



Indian Ingot & Wafer Factories – Technology selection and project implementation

Solar Technology Conference
India 2025

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Director Technology
RCT Solutions GmbH
April 2025



RCT Solutions GmbH

One-Stop
Renewable
Solutions
Partner

RCT Group at a glance

74 GW Integrated Solar Technology
Factories establishment in **26** Countries
since **2012**.

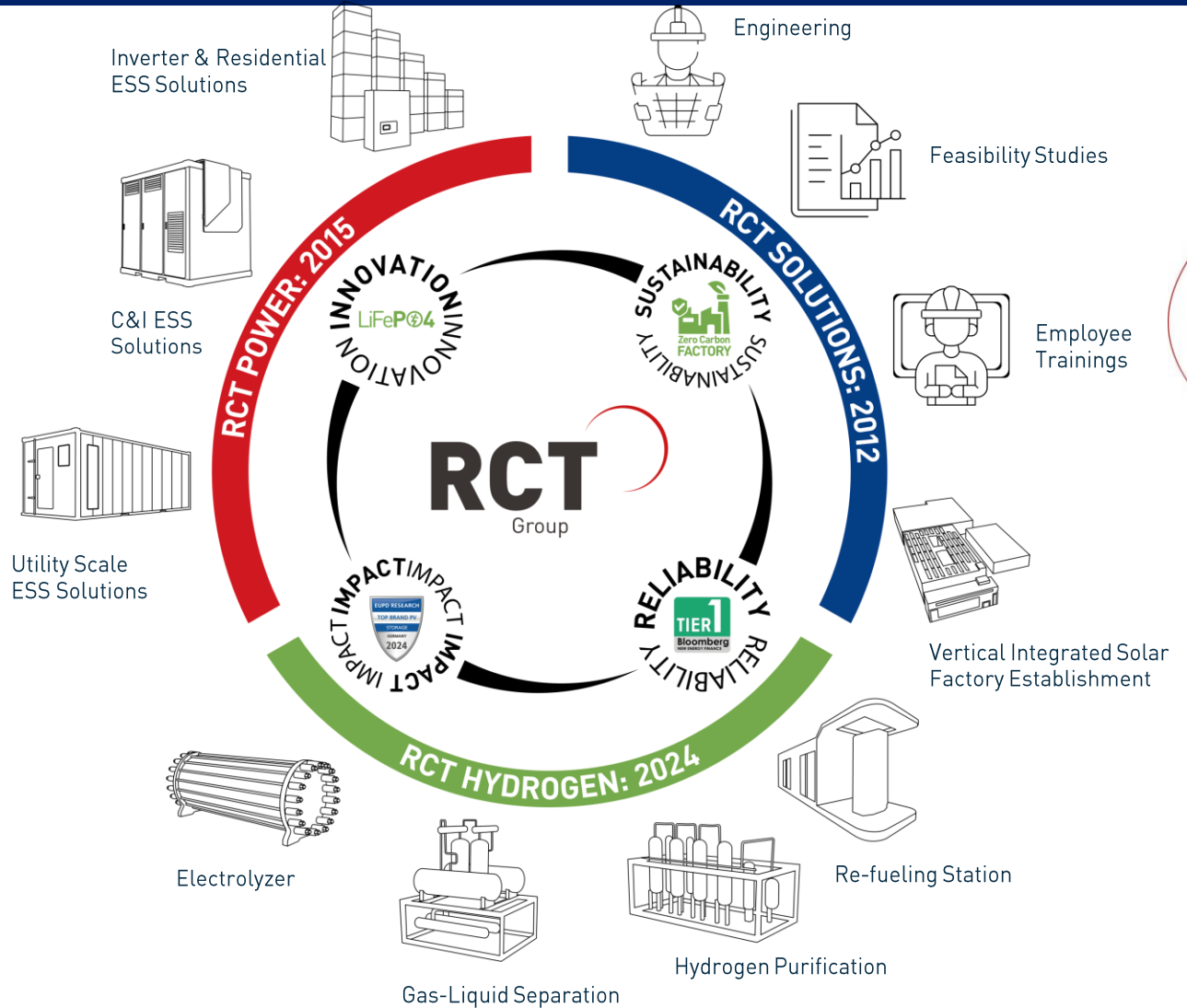
Local presence in **4** countries.
A key partner of **PV technology investors**, governments & research institutes.

One of its kind PV Turnkey solutions partner to integrated manufacturing projects”

Germany based **Tier 1** Manufacturer of Inverter & Batteries for Residential, C&I and Utility ESS (Energy Storage Systems)

20 GW annual production capacity of **4** factories since **2015**

Green hydrogen equipment manufacturer with **250 MW** capacity factory since **2024**.
A Europe based comprehensive solution partner for hydrogen turnkey projects with **engineering, feasibility, maintenance and training service**.



