

# Alternative Energy

23rd Pacific Islands Environment  
Conference

Guaipan, CNMI

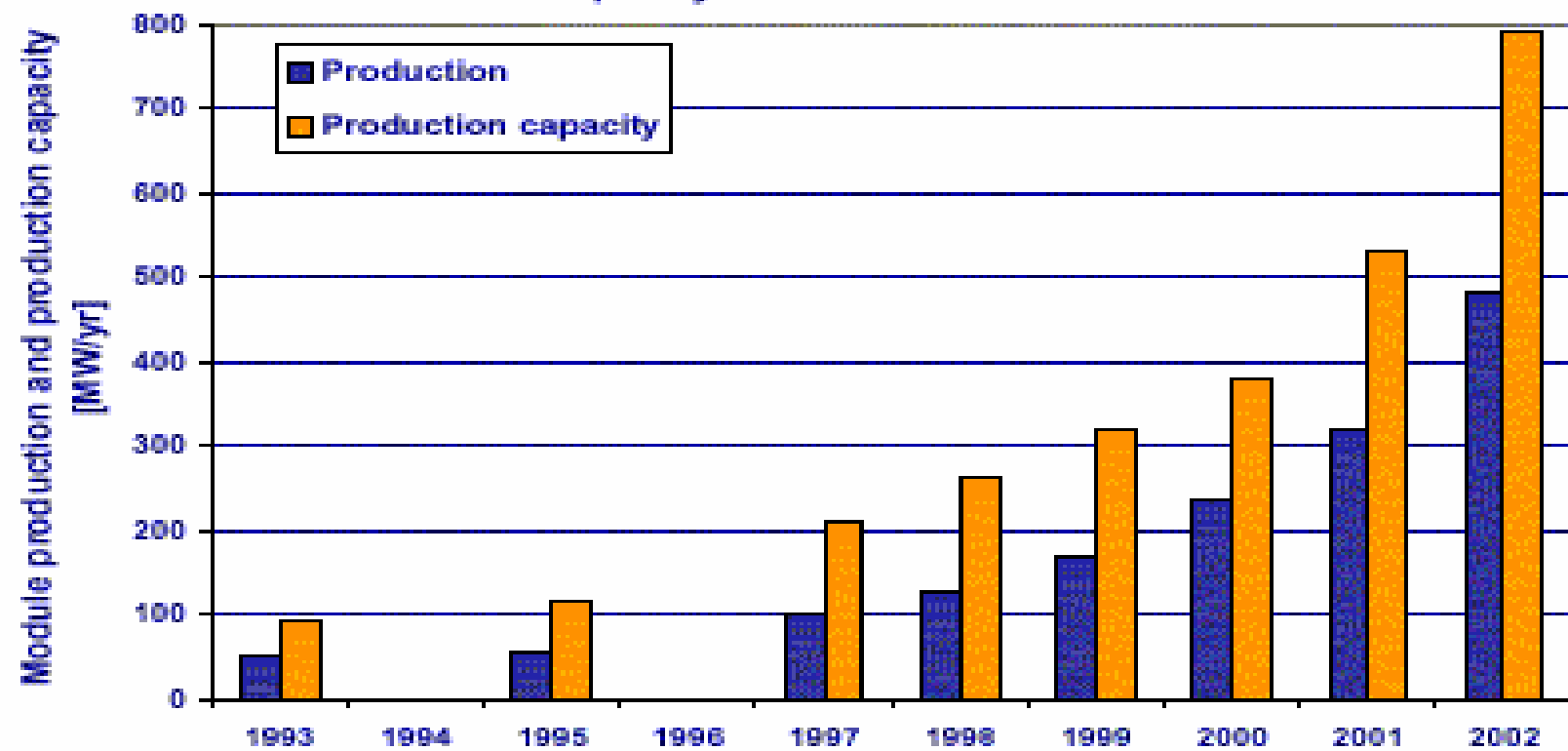
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# Alternative Energy - A Global Status Report

- Solar Photovoltaic
- Wind
- Biofuels
- Geothermal
- Hydrogen
- Wave/Tidal
- Energy Efficiency

# Solar PV Highlights and Trends

Figure 4: PV module production and module production capacity between 1993 and 2002



# Solar PV Highlights and Trends

- June 2002 - \$5.65/Watt Avg. Module Price
- June 2003 - \$5.33/Watt;
- June 2004 - \$5.96/Watt
- Lowest retail price (\$2.20/Watt - Vocera)
- Large volume prices at \$4.00/Watt and below)
- Module cost = 45-55% of total system cost

# Flexible Solar Cells



# Wind Highlights and Trends

- Wind is the least expensive electrical energy supply technology in the world today
- Wind spread rapidly in applications in Europe; only more applications in the US and Australia
- Global wind energy generating capacity now exceeds 39,000 MW

# Wind Highlights and Trends

- Wind generating capacity increased by 8,000 MW in 2002 - 25% increase
- \$9 billion invested in new wind power in 2002
- Growth forecast in double digits in the next decade
- Top 5 markets - installed capacity (Germany, U.S., Spain, Denmark, India)

# Biofuels Highlights and Trends

- Growing industry for bio-based fuels
- Electricity generated from waste methane (wastewater treatment plants, landfills, animal feed operations)
- Specialized markets for electricity from agricultural and forestry residues, combustibles

# Geothermal Highlights and Trends

- High and low temperature systems
- 8,000 MW of geothermal electricity produced globally
- 2,800 MW of geothermal electricity produced in the US
- Other major producers of geothermal energy: Iceland, New Zealand
- Energy cost about 4-6 cents per kWh in the US, 2 cents per kWh in Iceland

# Hydrogen Highlights and Trends

- Hydrogen generation technologies are well-developed (steam reformation of natural gas and electrolysis of water)
- Major government and industrial commitment to hydrogen infrastructure and end-use applications
- Remaining barriers are: widespread availability of hydrogen and cost of end-use applications (primarily for fuel cell catalysts)

# Wave/Tidal Highlights and Trends

- Almost unlimited energy potential of waves and tides
- 3 tidal projects to-date worldwide (France, Canada, Korea) from 100 to 10 MW
- Potential is the same for wave energy, especially tidal power (tidal change between land masses)
- World's first wave energy system - Isle of Islay in the UK (Wavegen)

# Energy Efficiency Highlights and Trends

- Energy efficient investments are the quickest return on investment over any supply technology. Meeting increasing efficiency standards will avoid the need to construct up to 150 new power plants over the next 20 years.
- From 1970 to 2000 US energy consumption grew 45% while the US GDP increased 160%. Efficiency is a smart business - PFRIOD!