

Abrupt Supply Chain Disruption

The pandemic has dramatically impacted the global supply chain. Work outages, staff shortages, limited supplies, freight and transportation delays, difficulties procuring necessary materials, along with slower production timelines, are just a few of the complications spreading through manufacturers' and suppliers' businesses. As companies attempt to absorb issues and navigate shortages, the supply chain remains challenged.

To provide some context, over 200 of the Fortune Global 500 firms have a presence in Wuhan, China - *the world's factory*. A new Dun & Bradstreet study also estimates that 163 of the Fortune 1000 have Tier 1 suppliers (those they do direct business with) in the impacted area, and 938 have one or more Tier 2 suppliers (which feed the first tier) in this same impacted area. Not having a direct supplier in the impacted areas in China, does not ensure a supply chain will be safe from disruption.¹ The domino effect of plant closures and supply shortages across the extended supply network are making their way downstream with on-going supply chain disruption. Those disruptions have impacted the solar component supply chain as well.

COVID-19: Resolving Issues Before They Hit Your Budget

Solar FlexRack is a customer-centric organization. When a long-standing client approached them with a project dilemma, the team listened carefully to the challenge. Due to supply chain shortages, the project would need to accommodate a blend of modules from different manufacturers and with differing quantities. Also, in order to stay on schedule, the client would need to place the order for the racking solution prior to having the final solar module quantity mix.

It is not convenient or necessarily simple to accommodate some challenges, but the Solar FlexRack team pride themselves in defying project issues and putting clients' success first. The engineering team designed a module mounting rail that was compatible with multiple solar modules. The racking solution allowed the customer flexibility in the module selection and resolved timing issues enabling the project to keep moving forward with minimal impact on their schedule and budget.

1. https://www2.deloitte.com/content/dam/Deloitte/ca/Documents/finance/Supply-Chain_POV_EN_FINAL-AODA.pdf



Safeguard your solar project from unexpected costs

It's hard to estimate extra costs when an issue arises on your project site. Project experience is critical and can help developers, epcs and project owners avoid issues entirely. Learn more at [Solar FlexRack's world-class project support services](#).