

The European Solar Keymark

What is the Solar Keymark?

The Solar Keymark (SK) is the European wide Quality label for solar thermal products

The Keymark is the pan-European voluntary third-party certification mark, demonstrating to users and consumers that a product conforms to the relevant European Standard(s).

It is a CEN/CENELEC European Mark Scheme, also called a KEYMARK Scheme in particular for:

- Solar thermal collectors (EN12975)
- Factory made solar thermal systems (EN12976)

The SK is the reference for the industry in Europe; by 1 January 2012 the number of Solar Keymark licenses exceeded 1600, from over 500 manufacturers from 32 countries, including 18 EU member states.

How does the process of certification and issue of the quality mark work?

The SK is based on European standards and operated under the control of the European standardisation bodies.

It demonstrates the conformity of products to European standards adopted by CEN, entitling them to make use of the CEN European mark of conformity to the relevant European standards.

This voluntary European product certification system is operated by the Solar Keymark network, which has been empowered by CEN.

To ensure that every single product on the market is identical to the tested products the Solar Keymark network decided to use the third party certification procedure and thus testing is on products randomly selected, complemented by a quality management control of the production lines.



Which product features are covered by the Solar Keymark?

The Solar Keymark covers the requirements of EN12975 (Solar Thermal Collectors) and EN 12976 (Factory Made Systems).

This certification scheme has been developed to follow permanently the standards' developments and to adapt itself to the needs of the European market.

Therefore, the Solar Keymark Network (in charge of managing the certification scheme) has, for instance, included in the scheme a flexible certification for collectors and system families or a compatibility listing for exchange of sub-components, that facilitate the introduction of new products into the market while ensuring their quality for the consumers.

The Solar Keymark follows the developments of the relevant standards, such as making Solar Keymark available for "Custom built systems" by including specific Solar Keymark scheme rules for the new EN 12977 series.

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