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# MAKING SOLAR THERMAL A PART OF YOUR BUSINESS

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## What is Solar Thermal?

- Harness and convert solar energy into useful thermal energy.
- Applications
  - Domestic hot water
  - Space heating
  - Pool heating
  - Process heating
  - Absorption chillers





#### Why Solar - World Picture





## Why Solar- U.S. Gasoline Prices





# Why Solar Thermal?

- Energy independence/Fluctuating fuel prices
- Reduce carbon footprint
- Low Upfront Investment
- Fast ROI
- 3-6 Times More Efficient than Solar PV





Output/day: 22.7 kWh Area: 80 ft<sup>2</sup> Installed Cost: \$10,000 
 Output/day:
 22.3 kWh (76,100 Btu)

 Area:
 456 ft2 (18 panels)

 Installed Cost:
 \$30,000

# But We Don't Get Enough Sunlight...





Boston Insolation~ 500,000 Btu/ft<sup>2</sup> annually

# Three Components

#### Collectors

- Flat Plate
- Evacuated Tube

#### Pump Station/HX

- External HX
- Pump-only
- Controller included

#### Storage Tank

- Storage tank
- Indirect tank
- Dual Coil tank













Heat-Flo





## **Drain Back Systems**

#### Advantages:

- Uses Water
- No Expansion Tank, Air Vent, Check Valve
- Safe from power outages
- Disadvantages
  - Careful installation Everything must slope
  - Larger pump(s)
  - Can be noisy





http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4X1ECpI09Jc

## **Pressurized Systems**

#### Advantages:

- Freeze protected
- Components do not need to be sloped
- Low Wattage Pump
- Disadvantages:
  - Check glycol annually
  - Overheat during power outage or low load
  - Heat dissipation components or controller (may be required)





http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D-ZpzDntsZ0&feature=related

# Piping Components





#### SHW System Layouts



## **Collector Performance**

#### SRCC OG-100 Rating

- Collector Rating only
  - Glazed Flat Plate
  - Evacuated Tube
- Snapshot view of collector performance
- Plot Efficiency or Use Table
- Collectors must have OG-100 to receive tax credits





Kilowatt-hours Per Panel Per Day				Thousands of BTU Per Panel Per Day				
	CATEGORY (Ti-Ta)	CLEAR DAY	MILDLY CLOUDY	CLOUDY DAY	CATEGORY (Ti-Ta)	CLEAR DAY	MILDLY CLOUDY	CLOUDY DAY
А	(-5 °C)	13.5	10.2	6.9	A (-9°F)	46.2	34.9	23.7
в	(5 °C)	12.3	9.0	5.7	B (9°F)	42.0	30.8	19.5
С	(20 °C)	10.5	7.3	4.1	C (36 °F)	35.8	24.8	13.8
D	(50 °C)	7.2	4.2	1.3	D (90 °F)	24.5	14.2	4.6
Е	(80 °C)	4.3	1.6	0.0	E (144 °F)	14.6	5.6	0.0

A- Pool Heating (Warm Climate) B- Pool Heating (Cool Climate) C- Water Heating (Warm Climate) D- Water Heating (Cool Climate) E- Air Conditioning

Original Certification Date: 28-MAR-11

COLLECTOR SPECIFICATIONS

Frame:

SI Units:

IP Units:

Κτα = 1

Κτα = 1

Cover (Outer):

Cover (Inner):

Gross Area:	2.993 m <sup>2</sup>	32.22 ft <sup>2</sup>
Dry Weight:	46.3 kg	102. lb
Test Pressure:	1103. KPa	160. psig

-0.17 (S)

Linear Fit

Net Aperture Area: 2 78 m<sup>2</sup> 29 93 ft<sup>2</sup> Fluid Capacity: 2.6 liter 0.7 gal

