

Solar Panel Recycling Market to Hit \$478.6 Million by 2030 | Clean Energy Demand Sparks Eco Innovation

The global solar panel recycling market is projected to reach \$478.6 Mn by 2030 [], driven by clean energy growth & sustainability efforts []].

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The global <u>solar panel recycling market</u> is gaining remarkable traction as the clean energy revolution accelerates. According to a new report by Allied Market Research, the market was



valued at \$139.7 million in 2020 and is projected to reach \$478.6 million by 2030, growing at a CAGR of 13.1% from 2021 to 2030. []

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The global solar panel recycling market is projected to reach \$478.6 Million by 2030 [], driven by clean energy growth & sustainability efforts [][]." *Allied Market Research* U What is Solar Panel Recycling?

Solar panel recycling is the process of recovering valuable materials—like silicon, glass, and metals—from decommissioned or damaged photovoltaic (PV) panels. As the global push for solar energy expands, so does the volume of <u>solar panels</u> nearing end-of-life, creating a critical need for sustainable disposal and recycling systems. $\Box\Box$

Market Drivers: What's Powering Growth?

1. Booming Solar Installations

With the global rise in solar energy adoption, particularly in Europe and Asia-Pacific, the demand for solar panel recycling is surging. Solar installations in the UK, Germany, Italy, and Spain have significantly increased, primarily due to the demand for distributed energy systems.

2. Government Incentives

Incentives like the U.S. solar tax credit (2019), which reduces the cost of installing solar systems by 30%, are boosting installations—and, by extension, the future recycling demand.

3. Falling Prices & Efficiency Boost

Decreasing solar panel prices, advancements in conversion efficiency, and emerging solar technologies are accelerating solar adoption. This will eventually increase the volume of panels to be recycled in the coming decades.

Regional Insights: Europe Leads the Charge

Europe dominated the solar panel recycling market share in 2020 and is expected to grow at the fastest CAGR of 13.7% during the forecast period. This growth is due to:

Strong regulatory frameworks

Presence of key market players

Rising consumer and commercial demand for clean energy

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I Market Segmentation Highlights

By Process:

Thermal Process: Held the highest share (~68.9% in 2020), due to its ability to recover up to 98% of unbroken cells. []

Mechanical Process: Accounted for 23.9% of the market and is growing steadily at a CAGR of 13.4%.

🛛 By Type:

Crystalline Silicon: Dominated the market due to its high usage in standalone PV systems like solar street lights and telecom towers.

Thin Film: Fastest-growing segment with a CAGR of 14.6%, driven by light weight and flexibility.

Key Players Shaping the Industry

Some of the major companies operating in the solar panel recycling industry include:

First Solar

Aurubis AG

SunPower Corporation

Canadian Solar

Trina Solar

Echo Environmental LLC

Reiling GmbH & Co. KG

Envaris GmbH

These players are investing in innovative recycling techniques and forming strategic collaborations to expand their global footprint.

Emerging Trends & Future Outlook

Circular Economy Push: Growing emphasis on sustainability is propelling demand for circular energy models where components are reused.

Smart Waste Management: Advanced tracking and collection systems are being integrated into solar waste management processes.

Public Awareness: More governments are launching awareness campaigns to ensure proper disposal of solar equipment.

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DD Challenges to Watch

Lack of Recycling Infrastructure: Many regions still lack efficient systems for collection and

recycling of old solar panels.

High Recycling Costs: Without economies of scale, thermal and mechanical processes remain expensive.

Regulatory Gaps: In some countries, solar waste regulations are not well defined, delaying progress.

Conclusion

As the global solar energy industry continues to grow rapidly, the solar panel recycling market will play a critical role in maintaining environmental sustainability. With favorable government policies, technological advancements, and rising awareness, this market is poised to quadruple in size by 2030.

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