

New test by TÜV Rheinland: SOLON solar modules are particularly resistant to ammonia

Berlin, February 8, 2011. All of SOLON's currently available module series have passed the new TÜV Rheinland ammonia test. Proving that they are an excellent choice for solar power systems on farms, where ammonia from livestock rearing can attack the modules and cause corrosion, the test outcome confirms the premium quality of SOLON products. SOLON is one of the first companies to successfully complete this testing regimen.

Significantly stricter than previous test standards, the new test procedure employed by TÜV Rheinland follows IEC 62716 Ed. 1. Over a period of twenty days, the modules are subjected to extreme conditions: Ammonia at a concentration of 6,667 ppm is left to act on the modules at a temperature of 40° Celsius and 100 percent relative humidity cycling with a temperature of 23° C and 75 percent relative humidity.

"Ammonia exposure can reach high levels on the roofs of farm buildings if the photovoltaic modules are sited close to vents or built into the roof itself," says Jörg Althaus, who is in charge of testing at the TÜV Rheinland Solar Test Center in Cologne/Germany. If it occurs in conjunction with high humidity, this exposure can become a problem as it leads to the formation of highly corrosive condensation that reduces performance and accelerates module aging. Exactly these conditions are simulated in the TÜV Rheinland test. Performance characteristics and the behavior of the various materials are examined while the insulation and safety features are also put to the test.

All SOLON modules passed the test, and the power loss was very low (less than 1.0 percent). This guarantees that in terms of performance and safety, SOLON modules are able to withstand conditions on farms for decades.

About SOLON SE:

SOLON SE is one of the largest manufacturers of solar modules in Europe as well as a supplier of solar system technology for large-scale rooftop and greenfield installations. The SOLON Group has subsidiaries in Germany, Italy, France and the U.S. and employs more than 800 people worldwide. SOLON's core business is producing solar modules and photovoltaic systems along with planning and constructing large rooftop installations and turnkey solar power plants all over the world.

SOLON SE

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