



Solar district heating using CSP troughs

The Concentrated Solar Power (CSP) technology applies sun-tracking, parabolic shaped mirrors to maximize the sun's energy and consequently the efficiency of district heating. The parabolic troughs reflect the sun's rays onto a receiver pipe where the concentration of energy occurs and a significant better utilization of solar energy is obtained.

The CSP technology for district heating performs the most efficiently at higher temperatures and it ensures more energy production/m² hence requires less land area for technology placement. It provides stable energy production even at middle temperatures as the receiver pipe - in which the water or thermal oil is heated - is surrounded by a special glass vacuum tube ensuring minimal heat loss.



Energy production above 50 °C compared to conventional solar-thermal panels. Verified by "DTU Civil Engineering Report R-292 (UK)"



Sun-tracking

The parabolic troughs use a custom designed sun-tracking technology, wherein a computer calculates and calibrates the troughs into the required position to receive full radiation of sunrays throughout the day.

Parabolic trough tracking system - following the sun's path





CSP PARABOLIC TROUGH - SPECIFICATION		
Dimensions	L: 12m, W: 5.7m, H: 3.4m (bearing)	
Construction	Twisting stable torsional body and wing design	
Weight	3,300kg	
Parabolic mirrors	 28pcs. 67.4m² 	
Receiver tube	 70 x (2-4) mm AISI Metal pipes surrounded by a special glass vacuum tube 	
Heat loss in the receiver tube	<pre>• < 10% 400°C • < 1% 100°C</pre>	
Fluid charge	40 liters	
Heat transfer media	District heating waterThermal oil	

Design tempurature	Up to 400°C
Design pressure	Up to 36 bar
Max wind speed (operation)	54km/h mean wind speed
Max wind speed	130km/h, 3 sec gust
Power failure	Automatic defocus using
	hydraulic pressure



CSP PARABOLIC	TROUGH - ROW	SPECIFICATION
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Max number of troughs per row	10pcs.
Max length	125m
Max height	6.58m
Max aperture area	674m ²
Max performance	500kW
Solar-to-themal efficiency	> 65%
Type of drive system	Hydraulic mechanically driven
Trough rotation speed	Tracking 1.8°/minFast 7°/min
Total rotation angle	220° (appr. 16 min)
Operation mode	Automatic operationStoppedLocal control
Safety system	Automatic defocus

SCOPE	
District heating or industry	 District heating water < 110°C Hot water < 180°C Steam maximum 36 bar
Process / power generation	HT-oil < 400°C

The sun-tracking technology is calibrating the troughs to obtain maximum solar radiation, but the mirrors can also be defocused or the system can be shut down entirely if required. By doing so, the CSP technology is avoiding typical problems like heat overproduction. Therefore, CSP plants for district heating can be overdimensioned thereby allowing better heat distribution throughout the entire year, without the use of seasonal storage. This is unique compared to conventional flat panels that do not allow the system to be defocused.