The Global Top Brand for Renewable Manufacturing


Headquarter
Germany

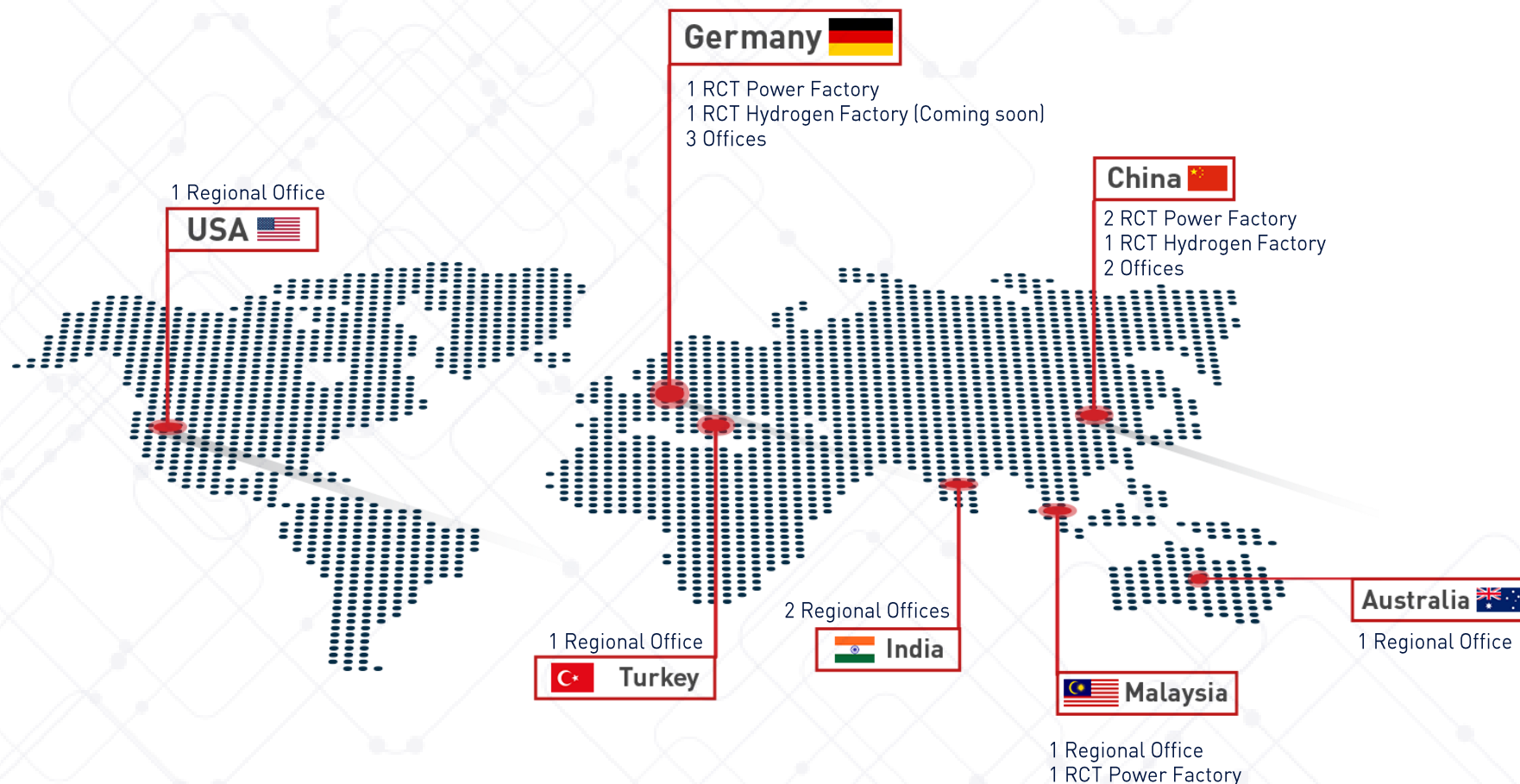

Employees
550+


Manufacturing
Germany, China,
Malaysia


**Cumulative
Shipment**
12.5GWh


27 Countries
Active
Services


73 GW
Executed PV
Engineering



About RCT Group at a glance



Owner's & Lender's Engineering



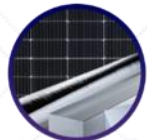
Feasibility Studies



Training Academy



Conceptual & Basic Design



Full Value Chain

2012
Founded, privately owned

26
Countries

World's First
Fully integrated 1.2 GW Factory installation

72 GW
Total global manufacturing capacity served

62
Factories worldwide

76 GW
Ingot & Wafer integration



RCT Power Residential Batteries



RCT Power Utility Battery Storages



RCT Power inverters

2015
Founded, privately owned

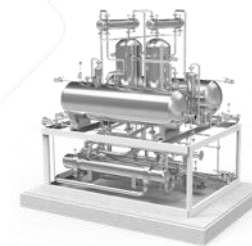
11.4kWh
Modular concept development

Mass Production
Residential & battery pack for container solutions

>10GWh
Total shipment

Best Storage
Awarded in Germany

EU&USA Based
Battery production & Operation



Gas Separation System



Hydrogen Purification System



Re-fueling station



Electrolyser stack

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The PV ecosystem

Local integrated manufacturing along the value chain



Equipment

Supply Chain / Materials

Technology / R & D / Institutes

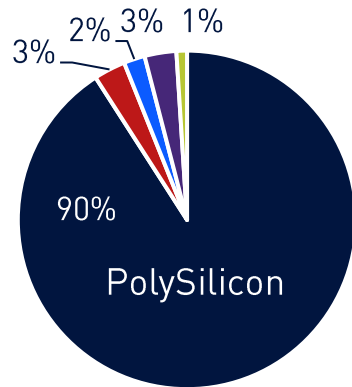
Training / Skills

Distribution of Worldwide PV Production

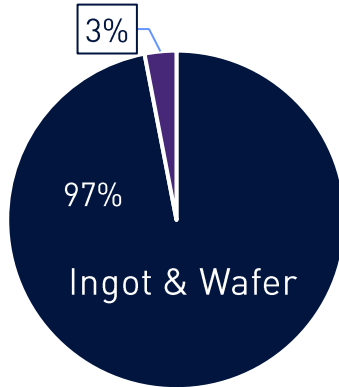
Local Integrated Manufacturing Along the Value Chain



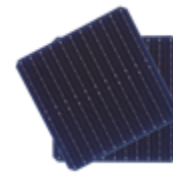
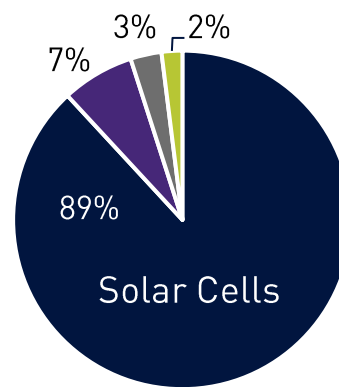
Mg-Si



Poly Si



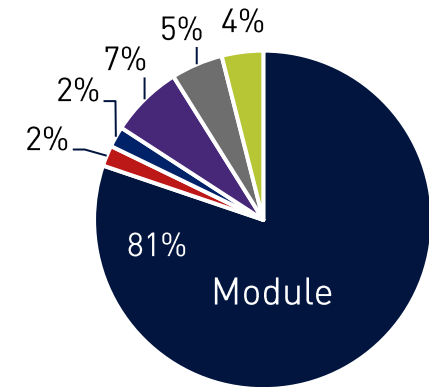
Ingot & Wafer



Cell



Modul



■ China

■ Europa

■ USA

■ SEA

■ India

■ ROW

Current Capacity by Non-Chinese companies is < 2%

Total Chinese capacity			Of that: outside China	
Company	Capacity		Country	Capacity
	2023	2024		2023/24
Zhonghuan	183	190		
Longi	170	180	Malaysia	4
Jinko	85	120	Vietnam	12
JA Solar	85	100	Vietnam	4
Trina	55	60	Vietnam	6.5
Canadian	21	50	Thailand	5
ET Solar	0	0	Vietnam	5
Shuangliang	90	128	Total	36.5

Gaojing	80	85
GCL	58.5	60
Yuze	50	75
Hongyuan	45	45
Meike	40	60
Gaoce	38	63
Jingyuntong	20	42
Tongwei	15	31
Hongxin	14	14
East Hope	14	14
Jingpin	12	12
Qingdian	10	10
Hoshine	5	20
Total	1091	1359

