

Press information

A strong performance: British solar installation exceeds expectations

Kyocera solar tracking systems ensure high solar yield in any weather

Kyoto / Neuss, 27 March 2013 – Solar modules from Kyocera, one of the leading manufacturers in the photovoltaics field, offer high output even in adverse weather conditions. Despite it being a very rainy year, one British holiday resort to the north-east of Bristol was able to operate virtually independent of the main power grid in 2012, thanks to Kyocera modules. The special thing about this case is that the modules in this 50 kWp installation are not fixed on a rooftop but rather can be positioned to face the sunlight with the aid of a dual-axis tracking system. This provides the site with a 35% higher energy yield than comparably-sized static systems.

The solar modules from Kyocera impressively demonstrate that high performance modules enable profitable energy production, even in areas with less sunshine. The most recent proof of this is shown by a solar installation which has been supplying solar power to the Log House Holidays site in the Cotswold Water Park in Gloucestershire, Great Britain, since December 2011. Located on the banks of a lake, this site comprises a total of five dual-axis solar tracking systems of 10 kWp each. Each of these is fitted with 42 Kyocera solar modules with an output of 240 watts each.

Despite 2012 being the rainiest year in England since records began, the system produced more than 62,250 kilowatt hours of electricity during its first 12 months thanks to the exceptional

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performance of the Kyocera modules in low-lighting conditions – thereby exceeding all expectations. The energy yield of 1,245 kilowatt hours per kilowatt peak (kWh/kWp) is around 35% higher than a comparable roof-mounted installation in the same area.

The owner of the holiday park, Anthony Edmondson, is very pleased: “I am enthusiastic about the efficiency of this system – it benefits both the environment and our holiday village”. The five individual tracking systems were installed by Anthony’s own staff working with London based installer Williams Renewables against a very tight deadline before the feed-in tariff (FIT) cut-off date in early December 2011.

Despite this reliable energy yield, solar tracking systems are still rare in Great Britain. Fixed rooftop and ground-mounted systems are much more common. According to details from the British Department of Energy, the total output from all solar systems on the British islands in 2012 exceeded the 1 gigawatt mark for the first time.

For more information about Kyocera: www.kyocerasolar.eu

About Kyocera

Headquartered in Kyoto, Japan, Kyocera Corporation is one of the world’s leading manufacturers of fine ceramic components for the technology industry. The strategically important divisions in the Kyocera Group, which is comprised of 235 subsidiaries (as of April 1, 2012), are information and communications technologies, products which increase quality of life, and environmentally friendly products. The technology group is also one of the largest producers of solar energy systems worldwide, with more than 3,0 gigawatts of solar power having been installed around the world to date.

With a global workforce of about 71,000 employees, Kyocera posted net sales of approximately €10.83 billion in fiscal year 2011/2012. The products marketed by the company in Europe include laser printers, digital copying systems, microelectronic components, finceramic products and complete solar power systems. The Kyocera Group has two independent companies in the Federal Republic of Germany: Kyocera Finceramics GmbH in Neuss and Esslingen and Kyocera Document Solutions in Meerbusch.

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The company also takes an active interest in cultural affairs. The Kyoto Prize, a prominent international award, is presented each year by the Inamori Foundation — established by Kyocera founder Dr. Kazuo Inamori — to individuals and groups worldwide who have contributed significantly to the scientific, cultural, and spiritual betterment of humankind (converted at present €500,000 per prize category).

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