Why is certification required?

Product certification assists users to select quality products, as attest that a given product complies with the relevant European Standards.

The certification may be:

- voluntary (SK) or compulsory (ex: some CE marks);
- third-party (SK) or self-certification (CE marking);
- European (SK) or national on its scope and recognition.

Product certification, when required by a support scheme set up by a public body, assures that a proper use of public funds is done.

What are the advantages for the consumer?

- high quality products
- guarantee that the product sold is identical to the tested product
- confirmation that products are FULLY tested according to the relevant standards
- eligibility for subsidies

What are the advantages for the manufacturer?

- simpler testing procedure
- one test valid for all European countries
- freedom of choice amongst the accredited test labs
- easier introduction of new products in different European countries
- simplified procedures for replacing components in certified products

Solar thermal
Quality factsheets
Getting a solar thermal product certified
How does the Solar Keymark certification process work?

**Obtaining the Solar Keymark**

Check if your solar collector/system is designed and made according to EN12975/76 and if your manufacturing methods are based on a suitable Quality Management System (QMS).

**Qualifies for EN12975/76 & suitable QMS?**

- **YES**
  - Contact certification body and apply for a Solar Keymark and agree on a Test Institute.
  - Test institute conducts type testing to EN12975/76 and inspection of manufacturing site and quality system.
  - **YES** Solar Keymark Awarded?
  - **NO** Improve your product and company procedures.
  - **YES** Congratulations!

**NO (QMS)**

*Update: March 2012*