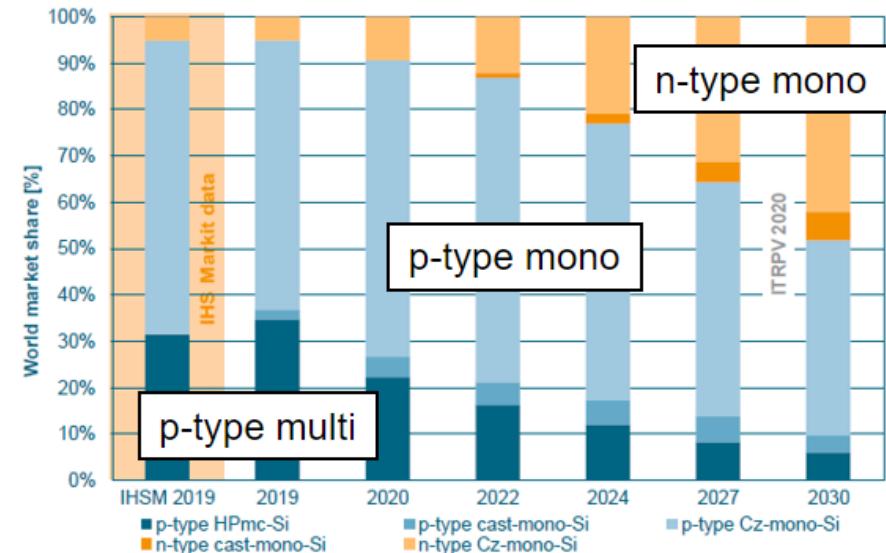
## At the wafer level

### Shift towards monocrystalline silicon

- ✓ Better quality of materials
- ✓ Economically viable process

### Change in wafer size

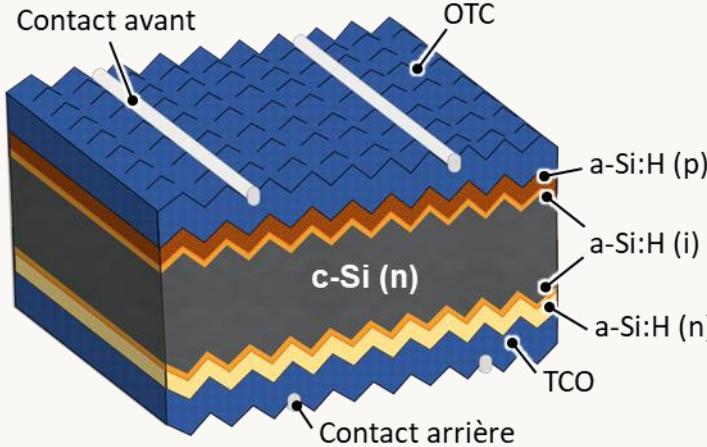
- ✓ Increased surface area and increased power
- ✓ Towards standardization: rectangular M10-G12



