

## **Dmitri Stepanov**

**Project 11 - Novel III-V and I-III-VI Based Multi-Junction Solar Cells**

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**Attended: Annual Network Meeting, Scientific Conference and Industry Workshop (2011)**

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It was a great opportunity to take part in all of the three meetings, including the Annual PV Innovation Network Meeting, the Scientific Conference and the Industry Workshop. While the entire event was excellent and very enriching, both professionally and personally, there are several points that I wish to highlight:

- I was able to appreciate the tangible value of innovation-sharing; While participating in the Network activities and the Scientific Conference I felt that the openness of researchers to discussions really fosters the probability of important discoveries through idea sharing and suggesting alternative ways of thinking about research problems.
- Building on the first point, it was great to network with such a high caliber group of HQP; It was great to meet people with common interests, who provided a fresh influx of ideas and points of view that serve as a much valued inspiration for new development and innovation.
- It was most valuable to learn about the partnerships established by the PV Innovation Network among researchers, policy makers and the industry. The established collaboration among various sectors and the knowledge of common set of objectives (to make large scale PV deployment more competitive) results in a concentrated effort to reach our goals.
- Overall, thanks to my participation in the event, I learnt that the ultimate solution for broad-band adoption of PV in Canada will not come from a single source but when researchers, industry, policy, and funding agencies contribute their part to the challenge of PV being part of the Sustainable Energy Mix.