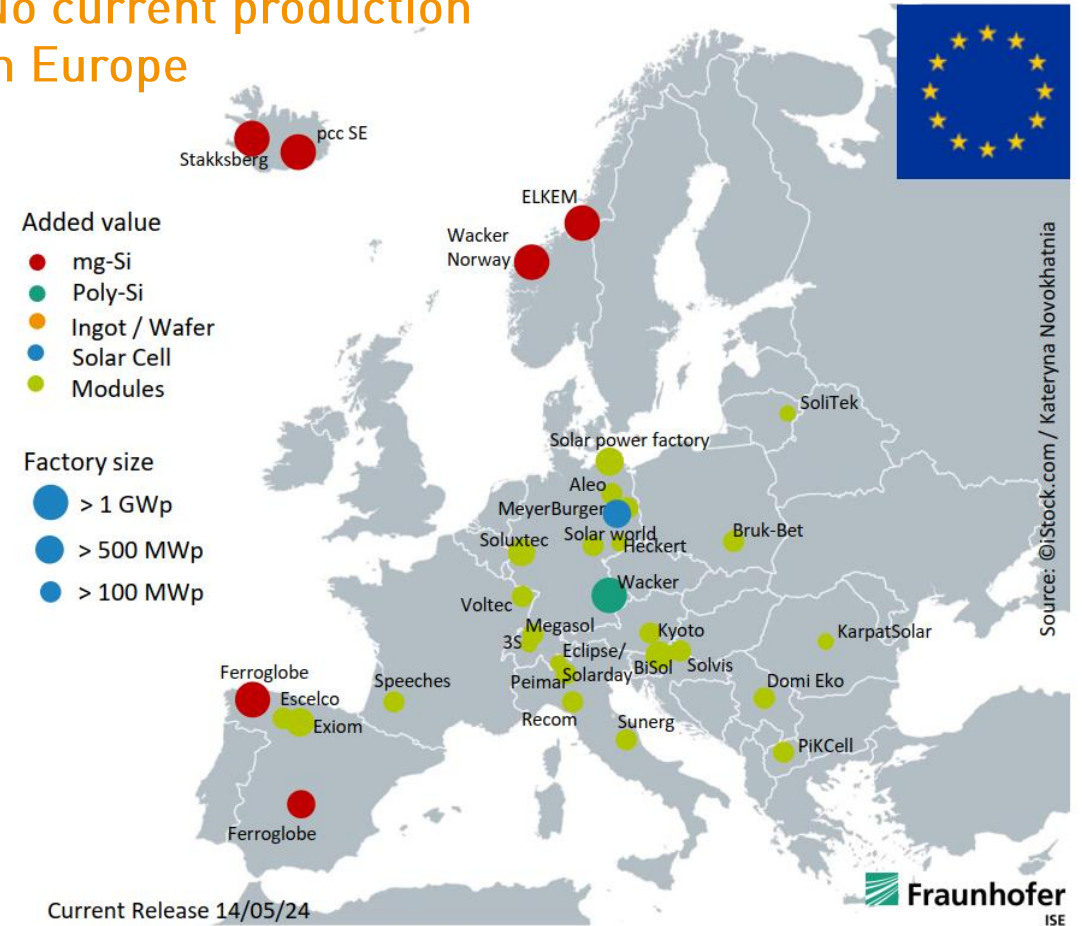
Estimates in italics

Non-Chinese companies		
Company	Country	Capacity
		2023/24
NorSun	Norway	1
Kalyon PV	Turkey	2
Adani	India	2
Vsun	Vietnam	4
Hanwha	USA	3.3
Total		12.3

Capacities in GW; Source: Bernreuter Research

Top 5 Manufacturer >50% Capacity

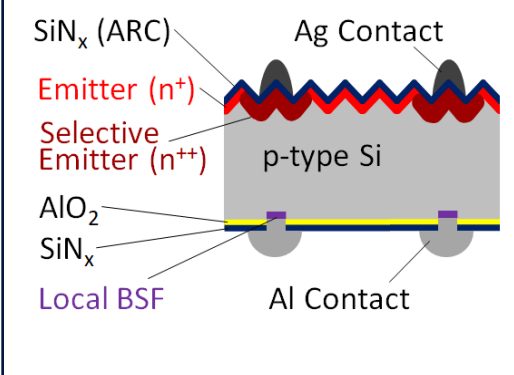
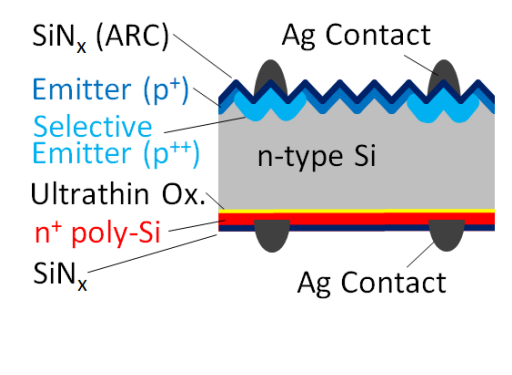
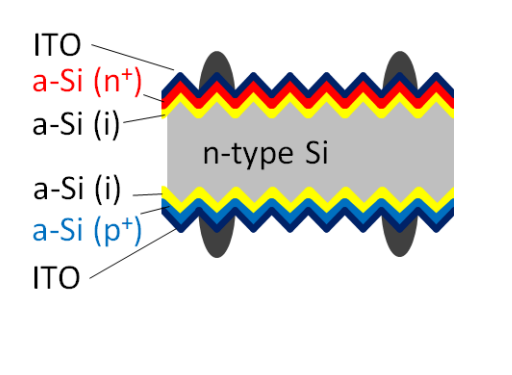
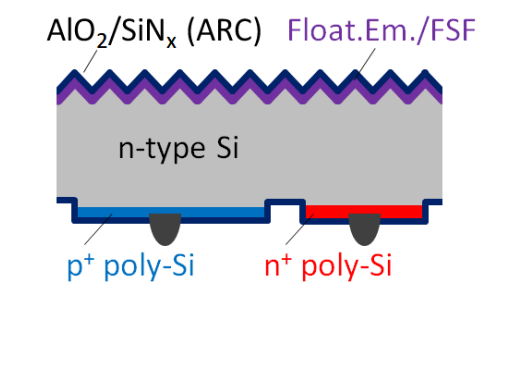
No current production in Europe



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Overview of Current Solar Cell Concepts

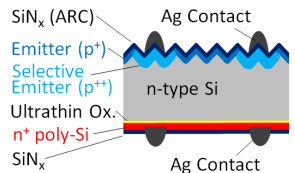
Technology	PERC SE	TOPCon	HJT	TBC
Description	Passivated Emitter and Rear Cell with Selective Emitter	Tunnel Oxide Passivated Contact Solar Cell with LECO	Silicon Hetero Junction Solar Cell Technology	TOPCon Back Contact Solar Cell with partial Cu metallization
Production Capacity	250 GW	500-700+ GW	50 – 70+ GW	(10 - 20 GW, for XBC)
Cell Eff. (Fab-Theoretical)	23.2% → 24.5%*	25.0% → 27.1%*	25.2% → 28.5%*	25.5% → 29.1%**
Cell Structure	 <p>Labels: SiN_x (ARC), Ag Contact, Emitter (n⁺), Selective Emitter (n⁺⁺), p-type Si, AlO₂, SiN_x, Local BSF, Al Contact</p>	 <p>Labels: SiN_x (ARC), Ag Contact, Emitter (p⁺), Selective Emitter (p⁺⁺), n-type Si, Ultrathin Ox., n⁺ poly-Si, SiN_x, Ag Contact</p>	 <p>Labels: ITO, a-Si (n⁺), a-Si (i), n-type Si, a-Si (i), a-Si (p⁺), ITO</p>	 <p>Labels: AlO₂/SiN_x (ARC), Float.Em./FSF, n-type Si, p⁺ poly-Si, n⁺ poly-Si</p>

