



International Energy Agency Solar Heating & Cooling Programme

Task 24 Solar Procurement - Final Management Report

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Creating a sustainable market for innovative solar water heating products can be of benefit in several ways, such as: Cost savings, CO₂ reduction and customer satisfaction.

Reducing market barriers, establishing international standards and encouraging international exports of solar water heating systems are key factors to facilitate growth of the solar industry, both domestically and internationally. Experience has shown that coordinated, large-scale international purchasing improves the competitiveness of emerging technologies; the same is true for bulk purchasing by single companies.

The aim of the cooperative procurement efforts of the IEA SHC Task 24 has been to increase the use of solar water heating systems by encouraging coordinated large-scale purchasing. The objectives have been to reduce marketing, distribution and hardware costs, as well as to improve system performance. This Task would also help organisations meet environmental commitments. The procurement efforts have focused primarily on small domestic active solar water heating systems, but have also applied to larger commercial systems. Substantial cost and price reductions with 7 – 30 per cent have been reached.

Task 24 was started 1 April 1998 and was completed 31 March 2003. The following countries have participated in Task 24: Canada, Belgium, Denmark, The Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland.