



SolarPACES 2015 Cape Town, South Africa

From 13th till 16th of October 2015, the yearly SolarPACES Conference was organized at the CTICC in Cape Town, South Africa. This conference, initiated in 1980, is the foremost symposium on Concentrating Solar Power and Chemical energy systems and welcomed 551 participants from 38 countries around the world.

SolarPACES (Solar Power and Chemical Energy Systems) offers insight into new developments in technology, politics, the market and financing. An international cooperative network of leading world experts discusses the future of concentrating solar energy and presents recent research results.



The conference was also a perfect opportunity to meet with experts from Research Centers worldwide (Masdar Institute in UAE, The Cyprus institute,...) who are using SQM Solar Salts in their R&D projects.



SolarPACES 2016 will take place from October 11-14, 2016 in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

SQM, one of the headline sponsors of the conference, decided to sponsor the Gala Dinner again, which turned out to be an enormous success. Giuseppe Casubolo, Sales and Marketing Director Solar Salts, welcomed everybody and instead of showing some slides about SQM, a supplier of Solar Salts (Sodium and Potassium Nitrate Refined Grade) known by all participants, he shared an objective Carte Blanche documentary about solar energy projects in South Africa. The international CSP community was extremely proud to see their power plants and technology being shown in beautiful images and could not stop commenting how nicely and professionally the benefits of CSP were shown by Carte Blanche.



Our logistic partner in South Africa, VDM Group, participated to the conference as a Gold Sponsor. (Mr. Deon van der Merwe (CEO VDM)), Mr. Steve Botes and Giuseppe Casubolo).



Up to now, SQM is the only producer who has supplied Solar Salts to South African CSP projects: KaXu Solar (2014 – 22,600 MT), Bokpoort (2015 – 38,214 MT). We are currently shipping the salts for Xina Solar One (2016 - 48,400MT) and finalizing the contract of Ilanga 1 (2017 – 37,290 MT).

As new projects have been awarded for 2017 (Ilanga 1, Kathu 1 and Redstone), 2018 (where 450 MW are open for bidding) and 2019 (rumours are that 600 MW will be open for CSP), the future looks very bright in South Africa.



(Mr. Deon van der Merwe, Sandra Van Geyte).



Welcome word of Giuseppe Casubolo at Gala Dinner.





Gala Dinner sponsored by SQM. Music by "Freshlyground".



Plenary meeting



Poster Sessions