*- Solar Energy Materials & Solar Cells 231 (2021) 111291, **- Solar Energy Materials & Solar Cells 238 (2022) 111560

Solar cell technology and required wafer KPI's

Characteristics of Technology	Wafer Requirements	Parameter control
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TOPCon

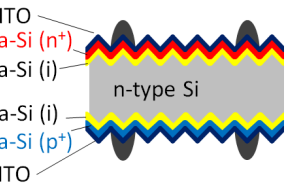


Mature technology
High-temperature processes > 950°C
High-efficiency product

Differentiated size
Low Oi as key

Res	0.6-1.6 → 0.9-1.2 cm
Size	G10/G12R/G12
Oi	≤12 ppma → ≤11 ppma

HJT



Fewer process steps (5-7)
High equipment investment
High-efficiency product

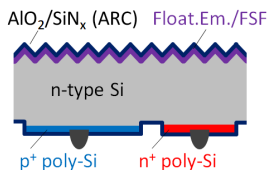


Thin wafer & half-wafer
High MCLT



Thin wafers	Half wafer, ca. 110 and below
High MCLT	MCLT avg. ≥ 5000

XBC

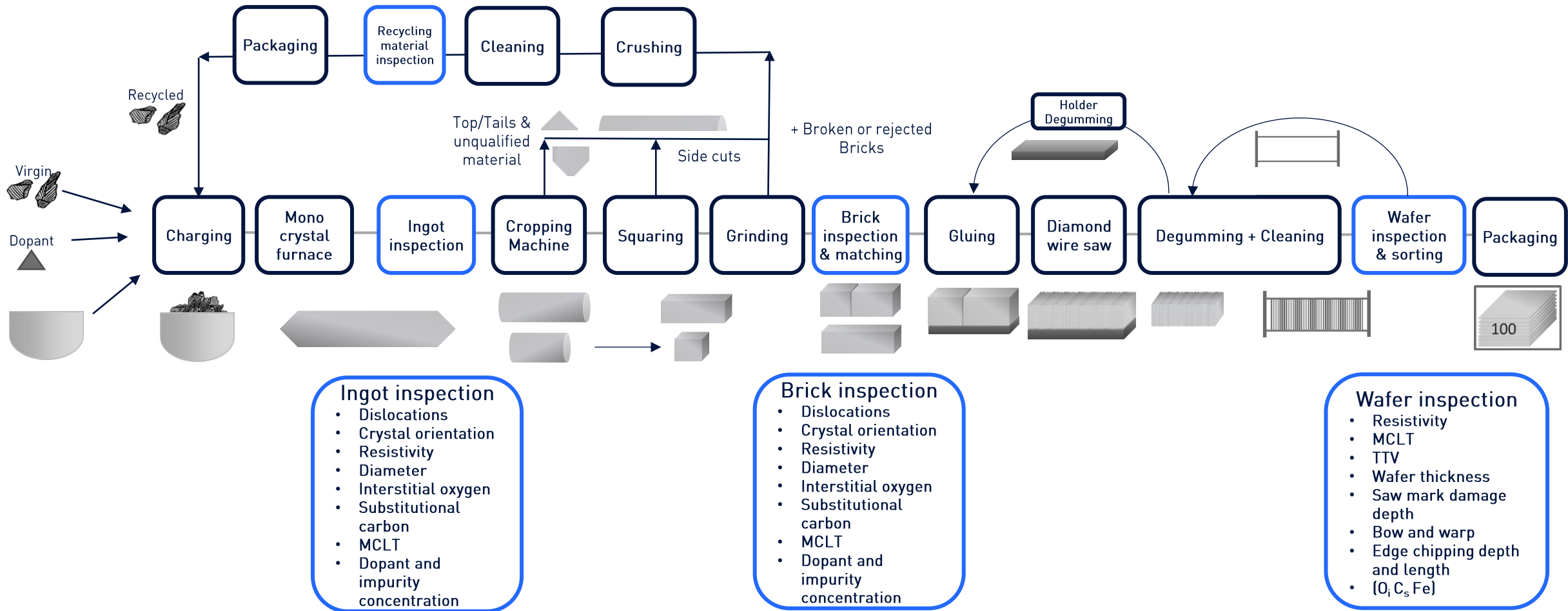


More process steps, generally > 15
Higher technical difficulty
High-temperature diffusion process
Higher cost

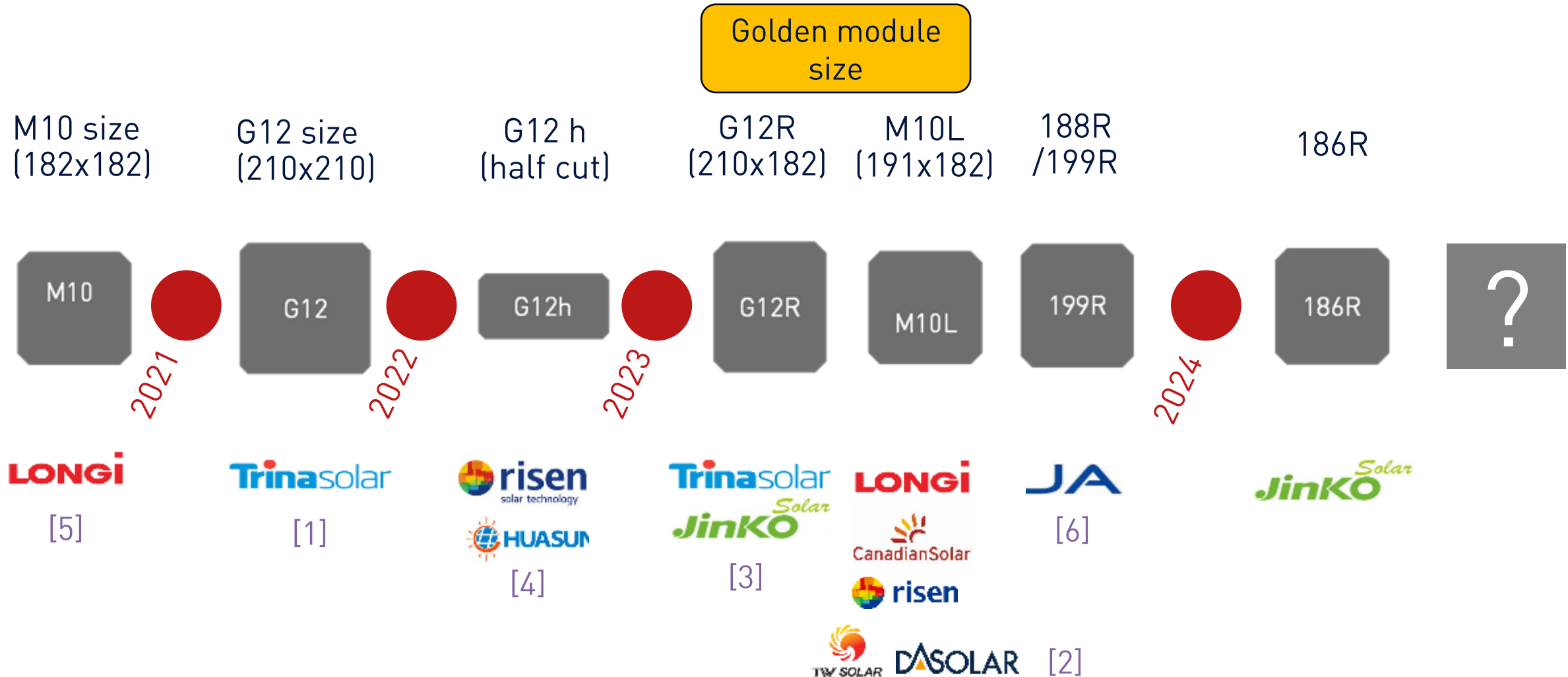
High resistivity
High MCLT
Low Oi
Different sizes