COLLECTOR MATERIALS Pressure Drop Aluminum Flow ΔP Tempered glass ml/s gpm Pa in H<sub>2</sub>O Tube - Copper / Absorber Material: Insulation Side: Foam Plate - Aluminum Absorber Coating: Selective coating Insulation Back: foam TECHNICAL INFORMATION Efficiency Equation [NOTE: Based on gross area and (P)=Ti-Ta] **Y INTERCEPT** SLOPE n= 0.749 -3.69060 (P)/I -0.00551 (P)<sup>2</sup>/ 0.752 -4.029 W/m<sup>2</sup>°C n= 0.749 -0.65010 (P)/I -0.00054 (P)<sup>2</sup>/ 0 752 -0.710 Btu/hr.ft<sup>2</sup>.°F Incident Angle Modifier [(S)=1/cos0 - 1, 0°<0<=60°] Test Fluid: Wate -0.078 (S)  $-0.086(S)^2$ Test Flow Rate: 27.7 ml/s.m<sup>2</sup> 0.0408 gpm/ft<sup>2</sup>



## Which is More Efficient?





20°F Ambient, Reasonably Bright Day (250 Btuh/sq. ft), with 120°F fluid temp = Fluid Parameter 0.4

#### **Evacuated Tubes**



#### Heat Pipe and Direct Flow



#### Average R-Value per Inch of Various Materials





## Which Collector to Use?





\*Efficiency is not the only factor. Quality, Durability, Service and Cost must also be evaluated!

#### Space Heating vs. Domestic Water Heating



## System Design



#### Absorber surface area (More collectors)



System efficiency SE

# **Project Siting**

Azimuth angle
Solar South
Shading \_\_\_\_\_\_



Due South Best (Acceptable within 45°)

Inclination angle
 Annual ~ Latitude - 5°
 Winter ~ Latitude + 15°





## Sales Process





# Financial Info

- Federal Tax Credit
  - 30% of installed cost (no cap)
- State Tax Credit (MA)
  - Residential-15% (\$1000)
- State Rebate (MA)
  - \$25\*SRCC Category C rating (\$3500)
- Utility Rebates
  - National Grid (Gas/Residential)- 15% of installed cost (cap of \$1500)
  - National Grid (Gas/Commercial)- Based on energy output (cap of \$100,000)
  - Other incentives are available....just go to <u>www.DSIREUSA.org</u>

<u> </u>

Data Input		
Number of Collectors	#	25
Area per Collector (sqft)	GOBI 410	800.00
Solar System Output	kWh	57,542
Backup Gas Heater Efficiency	%	75.0%
Type of energy being displaced	Gas	Therms
Energy cost	\$/unit	1.700
Annual Energy cost Increase	Gas	5.00%
Yearly Maintenance Cost	\$	25
Cost of Capital	%	0.0%
State Tax credit	%	0.0%
State/local rebates	5	9,000
Federal Tax Credit/Grant	%	30.0%
General Inflation	%	2.0%
Sales Tax	%	6.0%
Corporate Income Tax Rate	%	30.0%

Total system costs (including equipment and installation - sales tax op	tir	51,900
Sales Tax (input or calculate)	3,114	
Water heater replacement costs (if replaced anyway)	0	
Incremental solar costs		55,014
State/local Rebate	9,000	
Total Incremental Cost after state rebate		46,014
State Tax Credit	0	
Federal Tax Credit/Grant	16,504	
2011 100% Deduction	0	
Federal tax on State Rebate	2,700	
Total Cost after credits & rebate		32,210
2011 Bonus Depreciation (Basis minus 50% of Federal Credit)	46,762	
Total Cost after credits & rebate		37,762

# **Expanding Your Business**

- Installing Solar
  - New revenue stream
  - Distinguish yourself
- Service Contract
  - Annually check solar system



And provide regular maintenance on HVAC system



## Case Study- Laundromat

#### Laundromat

- 2000 gal/day
- Existing 3x 400 gallon tanks
- Auxiliary Gas-Fired Water Heater

#### Solar

- 25 Flat Plate Collectors
  - 800 Square Feet
- Solar Indirect Tank
- Solar Pump Station