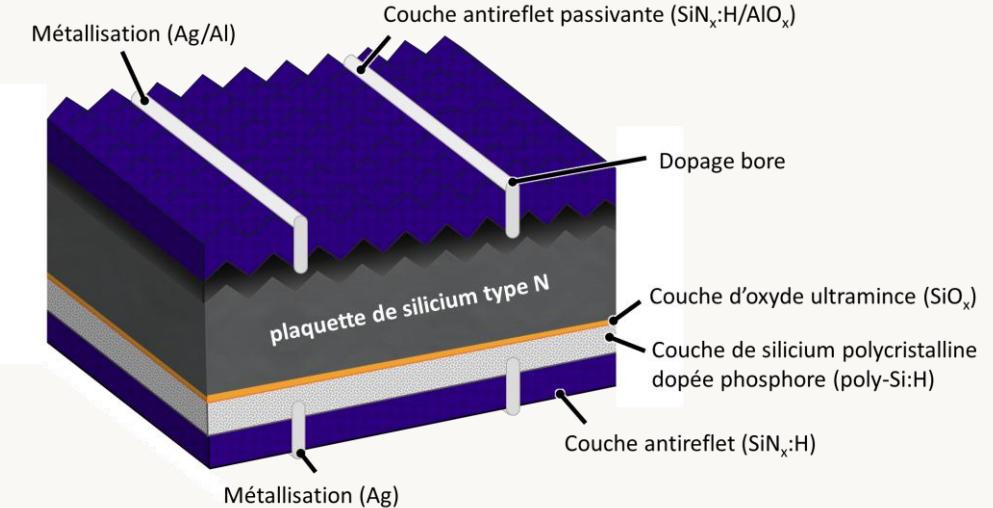
# RECENT INNOVATION THAT RESHAPED THE MODULE MARKET

## At the cell level

**SHJ**



**TOPCon**



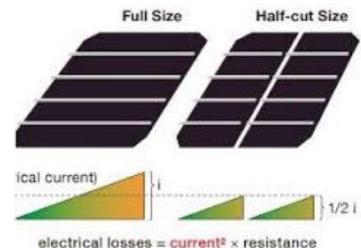
Key to Competitiveness	Main Drivers	PERC	TOPCon	HJT
Manufacturability	Capacity of equipment production	High	High	Low
	Component cost	Low	Low	Highest
Power / Efficiency	Current efficiency	20-21.5%	21-22.5%	21-23%
	Potential for high efficiency	Low	V Good	V Good
Environmental, Social, & Governance	Low Carbon footprint	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Sustainable	Yes	Yes	Raw materials
Technological evolutivity	Allows for Tandem cells	Yes	Yes	Yes

# RECENT INNOVATION THAT RESHAPED THE MODULE MARKET

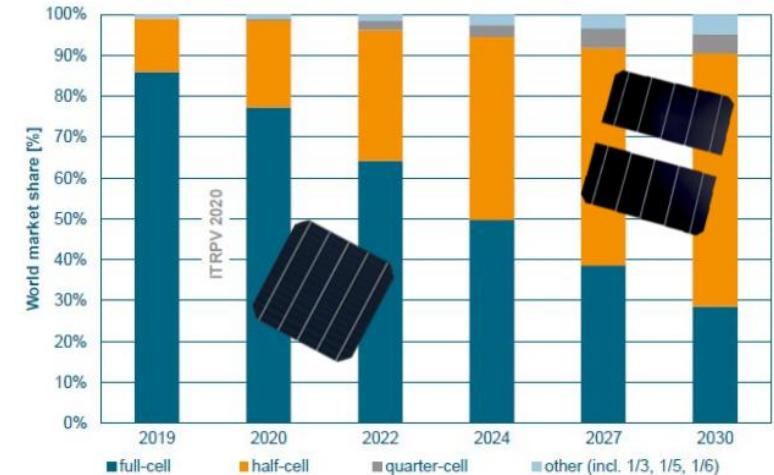
## At the module level

### Shift to half cells:

- ✓ Cutting cells = reduces electrical losses
- ✓ Optimised gain for half-cut or two cut cells



Different cell dimensions in c-Si modules



### Towards standardization of module dimensions:

- ✓ Agreements amongst manufacturers in 2023: 1134 mm wide modules



Is EU's grasping the  
opportunity?

# EU'S MARKET CURRENT STATUS

*Market share*



20%

Local installers buying from distributors  
Driven by national subsidies  
Sensitive to locally sourced panels



30%

Developers  
Partially subsidized through FiTs and tenders  
Sensitive to ESG criteria



50%

Developers  
Usually driven through tenders  
Economic criteria often prevails

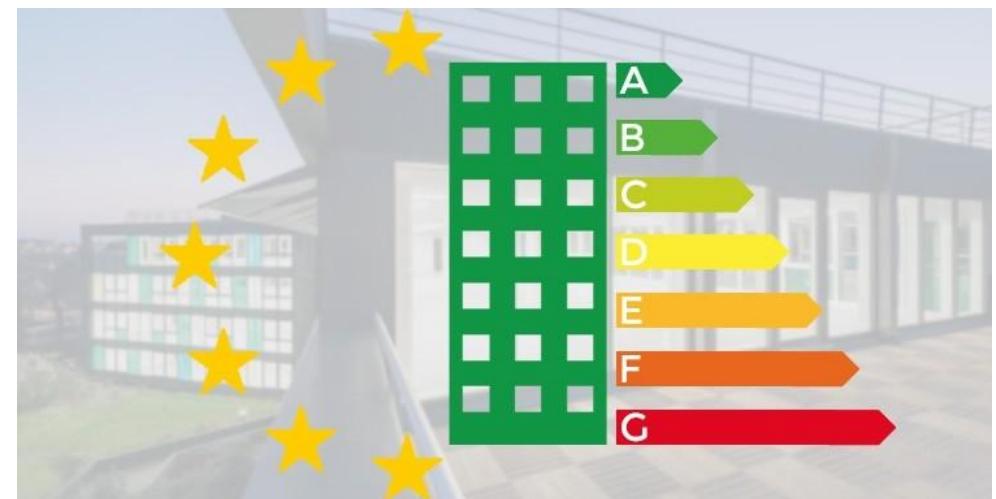
## Net Zero Industry Act

Requires Member States to introduce rules in public support to reach **30 GW of European production of solar panels by 2030**