High res	4-28/2-14 cm
MCLT	MCLT avg. ≥ 7000
Oi	≤12 ppma → ≤10 ppma
Size	210.5/192.5/184

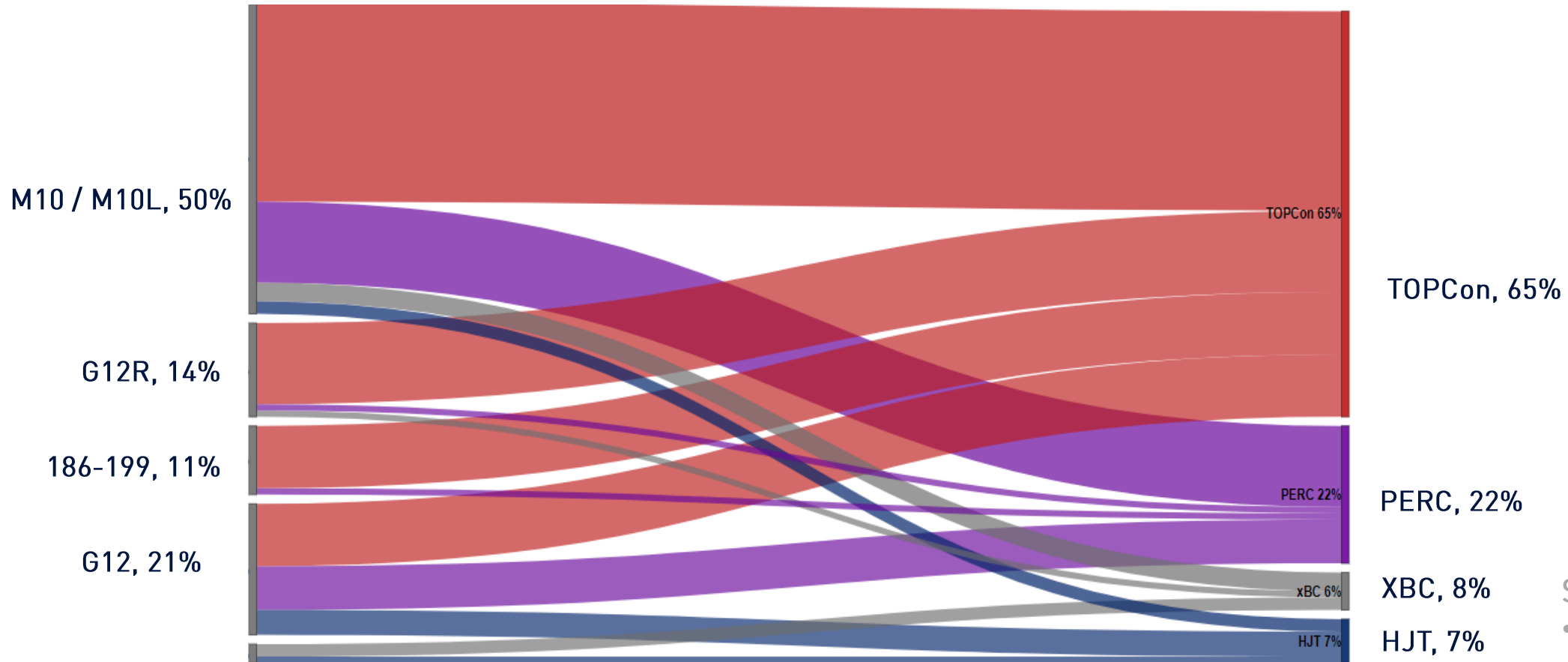
Factory processes and main material flow



