

## IEA SHC Programme Publishes 2012 Edition of their Statistics *Solar Heat Worldwide*

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Gleisdorf, Austria 14 May 2012. The IEA Solar Heating and Cooling Programme (IEA SHC) releases their latest statistics of worldwide solar heating and cooling. Despite the economic crisis the market grew by 14% in 2010, with installed capacities of solar collectors reaching 196 GW<sub>th</sub>. The collectors provided 162 TWh of solar thermal energy, thus saving 53 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

*“With 162 TWh produced in 2010, solar heating and cooling is second only to wind amongst the ‘new’ renewables”, says Werner Weiss, chairman of the IEA Solar Heating and Cooling Programme. “And while China continues to lead in total installations, Australia and Israel added more capacity per capita than any other country”.*

The annual statistics *Solar Heat Worldwide* provide data from 55 countries, representing more than 60% of the world's population and over 90% of the global solar thermal market. The vast majority of the total 2010 capacity was in China (117.6 GW<sub>th</sub>) and Europe (36.0 GW<sub>th</sub>), which together accounted for 78.5% of the total capacity.

Most of the existing systems provide domestic hot water only (95%). But in some countries, combisystems (systems that also cover part of the space heating demand) have become a major application in the market. Industrial applications, district heating and air conditioning, too, are all growing solar thermal applications. Taken together, combisystems and other applications beyond domestic hot water reached 10% of newly installed systems in 2010.

Technology wise, thermosiphon (natural flow) systems are the clear market leader, accounting for 89% of the newly installed capacity in 2010, compared with 11% of forced circulation systems. The Chinese market dominance shows also in the type of collectors used: 78% were vacuum tube collectors, 18% were flat-plate collectors and 4% were unglazed collectors.

*“It is often forgotten that 47% of the world’s energy demand is for heating”, reminds Werner Weiss. “Solar heating and cooling offers a renewable supply of thermal energy and can be applied anywhere in the world. In many regions, solar has been cost-competitive for years. People use it because it works and it is relatively cheap”.*

### Further information:

- Download Solar Heat Worldwide (2012 edition): [www.iea-shc.org/publications/downloads/Solar\\_Heat\\_Worldwide-2012.pdf](http://www.iea-shc.org/publications/downloads/Solar_Heat_Worldwide-2012.pdf)

# PRESS RELEASE



## About the International Energy Agency's Solar Heating and Cooling Programme (IEA SHC):

- The Programme was established in 1977.
- Its objectives are co-operative research, development, demonstration and exchange of information regarding solar heating and cooling systems.
- 20 countries and the European Union are IEA SHC members.
- The research topics of the current 9 projects range from more general topics, such as "Solar resource assessment and forecasting" , system research, such as "Large solar thermal systems" to material research, such as the use of "Polymeric materials for solar thermal applications."
- Additional information: [www.iea-shc.org](http://www.iea-shc.org)

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