

Introduction

What is the SOLTHERM Europe initiative?

The Soltherm Europe initiative is a network of solar thermal market actors designed to trigger a market growth and thus to contribute strongly to the EU White Paper goals of 15 million m² of solar collectors between 2001 and 2004.

It will establish efficient marketing and information exchange structures in European countries and become the platform for further growth of the European solar heating market.

SOLTHERM Europe aims to create a co-operation between sales and installation companies by info centres and information campaigns. Much synergy can be gained by co-operation on European level and by collaboration with existing initiatives. Therefore, Soltherm is the point of contact for information exchange and market stimulation for energy agencies, consultants, solar system installers and manufacturers, governmental and municipal organisations (is your standard American English? .

SOLTHERM Europe will develop European guidelines for systems and installers, system design and application tools as well as guidelines to develop successful market campaigns based on the combined experience of the national parties. National Groups will be formed to formulate and implement National Implementation Plans including information and sales campaigns.

Partners:

Initiated by Ecofys, an international renewable energy consultancy and research company, the SOLTHERM Europe Initiative core group is developing the Initiative in an EU supported project and currently consists of the following European key partners:

- the European Active Solar Thermal Industry Group (Astig)
- the Climate Alliance
- AEE, ESV and GEA (Austria)
- 3E (Belgium)
- DTI and Ellehauge (Denmark)
- Ademe and RAEE (France)
- DFS, Door2energy and Berliner Energieagentur (Germany)
- CRES (Greece)
- Ambiente Italia (Italy)
- Ecofys and Novem (the Netherlands)
- ICAEN and Trama (Spain)
- BRE (United Kingdom)

Furthermore, a fast-growing list of parties have closed a partnership agreement to take part in the Soltherm Europe Initiative. Interested parties are invited to join the partnership.

More information can be found at www.soltherm.org.



Solar Tools for anybody online

On the central website www.soltherm.org a library of useful tools for all parties thinking about actively promoting solar thermal energy is now online with a 'factsheet' for every tool. The tools include design criteria, performance calculation models, demonstration project fact sheets, monitoring, performance guarantees, tendering, standards, inspection and much more. The database provides expert information about use, strong points and limitations of the tools. A search function enables selection on language, country and specific users like campaign organisers and installers.

More information can be found at <http://www.soltherm.org> – Tools and Guidelines

Reports and Conferences

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Soltherm is presented at major conferences in Europe, here is an agenda:

June 23-26 2002, Eurosun Conference:

The second project meeting has taken place in Bologna, Italy, together with the Eurosun 2002 Conference. At the conference, Kees van der Leun, Director of Ecofys, has given a plenary presentation on Soltherm Europe. The sheets are available on the SOLTHERM-Website www.soltherm.org.

** June, 2002, Presentation on Soltherm in Ireland:*

A presentation on Soltherm Europe and on the Ecofys solar thermal energy marketing activities was given at the Irish Solar Energy Conference in Tralee, Ireland.

** 16 to 19 October 2002, SOLAR 2002:*

The 6. International Symposium for the Use of Solar Energy, organised by AEE INTEC, will take place at Gleisdorf in Austria. Further information:

http://www.aee.at/pdf/folder_gleisdorf_solar_2002.pdf

Campaign for Take-Off

Special position for Soltherm

August 2002: Soltherm has been given a special position in the new Campaign for Take-Off (CTO) Catalogue 2001. Several new partners have joined the Renewable Energy Partnership in the framework of Soltherm. Download the text of the Soltherm description on the 'Latest News' page of www.soltherm.org.

For further information about the newsletter please contact Climate Alliance, Silva Herrmann, s.herrmann@klimabuendnis.org, about the Soltherm Initiative please mail to soltherm@ecofys.nl