Latest history of wafer sizes used in industry



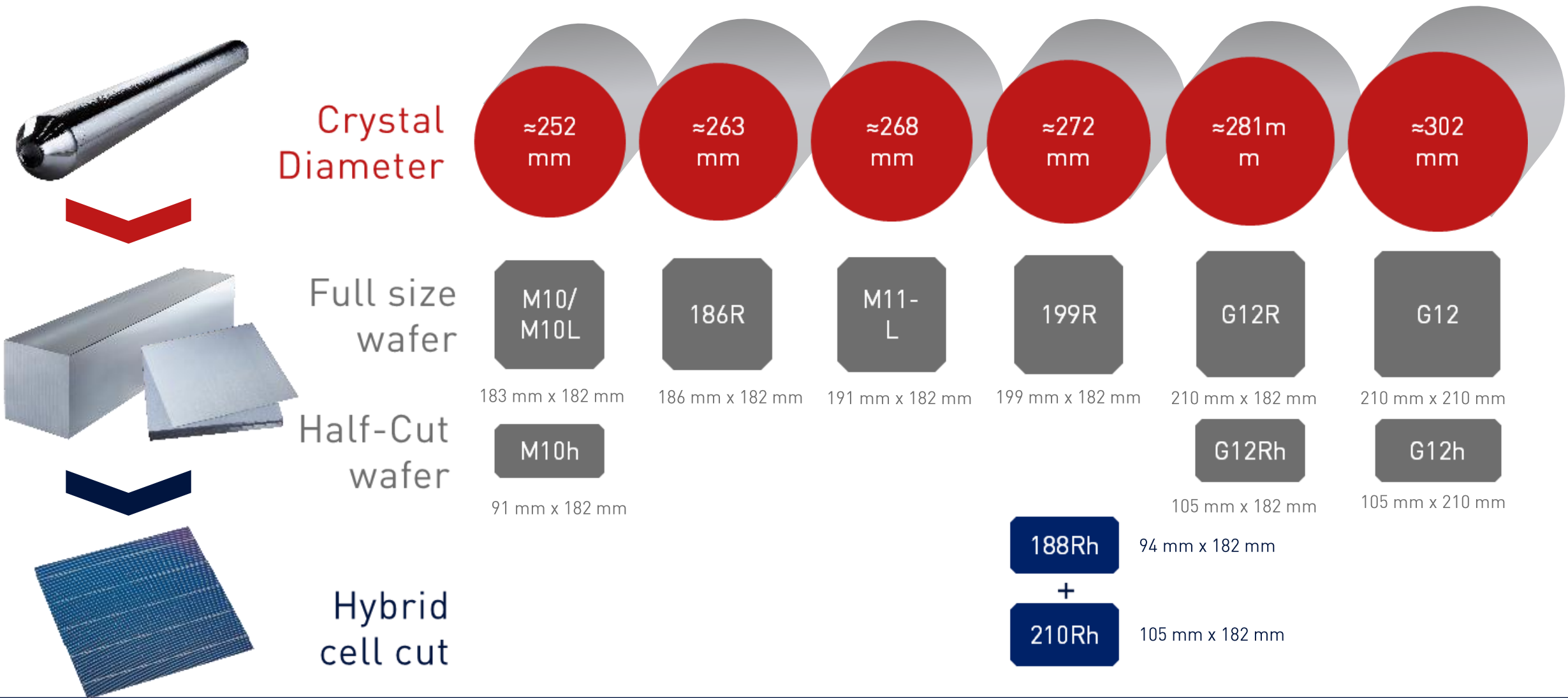
Status of wafer type & size in 2024



→ Biggest stream is M10/M10L & G12R for TOPCon

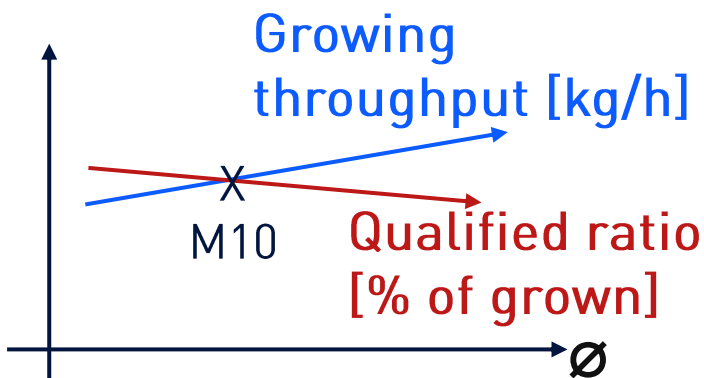
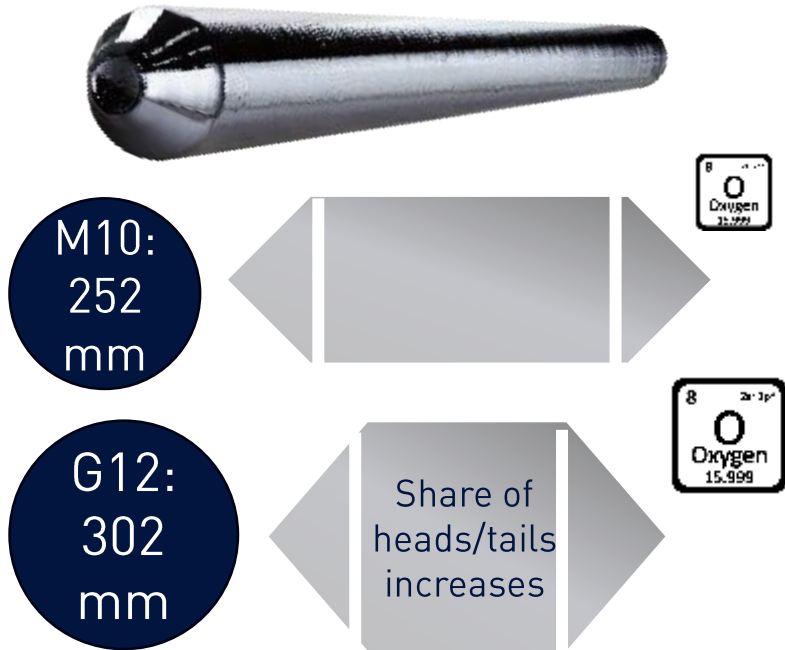
- Source:
- Internal tracking
 - PV Infolink
 - CPIA
 - ITRPV

Exploring the new wave of wafer/cell sizes

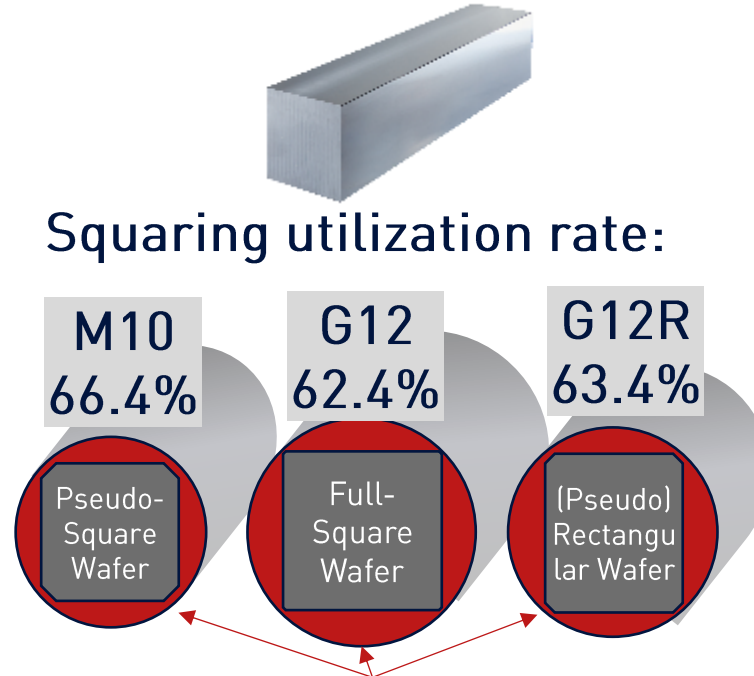


Challenges in the ingot and wafer factory

(for processing different wafer sizes)

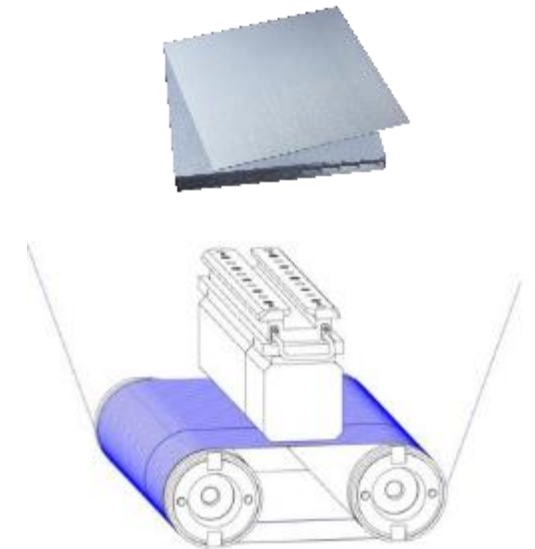


Squaring utilization rate:



Downside of recycling material

1. Energy and material were wasted for growing this part of the ingot
2. During recycling for reuse, losses occur



Slicing:

- Set-up time share to cutting time reduced if brick width increases
- Feed rate increases, with shorter width

Cost analysis of different wafer sizes

Δ COO (incl. shipping)		Module Sizes used by TOP 5 Manufacturers [mm]										
		1134 x 1722	1134 x 1762	1134 x 1800	1134 x 1961	1134 x 2063	1134 x 2094	1134 x 2278	1134 x 2333	1134 x 2382	1134 x 2465	1303 x 2382
Wafer Size	M10L	1.4%					0.3%	0.0%			1.1%	
	186R		1.4%									
	M11L			1.5%						-0.5%		
	188R		1.0%						-0.4%			
	199R					-0.1%		-0.1%				
	G12R		0.9%		0.5%					-1.2%		
	G12											-2.4%
	G12h											-1.5%

Above table shows the delta in Cost of Ownerships of PV Modules including shipping cost for different module sizes with different wafer sizes. The calculation is limited to products available on the market.

