

COUNTRY REPORT: SPAIN

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This short report includes a brief description of the most important elements in Spain regulations and certification/subsidy schemes related to solar thermal products. The description is valid for September 2010.

Regulatory Framework

Building Regulation (general)

- *Código Técnico de la Edificación, Real Decreto 314/2006*, issued on 28/03/2006. Building Technical Code includes the obligation to cover since 30 until 70% (depending on climatic conditions) of hot water energy demand with solar thermal. It is mandatory in all new buildings, independent of their use, and in those undergoing major renovation (renovated surface higher than 1000 m²). The document specifies technical conditions for solar thermal installations and the obligation to certify (national certification) the solar collectors which are going to be used.
- *Certificación de la eficiencia energética de edificios de nueva construcción, Real Decreto 47/2007*, issued on 19/01/2007. Basic methodology to calculate integrated energy performance of new buildings and to make their classification depending on energy performance.
- *Reglamento de Instalaciones Térmicas en los Edificios, Real Decreto 1027/2007 issued on 20/07/2007*. Basic regulation related with thermal installations in buildings (not only solar thermal). It specifies energy performance requirements and safety requirements in thermal installations in new and existing buildings. Also it includes regular mandatory inspection of boilers and air conditioning systems in buildings.

Registration

- *Reglamento de Instalaciones Térmicas en los Edificios, Real Decreto 1027/2007 issued on 20/07/2007*. Thermal installations (including solar) with nominal thermal power higher than 5 kW must be registered. If thermal power is higher than 70 kW, an endorsed project must be presented.

Safety control

- *Reglamento de Instalaciones Térmicas en los Edificios, Real Decreto 1027/2007 issued on 20/07/2007*.

Public Incentives (subsidies, ordinances or other)

Relevant incentives:

- Each regional government designed its subsidies scheme according to the annual budget and the regional energy plan. However most of these regional subsidies schemes do not include additional technical conditions. They fixed types and sizes of solar thermal installations which can ask subsidies and the way in which they are going to be assessed.

In the case of Canary Islands, the last subsidy scheme (BOC 255, *Orden de 28/12/2009*) was issued on 31/12/2009. Solar thermal installations with more than 20 m² are subsidized with no more than 37% of reference cost (custom built systems: 1 015 €/kW; special applications like solar cooling: 1 450 €/kW). Solar Keymark collectors receive a better assessment in order to obtain subsidies. The subsidy scheme focuses on solar cooling and on solar thermal to produce hot water in hotels and resorts (tourist sector) and in public buildings. If the use of solar installations is mandatory (new buildings) they do not receive subsidies.

Testing

- *Instituto Nacional de Técnica Aeroespacial, INTA*. Accreditation according to EN12975-2
- *Fundación CENER-CIEMAT*. Accreditation according to EN12975-2 and EN 12976-2
- *Laboratorio de Captadores Solares, Instituto Tecnológico de Canarias, ITC*. Accreditation according to EN12975-2

Certification

Product certification:

- National certification is given by the Industry, Tourism and Trade Spanish Department; <http://www.mityc.es/energia/es-ES/Paginas/index.aspx>. In order to ask the Spanish certification, solar collectors and systems must be tested according to European standard and the manufacturing process must be ISO 9000 certificated. The conditions are described in the regulation *Orden ITC/71/2007*, issued on 26/01/2007. Solar Keymark certificates are not accepted, manufacturers must submit the test reports prepared by accredited laboratories and ISO 9000 certifications.

- In March 2010, AENOR, Asociación Española de Normalización obtained the empowerment to issue Solar Keymark licenses.

Insurance

- No requirements.

Trade Barriers

- National certification demands an ISO 9000 certification on production and/or assembling. There are not flexible agreements among Certification Bodies, so in most of the cases, this requirement makes necessary to issue another ISO 9000 certificate.
- The language used in test reports and ISO 9000 certificates is delaying the obtaining of national certification because most of them are not written in English or Spanish (both languages are accepted), so manufacturers must ask an official translation.

Actions needed

- Promote and make more attractive Solar Keymark certification through make more flexible the process. Solar Keymark collectors and systems should be included in regional subsidies schemes with an extra and additional assessment.
- Promote modifications in national certification to accept Solar Keymark certificates.
- Promote installers certification.