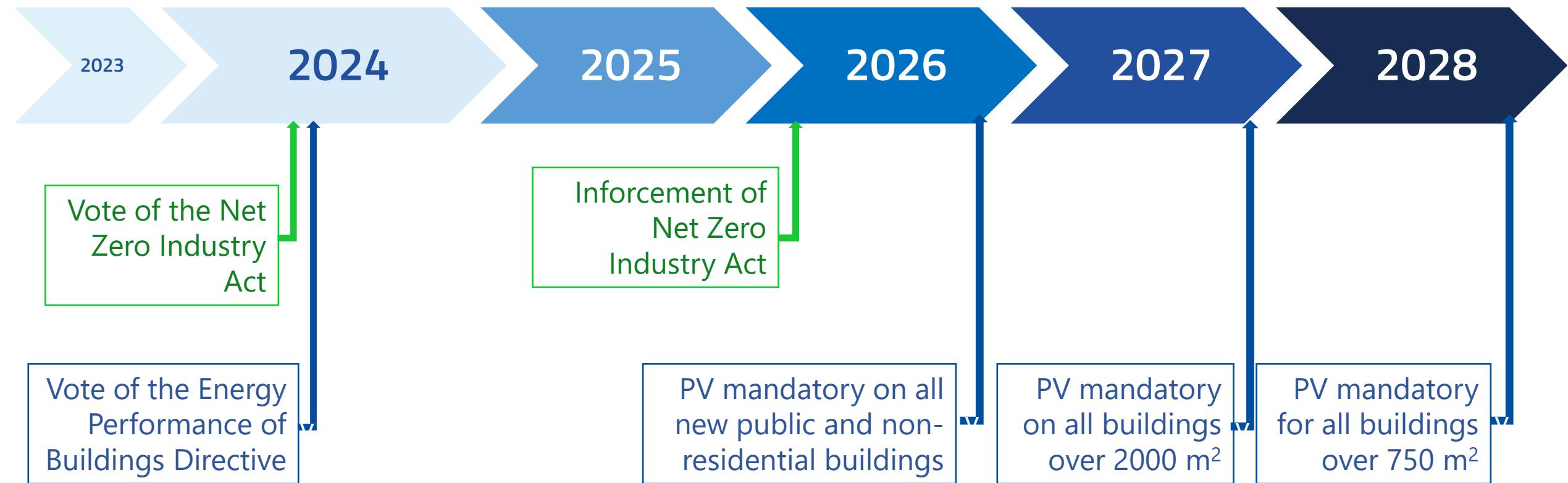


## Energy Performance of Buildings Directive

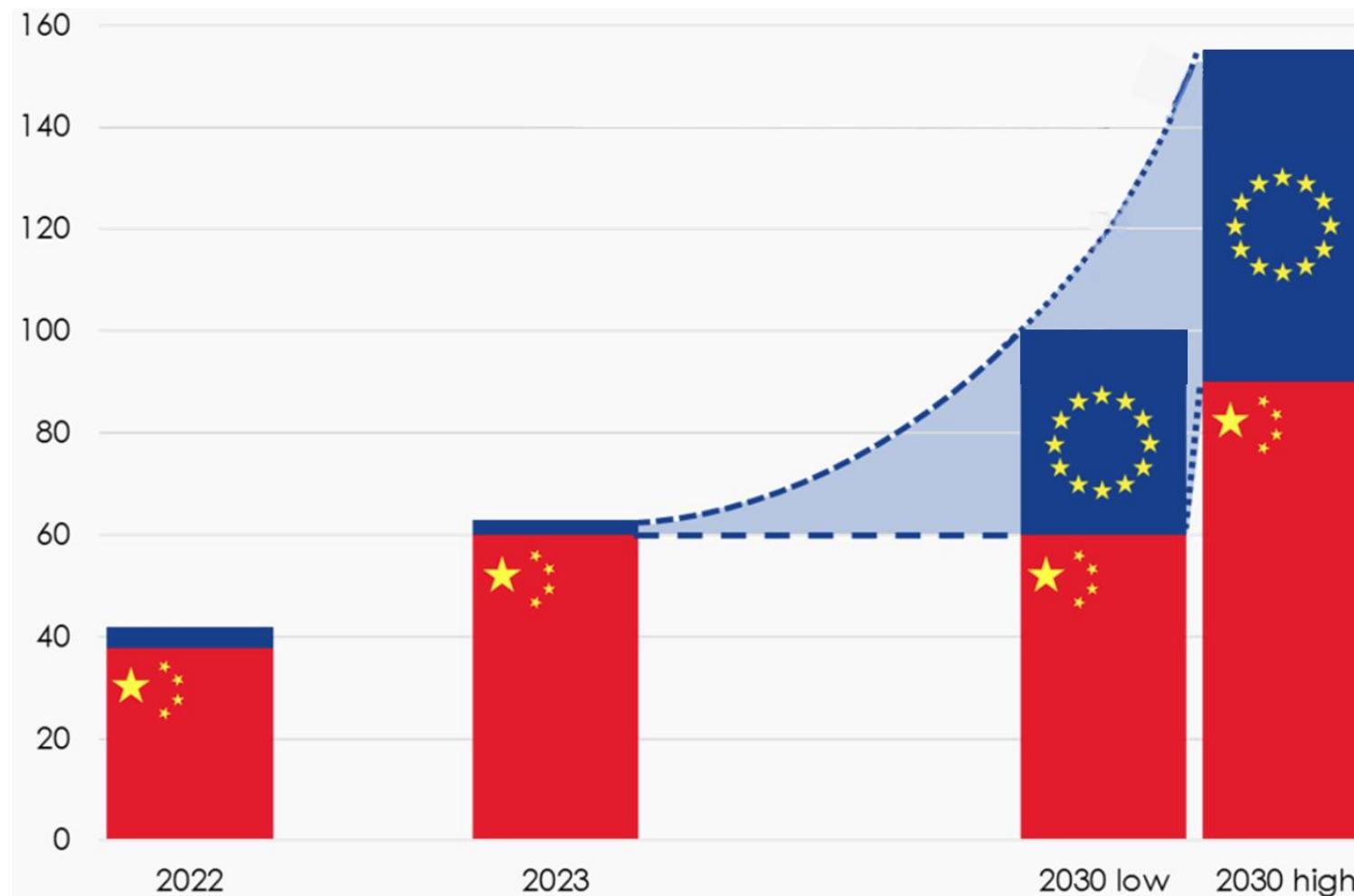
Requires the **installation of solar panels on buildings**



# APPLICATION PLANNING OF THOSE CHANGES



## IMPACT ON THE EU MARKET



Global Growth of EU's solar PV modules market  
Increasing share of EU made solar modules

## IMPACT ON FUTURE EU PRODUCTION CAPACITY

Multiple gigafactory projects start to emerge



## IMPACT ON FUTURE EU PRODUCTION CAPACITY

Multiple gigafactory projects start to emerge

Tough situation still ongoing for existing producers (very low price, difficult to upgrade production capacities...)