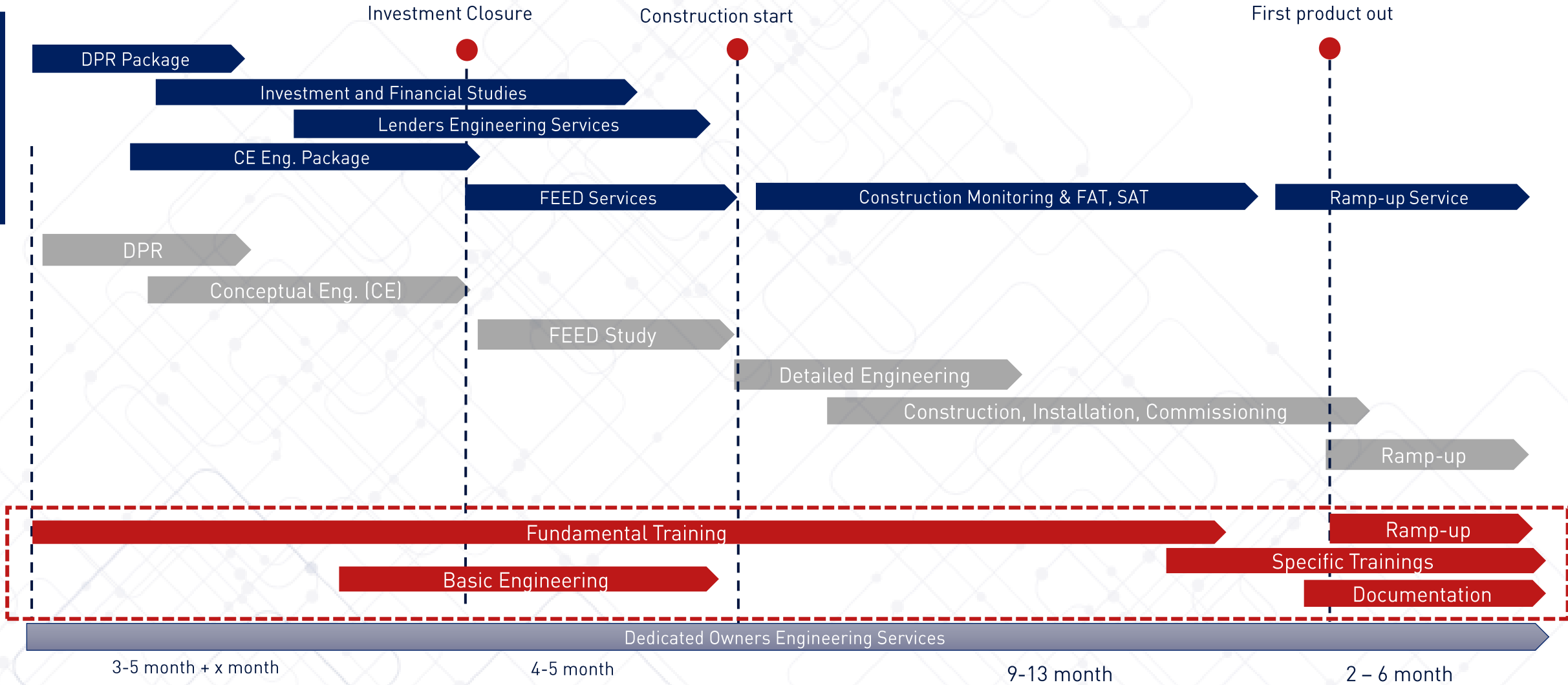
1. COO differences shown depend more on module than on wafer size (→ equipment and module design more efficient for larger modules, a known fact)
2. Rectangular wafer reduce the cost especially in larger scale modules, which is the most important market for the producers
3. Only slight improvement for larger or rectangular wafer in smaller sized modules
4. Going for G12 and larger would be beneficial, but the wafers are currently not fitting into the standard glass sizes

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Typical Project Tasks, Timelines and Milestones

RCT Services



Basic Engineering

Right balance between cost and performance



Time & Speed*

Skipping vendor & equipment selection with real time accurate data



Modular Design**

Equipment selection preparation based on order and sales funnel



Optimum load & multi layer approach

Preventing over-engineering



Extensive Vendor Database

Basic layout & FUM prepared beyond vendor requirements



Production technology

Production & engineering transferred to engineering



Regional know-how

Energy saving & sustainability approach

* Equipment selection has been parallelly made since engineering services negotiate with vendors directly

** Preventing over purchase of machinery by installing 100 quantity of machine in 20x5 batches.

Our approach for top-qualified employees.

- Intense exchange with industry partners during the development of the curriculum
- Training content tested in the field and updated continuously
- Integration of the production lines with experienced trainers for practical training
- Train-the-trainer courses on the use of the equipment
- Practice-oriented training concepts and training books
- Modular structure of the PV Trainings - Production programme
- Innovative blended learning programme
- Professional support and moderation
- A high advanced online platform



We provide trainings for industrial PV manufacturing.

PV Trainings - Production programme are designed for solar professionals: integrated production line staff, engineers and all types of associated partners who ensure the best results in a manufacturing facility.

The trainings are offered for 3 different levels: Beginner, Advanced and Expert. Individual trainings tailored to customers' needs and on-site workshops are also important components.

In a blended learning programme, we offer a combination of online and in-person or virtual training courses.



At the end of the training courses, participants are certified to have acquired the relevant knowledge and skills.



Your path to PV production expertise.

Fundamentals of Photovoltaics training program has been established to expand and master extensive skills in growing know-how focusing on full value chain of PV production.

By the end of the training courses, you will have an extensive knowledge of each phases of photovoltaic production starting from preparations to ramp-up.

Duration: 3 months
Learning format: In-Class and Online learning
Programme language: English

Other programs aim to train the best-in-class skilled workforce or solar manufacturing facilities in the global market.

