



Introduction to the concept of "Global Solar Certification Network"

Aim

The aim of "Global Solar Certification Network" (GSCN) is to facilitate cross-border trading for manufacturers and other suppliers of solar thermal products; its objective is to minimize the need for re-testing and re-certification in each new country where products are to be marketed and sold.

Scope

The concept of "Global Solar Certification" is being implemented for solar thermal collectors and is based on the test procedures given ISO 9806. Other components as well as complete solar water heaters and solar heating/cooling systems could be included a later stage.

Concept

The "Global Solar Certification Network" is a cooperation between solar certification bodies/schemes around the world. When a product has been certified by one of the participating certification bodies/schemes, the product can obtain certification from other participating certification schemes without re-testing of the product and without re-inspection of production facilities.

Organisation

The "Global Solar Certification Network" is made up by industry representatives and representatives from participating certification bodies, test labs and inspection bodies. The Global Solar Certification Network is governed by a board of directors and managed by a manager; the Network operates under the "[Global Solar Certification Network - Working Rules](#)".

How does it work

How does it work for manufacturers

A GSCN manufacturer having already a certificate from a certification body member of GSCN, applies directly to the "new" certification body (also member of GSCN) who issues the certificate he wants next for his product(s).

The manufacturer shows the existing certificate and ask the test lab and inspection body which did the testing and inspection already to provide the "new" certification body with existing test and inspection reports. Test lab and inspection body shall be recognized by the "old" as well as the "new" certification body.

The "new" certification body will then tell the manufacturer if any additional testing/inspection will be needed.

If no additional testing is required - or when such additional testing has been completed - the manufacturer is granted the license to mark his product with the "new" certificate too.

News

November 2018

First manufacturer is using his Solar Keymark reports to get SRCC certification.

October 2018

Certification bodies from different certification schemes (SRCC in US and Solar Keymark in EU) have joined the network - the concept of re-using test and inspection reports for new certification is now ready to operate.

September 2018

IEA SHC Task 57 "Solar Standards and Certification" Expert meeting connected to EuroSun conference in Rapperswil, Switzerland.

March 2018

[GSCN meeting in Madrid March 7th, 2018.](#)

December 2017

[GLOBAL CERTIFICATION SAVES MONEY AND TIME. Video interview with GSCN Manager Jan Erik Nielsen at SWC 2017 in Abu Dhabi](#)

January 2017

Three of the worlds biggest solar collector manufacturers have joined the Global Solar Certification Network

October 2016

IEA SHC Task 57 "Solar Standards and Certification" Expert meeting and workshop together with SHAMCI Network in Cairo.

July 2016

2016-07-07: Final complete version of approved GSCN working rules published - see: [Documents](#)

March 2016

2016-03-10: Main part of GSCN working rules approved at meeting in Berlin

March 2016

2016-03-10: [GSCN meeting in Berlin](#)
2016-03-11: IEA SHC Task 57 meeting in Berlin

December 2015

2015-12-02: [IEA SHC Task 57 "Solar Standards and Certification"](#) Approved December 2015".