#### **Case Study- Solar Simulation**



#### **Results of Annual Simulation**

Installed Collector Power: Installed Gross Solar Surface Area: Collector Surface Area Irradiation (Active Surface): Energy Produced by Collectors: Energy Produced by Collector Loop:	149.75 kBtu/hr 674.9 sq.ft 321.47 MMBTU 173.04 MMBTU 171.98 MMBTU	513.39 kBtu/sq.ft 276.34 kBtu/sq.ft 274.66 kBtu/sq.ft
DHW Heating Energy Supply: Solar Contribution to DHW: Energy from Auxiliary Heating:	423.85 MMBTU 172.15 MMBTU 265.31 MMBTU	
Natural Gas (H) Savings: Natural Gas (H) Savings: CO2 Emissions Avoided: DHW Solar Fraction: Fractional Energy Saving (EN 12976): System Efficiency:		7,813.9 m <sup>3</sup> 2,788.37 therm 36,428.34 lbs 39.4 % 39.0 % 53.6 %

#### Solar Energy Consumption as Percentage of Total Consumption



#### **Daily Maximum Collector Temperature**



## Case Study-Feasibility

Year	Savings/Year	Acc. Savings	Depreciation	Acc. Cash
	(\$)	(\$)	(tax \$ effect)	Flow
0	0	0	0	-37,762
1	4,646	4,646	14,029	-19,088
2	4,878	9,524	0	-14,210
3	5,122	14,646	0	-9,088
4	5,378	20,024	0	-3,710
5	5,647	25,670	0	1,937
6	5,929	31,600	0	7,866
7	6,226	37,825	0	14,092
8	6,537	44,362	0	20,629
9	6,864	51,228	0	27,493
10	7,207	58,433	0	34,700
11	7,567	66,000	0	42,267
12	7,946	73,946	0	50,213
13	8,343	82,289	0	58,556
14	8,760	91,049	0	67,316
15	9,198	100,247	0	76,514
16	9,658	109,905	0	86,172
17	10,141	120,046	0	96,313
18	10,648	130,694	0	106,961
19	11,180	141,875	0	118,141
20	11,739	153,614	0	129,881
21	12,326	165,941	0	142,207
22	12,943	178,883	0	155,150
23	13,590	192,473	0	168,740
24	14,269	206,742	0	183,009
25	14 983	221 725	0	197 992



Financial Feasibility		
Net present value	\$	197,992
Return on investment	%	358%
Pavback	Years	5

Solar Thermal Rate =

2788 therm/yr \* 25 yr

\$37,762

= \$0.54 per therm

#### **Case Study-Residential**



#### <u>Annual Savings with "Standard Equipment"</u> **Electric**: 4250 kWh (@ \$0.16/kWh) = **\$680.00 Oil**: 180 gal (@ \$3.00/gal) = **\$540.00 Natural Gas**: 250 therms (@ \$1.80/therm) = **\$450.00**

#### **Results of Annual Simulation**

Electricity Savings: CO2 Emissions Avoided: DHW Solar Fraction: Fractional Energy Saving (EN 12976): System Efficiency:		4,256.2 kWh 6,249.29 lbs 68.1 % 68.5 % 41.9 %
DHW Heating Energy Supply: Solar Contribution to DHW: Energy from Auxiliary Heating:	17 MMBTU 12.87 MMBTU 6.04 MMBTU	
Installed Collector Power: Installed Gross Solar Surface Area: Collector Surface Area Irradiation (Active Surface): Energy Produced by Collectors: Energy Produced by Collector Loop:	14.28 kBtu/hr 64.37 sq.ft 30.72 MMBTU 15.00 MMBTU 14.03 MMBTU	513.39 kBtu/sq.ft 250.65 kBtu/sq.ft 234.49 kBtu/sq.ft

#### Solar Energy Consumption as Percentage of Total Consumption



#### **Daily Maximum Collector Temperature**



#### Let's Examine A Live System in Operation...

#### **Correctional Facility in NH**

- Closed loop pressurized system (Ground mount)
- DHW Load: 7000 gal/day
  - Kitchen, Laundry, Showers
- 64 Collectors (2560 sq. ft)
- 2250 gallons of storage
- ~50% SF











#### Any Questions?

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