

New ISO Partnership Promotes Solar Energy Standards

April 2015. The International Energy Agency's Solar Heating and Cooling Programme (IEA SHC) has formalized relationship with ISO TC 180 Solar Energy. This liaison creates a clear path for IEA SHC results to be implemented in ISO standards.

“Measuring the solar resources available for solar applications is an important goal of this partnership,” says Ms. Erandi Chandrasekare, Secretary of ISO TC180 *“As well as improving the performance of solar heating and cooling systems by standardizing the measurements of performance, reliability and durability.”*

In 2015 IEA SHC and TC 180 will collaborate in two areas. The first is to improve the next version of the ISO 9806 standard on test methods for assessing the durability, reliability and safety of glazed and unglazed solar thermal collectors and air heating solar collectors. *“Using this standard as a basis, IEA SHC is working on a global certification scheme for solar water heaters,”* explains Jan Erik Nielsen, SHC project leader. *“We are also promoting the new ISO standard for collector test methods in promising solar thermal markets.”*

The second is to improve solar radiation measurement standards. *“IEA SHC is working to develop measurement best practices of the solar resource using innovative measurement technologies,”* says Dave Renné, SHC project leader, *“and the project results will support the establishment of an ISO standard for obtaining quality solar resource data with which to evaluate system performance.”*

For **IEA SHC**, this partnership opens another avenue to reach out to industry, government and consumers as the research results are taken up in standards.

For **ISO TC 180**, this partnership gives access to a well-developed international network of experts willing to assist in ISO TC 180 projects.

For **consumers**, this partnership means improved quality, reliability and durability of solar thermal products.

Further information:

- IEA SHC: www.iea-shc.org
- ISO TC 189: www.shc2015.org
- such as “Large Solar Thermal Systems” and “Polymeric Materials for Solar Thermal Applications” to market support topics, such as “Solar Rating and Certification”.

Contact information:

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