



To your benefit. Worldwide.

## Certification of Thermal Solar Products.

Solar KEYMARK – Quality for Europe. Solar thermal products contribute importantly to the conservation of fossil fuels. With high efficient solar thermal systems it is possible to cover up to 70 % of the annual need of primary energy required for hot water supply. Space heating systems can be supported efficiently by using solar energy. Thus, solar thermal systems with a high efficiency and environmental friendliness are a meaningful addition to traditional heating systems using fossil fuels.

### It's the mark that shows the difference.

Besides the solar collector efficiency, for planner, installer and consumers also the usability, safety, and reliability are part of their product decision. Certificates and quality marks of an independent certification body can support the purchase decision, and provide confidence in having bought a quality product.

Even in the product marking, Europe grows together. The Solar KEYMARK – the European quality mark for product is the entry for international operating companies to the European markets. In combination with the certification mark "DIN-Geprüft" (= DIN-Tested), the certified quality products offer the competitive advantage to manufacturers and suppliers and distinguish them from the mass of products. It is now possible to market the products throughout Europe with one European quality mark.



### Foundations for the European Quality Mark.

With the participation of manufacturers, testing laboratories, certification bodies as well as the European Solar Thermal Industry, a European harmonized certification scheme has been drawn up for solar collectors and factory made solar thermal systems. The certification is based on the European product standards EN 12975, EN 12976, EN 12977 and EN ISO 9806.

It applies to the following products

- Solar collectors (flat-plate collectors, tube collectors, concentrated collectors, PVT collectors / hybrid collectors)
- Factory made and custom built systems
- Solar water heater stores (inclusive solar combistores)
- Control equipment for thermal solar systems

These European standards specify uniform quality and testing requirements concerning usability, safety and reliability as well as for the determination of the thermal efficiency of the products.



### There are many good reasons for having a DIN Certification.

- Provides access to the EU market
- You are clearly distinguishable from your competitors
- Customer confidence is created by the mark that makes the difference
- Assistance in orienting and making decisions on the market by certified quality
- DIN CERTCO – as neutral third party – confirms your claim to quality by means of the internationally recognized Solar KEYMARK
- Basis for the granting of subsidies in the European countries
- Increases Sales Opportunities
- Reduced testing and administration costs

## Criteria for the Certification.

Basis for granting the Solar KEYMARK is the harmonised European Mark System, which has been developed and established by CEN (European Committee for Standardization) and CENELEC (European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization) for the KEYMARK certification for products based on European standards.

Within the Initial Type Test (ITT), the solar collectors and solar thermal systems are tested and assessed concerning their efficiency, usability, safety and reliability. The test samples for this Initial Type Test and the surveillance tests are taken out of the running production or the manufacturer's store.

The following quality criteria are for example subject to the testing of solar collectors

- Thermal efficiency
- Internal and external thermal shock resistance
- High temperature resistance
- Freeze resistance
- Internal pressure resistance
- Mechanical load (snow and wind loads)
- Impact resistance
- Exposure (simulation of operating conditions/outdoor exposure)
- Rain proof

For thermal solar systems the following characteristics are additionally tested

- Suitability for drinking water
- Freeze resistance over-temperature protection
- Reverse flow protection
- Pressure resistance
- Safety equipment

Occurring leaks, great deformation through thermal stress, technical relevant changes at plastic parts, at the absorber, or the thermal insulation result in the assessment "failed".

Furthermore, the manufacturer has to operate a quality system (product related factory production control, FPC) taking into account the elements of the EN ISO 9000 series.

Only those solar thermal products are certified with the Solar KEYMARK in combination with "DIN-Geprüft" which were successfully tested by a testing laboratory accredited and approved by DIN CERTCO, neutrally assessed and thus proofed their compliance with the EN standards.

The Solar KEYMARK certificate is valid for five years. It can be renewed for further 5 years if applied for, provided that the surveillance (annual factory inspection and physical inspection of the product at least every 2 years) shows that the preconditions are fulfilled.

### Openness and transparency.

A daily updated list of all certificate holders and the technical data sheet for the certified product can be viewed on the homepage of DIN CERTCO. From here it is also possible to download all documents relevant to certification, such as the certification scheme and application.

## Experts. On site.

### DIN CERTCO Gesellschaft für Konformitätsbewertung mbH

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