- Module
- Ingot & Wafer
- Cell
- Poly-Si & Mg-Si
- MES
- CAPEX & OPEX
- LCOE & LCA
- Value Chain
- HSE
- Quality
- Architectural PV Applications
- Factory Design & Layout



Documentation

Bill of Materials (BOM)

- Component lists
- Material specification

Machine Handbooks

- Operational procedures
- Compliance guidelines

Process Flow Diagrams

- Workflow diagrams
- Process mapping



Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)

- Operational procedures
- Compliance guidelines

Safety Documentations

- Safety protocols
- Risk assessments

Maintenance & Troubleshooting Manuals

- Routine & Emergency Repairs
- Common Issues & Resolutions



Documentation is part of RCT's trainings and skills package

Overview of Documentation



RCT Solutions GmbH
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HANDBOOK Wafer Manufacturing

GC-GP950L Integrated Silicon Rod Grinding and Polishing Machine Handbook

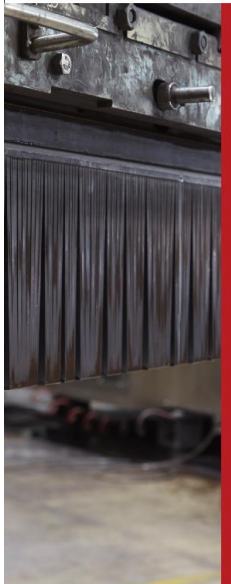


Book issued: 16.01.2024
Created by: RCT Solutions GmbH

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CONTENTS

PAGE OF CONTENTS



01	A TECHNICAL SUMMARY	PAGE 04
02	COMPONENTS	PAGE 06
03	TECHNICAL PARAMETERS	PAGE 18
04	APPLICATION PAPRAMETERS	PAGE 20
05	NOTES	PAGE 22

One-stop
Photovoltaic solutions partner



1. Flanged universal ball

The Flanged Universal Ball ensures precise movement and alignment in the machine, reducing friction for efficiency and reliability. Built durably, it enhances longevity.

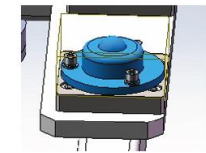


Image 5: Figure of Flanged Universal Ball

2. Cleaning of degumming tank, buffer tank and soaking tank, and removal of fragments

The process involves cleaning the degumming, buffer, and soaking tanks, eliminating any residues or fragments present. This ensures optimal conditions for subsequent stages in the operation, maintaining efficiency and product quality.

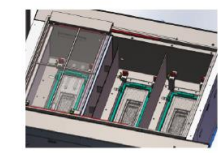
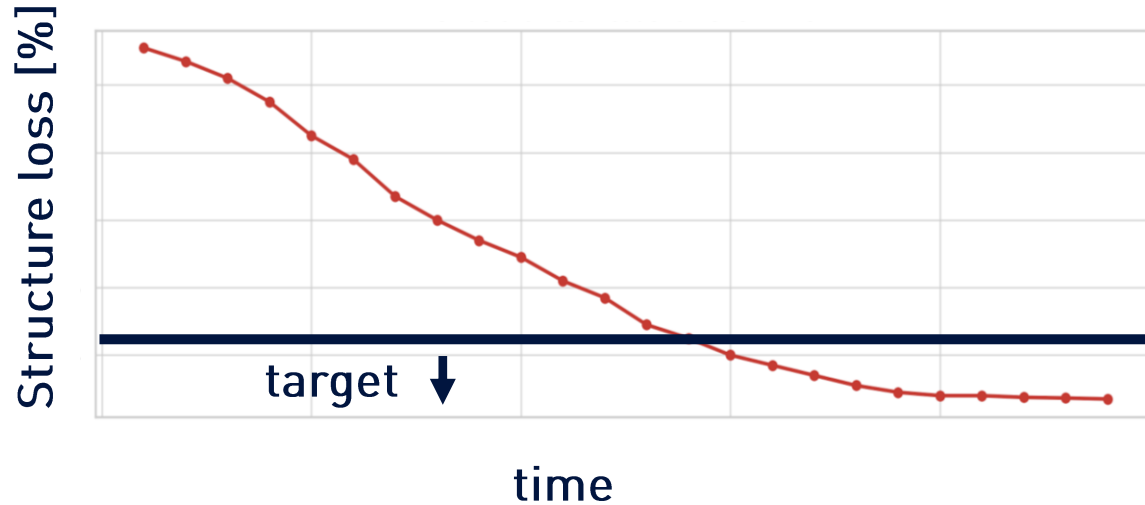


Image 6: Figure of cleaning of degumming tank, buffer tank and soaking tank, and removal of fragments

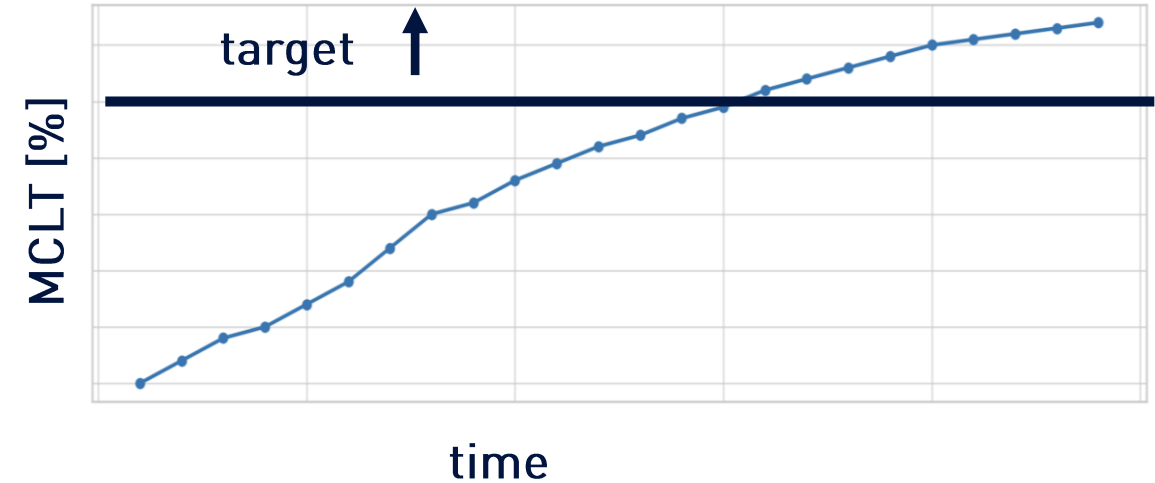


Ramp-up – Meeting all KPI's as fast as possible

Structure loss over time



Minority carrier lifetime



Process and Technology

- Decision for reliable and proven equipment
- Experienced technology team
- Know-how in executing Ingot&Wafer projects

Project Management

- Experienced PM team
- Stringent acceptance procedure of all equipment: from pre-FAT, FAT, SAT up to factory acceptance

Reduced costs, high quality products

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Ingot & Wafer technology:

- Slightly different wafer KPI's for different solar cell concepts (MCLT, Oi, base doping, surface preparation) as a consequence of their processes (high T) and structure (TBC)
- Continuous improvement of RCZ sufficient to meet target KPI'S
- Zoo of different wafer sizes emerged, G12R (M10L) currently seen as bet he „winner“

Project execution: Key factors for success

- Technology and equipment selection
- FEED: quality and costs
- Training and Documentation
- Ramp-Up: equipment acceptance procedures and experienced ramp-up team



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Thank you 

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Confidential

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Appendix



Exploring the PV supply chain landscape, this section highlights the details of local manufacturing, offering insights into current market trends and future opportunities for growth.

One-Stop
Renewable
Solutions
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