Partners and subcontractors:

EU-level: ESTIF
Austria: GREENoneTEC, arsenal
Denmark: SolarKey Int.
Cyprus: ES-MTIC
France: CSTB
Germany: ITW, DINCERTCO
Greece: Demokritos, ELOT
Italy: ENEA
The Netherlands: Solahart Europe
Poland: EC-BREC
Portugal: INETI, CERTIF
Spain: ITC
Sweden: SP
United Kingdom: Thermomax

“External contact group”:

EU-level: CEN
Belgium: 3E
Czech Republic: SZUTEST
Lithuania: LEI
The Netherlands: TNO
Slovenia: UNI-LJ
Spain: INTA, AENOR
Switzerland: SPF

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SolarKeymark-II

Large open EU-market for solar thermal products
A proposal to the Intelligent Energy - Europe (EIE2004 Call)

Co-ordinator: European Solar Thermal Industry Federation, ESTIF

EN product standard (ENp)
• Gives test results
• Checks quality

EN calc. standard (ENc)
• Uses test results from ENp

EPBD implementation
• Use of ENc
• Accept/use certified results

National subsidy schemes
• Accept/use certified results

National regulations
• Accept certified test results

Energy labelling of water heaters
• Accept/use certified results

Green Solar Thermal Certificates
• Require/accept certified test results

Solar Keymark:
• Certifies test results
• Certifies quality
Objective

Large open EU market for solar thermal quality products.

Background

Currently the market is fragmented due to different national and regional requirements in regulation and subsidy schemes. Council Directive 2002/91/EC on the energy performance of buildings is positive towards solar thermal but there is a risk the directive could make the fragmentation even worse if all the national implementations of the directive are not coordinated.

Recently European Standards for solar thermal products were established, and the CEN ‘Solar Keymark’ certification scheme stating conformity with these standards has been introduced. However the acceptance of these Standards is not yet universal, as there are still some conflicts between the EN Standards and national requirements.

Perfect Timing

Now is the ideal time to solve the conflicts and break down the barriers:
- All national building regulations are being revised due to the implementation of the Council Directive 2002/91/EC on the energy performance of buildings.
- In connection with the above Directive a new European standard calculation methodology for solar thermal systems is being developed.
- The EN12977 series of standards are being revised.
- The first experiences with the Solar Keymark scheme have been gained, and should be incorporated to make the scheme more flexible and attractive to the industry.

It is proposed to use this splendid opportunity to solve the conflicts and agree on a common basis for requirements used all over Europe.

Specific Main Tasks

- Improvement of Solar Keymark scheme rules and more close coordination of European Standards and national requirements.
- Promotion of the Solar Keymark to the European solar industry.

Expected Results

- Removal of trade barriers within the EU.
- More transparent information on product quality, resulting in higher trust of all actors involved.
- Higher integration of EU market, resulting in more competition at European level, economics of scale, cost reductions and transfer of know-how (technical, marketing, integration in heating system) within European countries including New Member States and Candidate Countries.

Obtaining these results are a very basic and necessary condition for reaching the “White Paper Goal” of 100 million m² in 2010 and ultimately for reaching the technical-economical potential of solar thermal: 1,400 million m² / 1,000 GWt. This corresponds to almost 60 Mtoe, or 6% of the EU14 final energy consumption resulting again in a decrease of approx. 6% of the energy related CO₂ emissions.

The project will be coordinated with the EC/CEN work foreseen on energy labeling of water heaters.

The results could be used also as basis for establishing an European scheme for “Green Solar Thermal Certificates”.

Budget

Total budget: 0.8 mill €
Requested EU contribution: 0.4 mill €

Time schedule

Duration: 24 months