

SKN_N0336R0

Nothing-To-Hide-Initiative

Presentation for the Cyprus Meeting

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Question: Who has/owns information about a certified product?

All technical information about a tested & certified product is available to the:

- Involved manufacturer
- Involved test lab
- Involved certification body

BUT USUALLY NOT TO

- Anybody else
-> Customer, subsidy authorities, insurances, complaint committee, etc.

CASES WHERE INFORMATION SHOULD BE AVAILABLE

- Complaint
- Assumed misuse
- Doubts on results
- Insurance case
- Subsidy case
- etc.

These cases can't be treated reasonably by any neutral instance as there is no technical information available.

Is there something to hide?

USUALLY:

WHAT?

Proposal «Nothing to hide initiative»

Proposal: Products can be Solar Keymark certified under the voluntary NTH initiative, meaning that:

1.) All the test reports that are the basis for a Solar Keymark certificate are made public. In the public version of the test report only (!) brand names of suppliers and information about proprietary innovations can be blackened. This includes all the cascading/referenced test reports required for a Solar Keymark Certificate.

2.) The manufacturer confirms that in case of a SK complaint he will provide all pictures, drawings, datasheets and test data - upon request - to the sole confidential use of the CC.

3.) Before publishing a certificate, the datasheet & test reports are made available to the SK test labs and CBs for ONE week for voting and commenting:

Votes possible: **Abstain / YES / NO / No NTH / VETO.**

Abstain: (i.e. not voting) Yes I trust to those who did it: «YES».

YES: I confirm that I think it is ok to issue the certificate

NO*: I have some severe doubts about the results/tests/procedures

No NTH*: Can be SK but not NTH. The information is not sufficient for NTH.

VETO*: Complete disaster, if published I have to think about a challenge

* Only valid if doubts are described in a public comment file. If no comment available -> it is Abstention

Proposal «Nothing to hide initiative»

The result of the voting is published together with the certificate.

All comments are public (but not the commentators names).

If a simple majority of the possible NTH voters (=SKN Voters) is YES (i.e. $\geq 50\%$) and no VETOS, the product is certified under NTH. In the Solar Keymark database, these products are marked with «NTH» and listed first (i.e. before all other products). The test reports are made available to anybody (same as datasheet)

If a simple majority is NOT voting Yes/Abstain, the product may be certified by the CB anyway but not under NTH.

If there is one (or more) SK VETO, a call to the Complaint Committee for investigating the case is generated automatically and immediately.

Upgrade to NTH is possible anytime.

NTH is voluntary

Why NTH?

Avoid loong complaint cases

Avoid complaint cases at all

Increase confidence in SK

Reduce cheating (.....of course nobody cheats now)

Improve the work of the CBs and TLs