

## ContainerPower Energy Solutions

# Slovak double-glass module manufacturer



## Overview

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Slovakian manufacturer Agora Solar plans to build a 150 MW plant in Vranow in the east of the country. The plant will produce double-sided glass panels and may have a capacity of 500 MW by 2024. What is a glass-glass module?

Glass-Glass module designs are an old technology that utilises a glass layer on the back of modules in place of traditional polymer backsheets. They were heavy and expensive allowing for the lighter polymer backsheets to gain the majority of the market share at the time.

How much does a glass module weigh?

The weight of glass-glass modules are still an issue, with current designs using 2 mm thick glass on each side for framed modules, the weight is about 22 kg, while 2.5 mm on each side will increase the module's weight to 23 kg. Compared to traditional glass-foil modules, which are about 18 kg, this is a 20% increase in weight.

What changes are incorporated in glass-glass modules?

Another major change that is also incorporated for glass-glass modules is swapping EVA for polyolefins as an encapsulant. This is due to the free radicals produced during the cross-linking lamination process of EVA. While traditional backsheets are somewhat permeable to the free radicals, the double-glass module is not.

What is the difference between tempered glass and glass-foil modules?

Compared to traditional glass-foil modules, which are about 18 kg, this is a 20% increase in weight. Although there is no standard on glass thickness, in general it is a more complex and expensive process to produce very thin, tempered glass. However, 2.5 mm glass thickness does allow for frameless designs, which can reduce costs dramatically.

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