

# Solar Thermal Partners

## Heat Changers



*Heat Changers and the IEA SHC Programme understand the significance of Solar Heat in the push to reach a carbon-neutral world. With our new partnership, we look forward to demonstrating why Solar Heat is pivotal for our changing energy sectors.*

Did you know there is a short and entertaining [podcast](#) about **Solar Heat**? Every month, the Heat Changers release a **15-minute episode**. The podcast is produced and conducted by marketing, communication, and solar thermal professionals, led by Marisol Oropeza from [matters](#). Several members of the solar thermal industry in Mexico and other countries in Latin America have participated in the 10 episodes available in **Spanish** so far. The Spanish series have been listened to in over **25 countries** on three continents.

On November 3, the **first episode in English** was released! This new English series is supported by Intersolar, which will expand the audience globally. Plus, each episode will include a policy brief from Alexandra Sutu, Communications Officer from Solar Heat Europe.



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The podcast is free for listeners and is available on the Heat Changers website and the most popular podcasting platforms, such as Spotify, Apple Podcast, Google Podcast, and Amazon Music.

## Global Solar Certification Network - GSCN

*GSCN and the IEA SHC Programme partnership goes back to 2014 with the start of GSCN. With a newly energized partnership, we look forward to supporting the growth of solar thermal technologies through this testing and certification platform.*

The [GSCN](#) is a worldwide cooperation between solar thermal industry representatives, certification bodies, test laboratories, and inspection bodies. It was established based on the work of IEA SHC Task 43: Solar Rating and Certification and IEA SHC Task 57: Solar Standards and Certification.

The GSCN aims to facilitate worldwide cross-border trading for manufacturers of solar thermal quality products and avoid re-testing products and re-inspecting production lines when entering new markets. This leads to increased product quality, lower costs, access to more markets, and better business opportunities. "Being a member of the GSCN makes it possible to define the required collector tests from the beginning in such a way that the requirements of the certification scheme from different countries are covered. This means that the tests on collectors do not have to be carried out twice. The number of required test specimens is reduced. Also, the recurring factory visits can be carried out with much less travel and significantly reduced costs for the industry", states the Austrian collector manufacturing company GREENoneTEC.

The GSCN takes harmonized existing certification schemes as a basis and grants mutual recognition of test and inspection reports if they fulfill the requirements specified in the GSCN Working Rules and are done by test labs and inspectors recognized by the GSCN. Its vast expertise in solar thermal collector certification schemes makes it an internationally valuable information hub for the industry. Besides, the GSCN provides guidance and suggestions for implementing certification programs for solar thermal collectors in different countries and regions all over the globe.

The alliance with the Solar Heating Initiative, [SOLERGY Label](#), a voluntary label for solar thermal collectors launched in Europe in 2016 by the Solar Heating Initiative, is a natural match. "A key issue of the SOLERGY Label is to show how well a solar collector uses solar irradiation at different temperatures and locations. This is relevant for collector manufacturers that export to multiple countries and target clients from various segments (swimming pool heating, water heating, process heat, among others)," remarks Marisol Oropeza from the Solar Heating Initiative. Several communication activities, including webinars and digital campaigns, are jointly implemented to raise more awareness about the GSCN and the SOLERGY Label.

Highly recognized companies from around the world belong to the GSCN. Currently, it has 30 members, including seven from the solar thermal industry, seven certification bodies, eight test labs, and two inspection bodies. Applications from six more organizations are being processed.