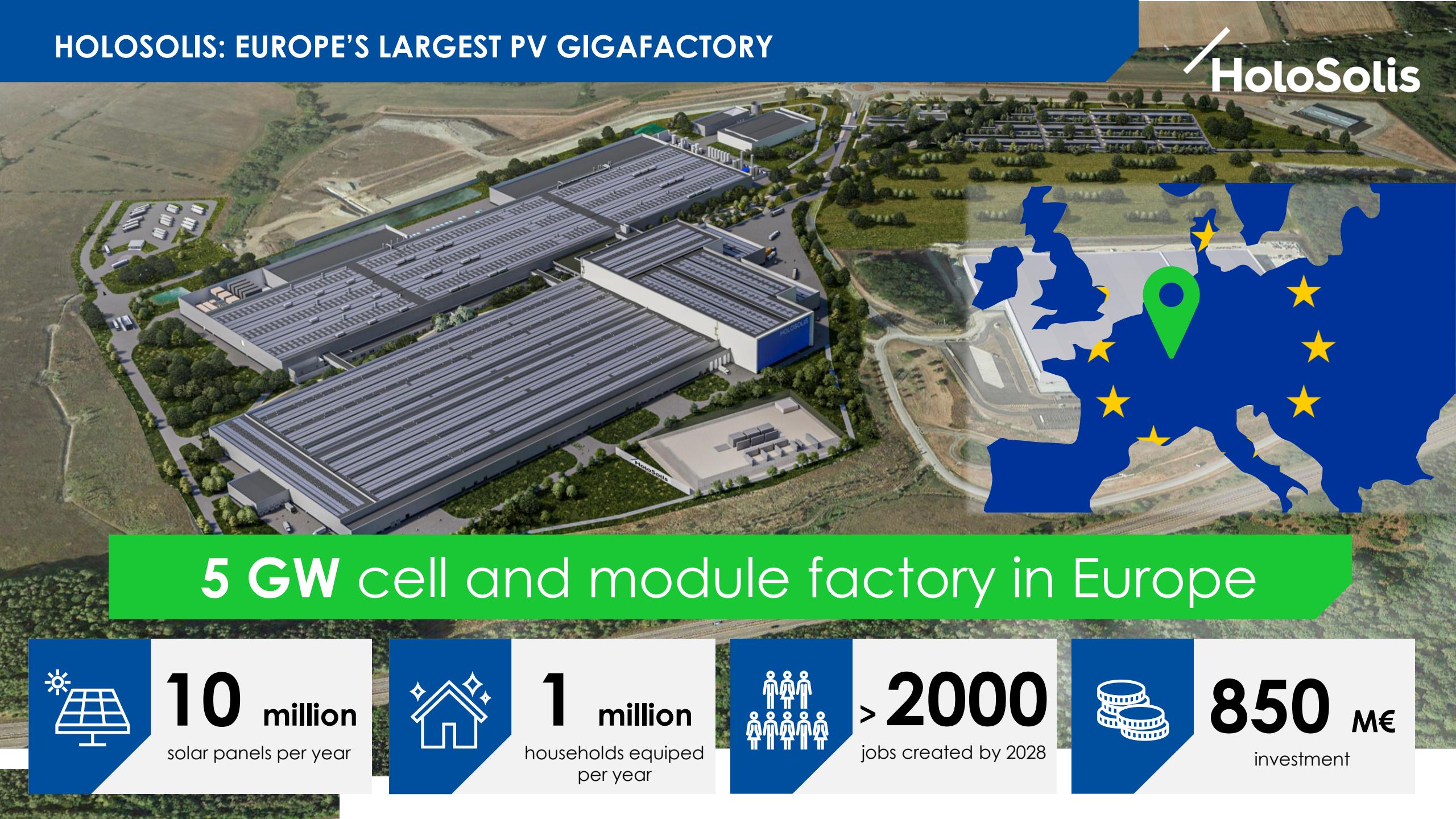




Introducing  HoloSolis

# HOLOSOLIS: EUROPE'S LARGEST PV GIGAFACTORY

HoloSolis



**10** million  
solar panels per year



**1** million  
households equipped  
per year



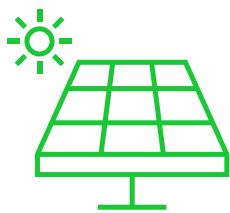
**>2000**  
jobs created by 2028



**850** M€  
investment

## Strategic location

- ✓ Strong industrial background
- ✓ 85 % of the European market within 800 km

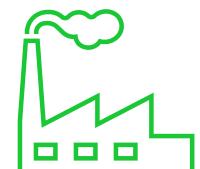


## Cutting-edge technology

- ✓ Leveraging N-Type TOPCon
- ✓ Maximum efficiency and reliability
- ✓ Ultra-low carbon footprint products
- ✓ A data-driven factory

## A 100 % European company

- ✓ Cells and modules 100 % manufactured in EU
- ✓ Fully aligned with EU's Net Zero Industry Act



## Market demand

- ✓ ~5 GW offtake secured in Letters of Intent (LOI)



## SITE ORGANIZATION



To see videos of the future HoloSolis' site scan those QR codes :



