



SolTherm News



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I. Campaigns, initiatives and workshops

a) Initiative for instruction and certification of solar installers and planners

In spring 2003, AEE INTEC (Arbeitsgemeinschaft Erneuerbare Energien) and Arsenal Research (Austrian Test and Research Centre Arsenal) will start an initiative to establish quality standards for planning and realisation of Solar Water Heaters and Solar Heating Systems through a training of planners and installers. The training will be offered in whole Austria. Expenses: approx. 1,400 Euro, costs for exam 100 Euro.

For further information: arsenal research
Mr. Friedrich Brandstetter
friedrich.brandstetter@arsenal.ac.at

b) Campaign: Solar thermal for the housing industry

There are excellent examples of solar renovation with utilization of a solar thermal system, e.g. a project of the housing company DEGEWO, that was presented during a meeting of the association of housing companies in Berlin and Brandenburg.

To overcome existing restraints of solar renovation, specific instruments will be made available within the German initiative „Solarthermal for Apartment Buildings“. These instruments will be presented to interested housing associations and companies at a conference on 9 May in Berlin.

For further information: Berlin Energy Agency
Mr. Frank Heunemann
Phone: +49 / 30 / 29 33 30 - 37

c) The regional campaign in Upper Austria (Sunrise in Upper Austrian companies) makes an high impact: the first 500 m² (= 17 installations) in companies (mostly in hotels, restaurants and other service sector businesses) have been installed which were supported as a part of the regional SOLTHERM-activities.

For further information O.Ö. Energiesparverband
Ms Christiane Egger
christiane.egger@esv.or.at

d) Campaign: Solar Heating Campaign in Aarhus County

In January 2003, the Solar Heating Campaign starts in Aarhus County. The administration of the buildings of Aarhus county will be offered an elaborated proposal for a solar heating system, together with a proposal for financing.

For further information: Klaus Ellehauge
www.elle-kilde.dk

e) 21 and 22 November 2002:

During a two-day SOLTHERM project meeting in Brussels, a very productive workshop has been held to create a peer review and exchange of ideas on the campaign plans, that are being developed in European countries.

II. Tools and publications

a) The SOLTHERM guidelines are coming up!

A manual for potential organisers of solar campaigns can now be downloaded in English and German from www.soltherm.org. This manual by Alois Köchli and Marcel Schnarwiler of Switzerland combines state of the art know-how of previous solar campaigns. It is not only useful for campaign organisers, but especially for energy service providers, building partnerships, property owners, and municipalities.

b) The market analyses that are being written in the SOLTHERM project for the 10 countries represented in the project will be available on the web-site www.soltherm.org in the near future. Also, the official SOLTHERM Europe Campaign Guidelines will be available for free download on www.soltherm.org in a short while.

c) Registration as partner

By registering as Associate Partner to the Soltherm Europe Initiative, you will receive first-hand information about SOLTHERM. The fast-growing network of key market players will share marketing tips, business models for lucrative activities, proven tools and important lessons learned by others on the solar thermal energy market. Becoming a Soltherm Partner involves only sending in a declaration of intention, which you will find on www.soltherm.org. All parties that work on enlargement of the solar heating market in Europe can join the SOLTHERM Europe Initiative.

For further information: www.soltherm.org

d) Country Pages and system tools

The system tools database has been extended with more tools and pages have been redesigned for more attractive presentation of those tools.

From the home page of www.soltherm.org, you can now go directly to a country page in your local language (for most countries) and from there to the tools database in the same language.

III. Grants for renewable energies in UK

There are interesting news to report from the United Kingdom: A 10 million Pound Community and household Renewable Energy Grant Scheme for England, Wales and Northern Ireland was launched 14 January 2003 by the UK department of Trade and Industry. The grant scheme is administered by BRE Sustainable Energy Centre. It includes 500 Pound grants towards solar water heating (around 20% of costs) and an installer accreditation programme.

For further information

Mr. Nick Davies, BRE Sustainable Energy Centre
renewableenergygrants@bre.co.uk
www.clear-skies.org

IV. Conferences and presentations

In 2002, Soltherm has been presented at a number of important conferences and meetings:

- * 3rd Solar Keymark meetings in Wien (27. Mai 2002): presentation by Frau Mag. Wilma Mert
 - * Irish Solar Energy Conference (2002: presentation of Frank Zegers
 - * Eurosun 2002 (June 2002): presentation of Kees van der Leun
 - * Gleisdorf Solar 2002 (October 2002): presentation of B. van der Ree and national workshop
 - * ASTIG members meeting (November 2002): presentation of Frank Zegers and Olivier Drücke
- In 2003, several presentations are foreseen.

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