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Solarpraxis

The organisers

Solarpraxis has been one of the leading organizers of conferences in the renewable energy sector since 1998. During that time we have also grown to become one of the most recognized providers of engineering, consulting, and publishing services in the field.

Our conferences

Our conferences have become established industry meeting places, giving participants the opportunity to exchange ideas, to follow and discuss the latest developments, as well as to meet representatives from politics, the press and the financial world. The Forum Solarpraxis is our flagship event, taking place in Berlin every year since 1999, with now over 700 participants from industry, finance and politics. It enjoys an outstanding reputation at international level, as one of the foremost annual solar energy conferences in Germany.

Conference management

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Conference venue

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7th February 2012
Berlin, Germany

SMEThermal 2012

*Solar Thermal Materials,
Equipment and Technology
Conference*

in cooperation with:



Introduction

SMEThermal 2012

SMEThermal is the only international conference dedicated exclusively to process optimization, automation, and new materials in the solar tank and collector industry. The one-day event will attract key players from the solar thermal manufacturing business – among others, material suppliers, specialists in automation and production technology, and manufacturers of collectors, absorbers and tanks. More than 160 participants from all over the world are expected to participate.

The SMEThermal 2012 hot topic list includes: how to implement the eco design directive in the industry, explore your company's cost reduction potential, and evaluate the quality of metal and glass coatings. For the first time, an Innovation Forum will present the latest developments in automated absorber production. And, experts will share their insights into supply chain issues – from finding the right adhesive to water storage insulation.

Don't miss the unique opportunity to gain valuable knowledge and meet new international contacts. Mark the date in your calendar - and don't forget to profit from early bird registration.

We look forward to welcoming you at our 3rd SMEThermal conference in Berlin.

Program advisor

Bärbel Epp, solrico



Programme Schedule

9:00 Registration and get-together

10:00 Welcome and opening words
• Karl-Heinz Remmers, CEO, Solarpraxis

10:10 Round table discussion:
Collector production – how to reduce costs along the value chain
• Stefan Brändle, Managing Director, Sunlaser Consulting
• Shane Caher, Operations Director, Kingspan Renewables
• Jiwen Jiao, Manager International Trade Department, Tsinghua Solar Systems
• Dr. Erwin Hochreiter, Technical Director, Greenonetec
• Marek Szymanski, Managing Director, Watt
Moderators: Uwe Trenkner (trenkner consulting) / Bärbel Epp (solrico)

11:30 Coffee break

Innovation forum: latest developments in collector manufacturing

12:00 New absorber designs with extruded aluminium
• Patrick Jansson, Business Developer, Hydro Aluminium Precision Tubing

12:10 New brazing technologies for aluminium direct flow absorbers and collectors
• Marcello de Cardenas, CEO, Vermotec

12:20 Pros and cons of horizontal bending
• Dr. Burghard Schneider, Managing Director, Felss Burger

12:30 New alternative bonding technology for absorbers
• Christian Goritschnig, Chief Executive Officer, go!innovate

12:40 Questions and discussion

13:00 Lunch

Parallel Sessions

Forum 1:

Collector manufacturing around the globe

14:30 Flat plate versus vacuum tube collectors: market and price trends worldwide
• Krystyna Dawson, Senior Manager Heating Special Projects, BSRIA WMI

14:45 Quality assurance for new solar heating and cooling applications
• Pedro Dias, Deputy Secretary General, European Solar Thermal Industry Federation

15:00 Collector certifications across the world – challenge or opportunity
• Ulrich Fritzsche, Director Technical Competence Centre Solar Thermal, TÜV Rheinland Group

15:15 Collector bonding: How to find the right adhesive?
• Joachim Berner, Specialised Journalist, Sun & Wind Energy

15:30 Questions and discussion

15:45 Coffee break

Participation fees

Early Bird Fee · Until 15 December 2011	
▶ Standard	395 Euro
▶ Members of ESTIF	345 Euro
Standard Fee · After 15 December 2011	
▶ Standard	495 Euro
▶ Members of ESTIF	445 Euro
Late Bird Fee · After 27 January 2012	
▶ Standard	595 Euro
▶ Members of ESTIF	545 Euro

VAT not included.
The price includes: Conference documentation, coffee break with snacks, buffet lunch, finger food reception on Thursday evening (7th February).

Forum 2:

Market and technology outlook in material supply

14:30 Anti-reflective glass coating for thermal collectors – pros and cons
• Uli Frei, Managing Director, Interfloat Corporation

14:45 Absorber coatings: Task X procedure and test results of newly developed coatings
• Florian Ruesch, Project Leader, SPF Rapperswil

15:00 Coating for vacuum tubes: technological performance and quality issues
• Wolfgang Graf, Head of Workgroups: Coating-Technologies and Systems, Fraunhofer ISE

15:15 Receiver technology for industrial process collectors: Construction, performance and cost reduction potential
• Sebastian Hesse, Development Department, Narva Lichtquellen

15:30 Questions and discussion

15:45 Coffee break

How to get there

From the **main station**, it takes about 15 minutes by taxi to go to the “nh Berlin Mitte”, from the **Tegel Airport**, about 20 – 25 minutes, from the **Schönefeld Airport**, about 35 minutes. From the **Potsdamer Platz**, it takes about 5 minutes by taxi or 15 minutes by walking to get there.

The U6 subway stops at “Stadtmitte”, from this station, you have a walk of about 150 m to the “nh Berlin Mitte”.

You can find further information also on <http://www.nh-hotels.com/nh/en/hotels/germany/berlin/nh-berlin-mitte.html?type=location> and on www.bvg.de.

Water storage: highly efficient solutions

16:15 Tank insulation: What material to use for which application?
• Klaus Rauch, Consulting Engineer, Germany

16:30 Comparing heat losses: measurements according to industry norms
• Georg Ptak, R&D and Construction Manager, Austria Email

16:45 Polymer tanks: design concepts, production technologies and comparisons
• Johannes Weg, Board Member of Plastic Division at Roth Group

17:00 Questions and Discussion

17:15 Round table discussion:
Water storage production in Europe – standards, heat losses and labelling
• Xavier Noyon, Secretary General, European Solar Thermal Industry Federation
• Ralf-Rainer Nolte, Technical Director of Storage Water Heaters and Solar Energy Systems, Stiebel Eltron
• Alan Clarke, Technical Support Manager, Heatrae Sadia Heating (BDR Thermea Group)
• Vianney Descôtes-Genon, R&D Cylinder Manager, Ariston Thermo Group
Chair: Bärbel Epp, Managing Director, solrico

18:15 End of conference

18:30 Get-together with snacks and drinks