



SHC 2015, International Conference on Solar Heating and Cooling for Buildings and Industry

Promoting multi-family and commercial solar thermal systems: a French initiative

Edwige Porcheyre Gautier*

ENERPLAN, 515 avenue de la tramontane, Le Forum Bât. B Zone Athélia IV, 13600 La Ciotat, France

Abstract

For decades, France has been manufacturing and exporting solar thermal products, thus feeding most of the demand on its market, which experienced a strong growth between 2005 and 2012. In 2009, the SOCOL initiative was created in order to tackle identified weaknesses on the market : need for improvement on professional qualifications, lack of available technical information and specific guidance, importance of promoting and accompanying its development and innovations . With a now declining market, SOCOL has to meet an even greater purpose in leading the way to recovery.

© 2016 Published by Elsevier Ltd. This is an open access article under the CC BY-NC-ND license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/>).

Peer-review by the scientific conference committee of SHC 2015 under responsibility of PSE AG

Keywords : Frenchsolar thermal, non domestic; multi-family and commercial systems, market guidance, professional qualifications

1. What is SOCOL ?

SOCOL stands for **SO**lar (thermal) and **CO**llective. Above all a collaborative platform within the solar thermal market, specifically regarding multi-family and commercial systems, SOCOL was born in 2009, from a joint initiative by the French agency for the environment and energy control (ADEME) and the French federation of solar energy professionals (ENERPLAN). At the time, the market was facing the challenge of meeting a steep growth, calling for a better structuring of the market, informing professionals and project-owners and improving qualifications. SOCOL was thus designed to function by various means:

* Corresponding author. Tel.: +33-4 42 32 43 24
E-mail address: edwige.gautier@enerplan.asso.fr

- a community of professionals, project-owners and institutional members (now almost 1600 people) ;
- a working group gathering over 50 solar thermal experts and producing practical tools and technical data ;
- a website offering free access to specific information, software and guidelines for a successful project ;
- an action plan to promote non-domestic solar thermal in France, both nationally and locally.

2. What has been achieved since 2009?

For the last six years, SOCOL working groups have created a series of tools and initiated market structuring actions, aiming at achieving durable and reliable installations:

2.1. Technical sheets, schematic diagrams and informative guidelines for a secure conception

- the simple schematic diagrams provided since 2013 represent the safe reference for engineers conceiving non-domestic solar thermal installations. Official recognition has been granted since 2014, as using one of the 6 SOCOL basic diagrams is compulsory when asking for subsidies from the ADEME agency.
- the technical sheet providing safe ratios for an adequate dimensioning (when an accurate measure of hot water consumption cannot be provided) is based on numerous data collected in France for various uses (housing, hotels, hospitality,...), and is now referred to as the secure option to avoid oversize installations.

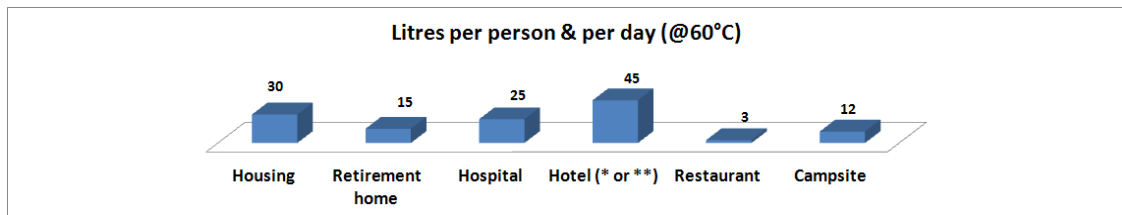


Fig. 1. the SOCOL ratios

- informative and technical sheets are freely available on the SOCOL website to accompany project-owners and professionals : installation references, advice with imputing data in official Regulation calculation tools, contract templates and guidance on financing,... all to guarantee successful project management.

2.2. Training for better qualified design engineers and installers

SOCOL has developed two training repositories, aimed respectively at engineering offices and installers. Besides, a new qualification is being launched this year: "Qualisol Collectif" offers recognition to trained installers and provides project-owners with an easy means of identifying reliable installers.

2.3. Specific software for a better understanding of the economic feasibility of a project

The OUTISOL software is the first free tool designed for project-owners starting on a non-domestic solar thermal project, enabling a user-friendly, quick overview of a project and its cost-effectiveness over 20 years.

2.4. Technical and educational meetings throughout France

Since 2012, the SOCOL team and their partners have been organizing both national and local meetings, involving and informing engineers, installers, professional organizations, project-owners, monitoring and maintenance companies as well as regional institutions and utilities.

Within the last five years, SOCOL has grown from an initiative to structure the market to a recognized collaborative platform providing useful tools, freely available via the SOCOL website.

Download English Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/en/article/1508668>

Download Persian Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/article/1508668>

[Daneshyari.com](https://daneshyari.com)