## A clear market positionning

### RESIDENTIAL



### COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL



### GROUND MOUNTED



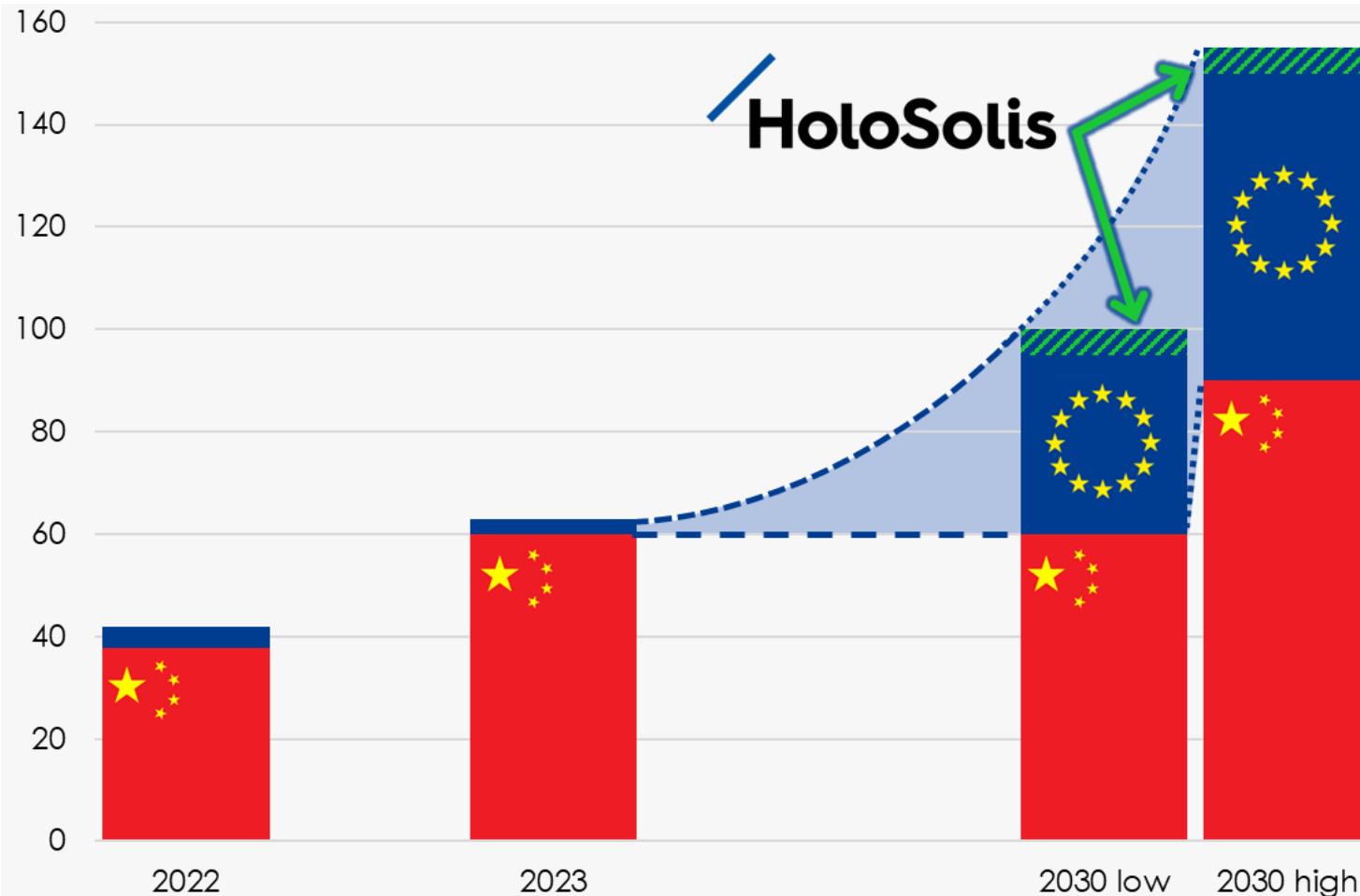
## With a defined product strategy

Performance

Reliability

Standard

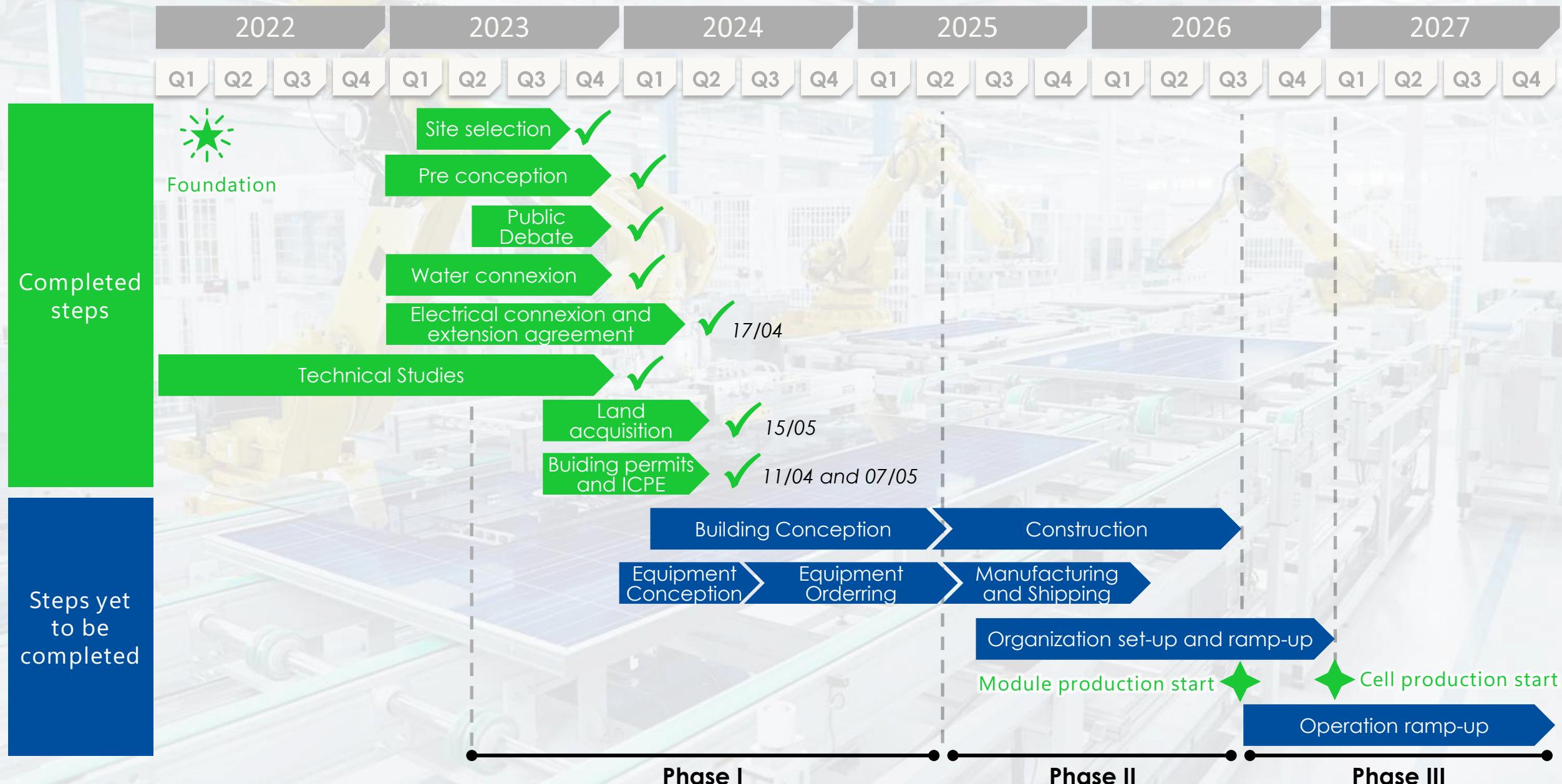
## Annual Installed PV Capacity in Europe



10-12 billion €  
market opportunity for  
European manufacturers

8-12 %  
market-share for HoloSolis  
on the EU-manufactured  
market

# OUR ROADMAP TO 2028: KEY MILESTONES



**Chinese manufacturers lead the market**

**Opportunity and necessity to reshore the PV industry in Europe**

**With 5 GW of production starting in 2026 HoloSolis will be one of EU main manufacturers**

**To achieve EU's goals of production by 2030:**

- ✓ Fast and long-term EU and national legislation required
- ✓ Need to create regulations on demand, funding and barriers
- ✓ Financing of next and existing project is key

# Thank you for your attention



Elise Bruhat

in



[www.holosolis.com](http://www.holosolis.com)