

Press information

Luxembourg's Cactus supermarkets produce energy by means of Kyocera solar modules

How a supermarket can become an energy provider

23. April 2013 – Neuss – Energy-producing commercial and industrial buildings such as supermarkets are more than just a vision. They have already become reality. With the aid of efficient, highly developed solar modules installed on the roof, a supermarket can become an energy provider – whatever the weather.

The well-known Luxembourg supermarket chain Cactus decided to take advantage of this and commissioned solar modules by Kyocera, one of the leading manufacturers in the area of photovoltaic technology, on the roofs of three markets in Bascharage, Ingeldorf and Redange.

The modules were installed by the Luxembourg-based company Solartec. Since December 2012, a total of 7,416 solar modules have been producing approximately 1,500,000 kWh annually and saving up to 1,000,000 kg of CO₂.

As Max Leesch, director at Cactus explains: “With the installation of the Kyocera solar modules, we are not only able to use the roofs of our supermarkets in order to economize: we are also acting in an ecologically sensitive and responsible manner.”

As a pioneer in the field of photovoltaic technology with more than 35 years' experience, Kyocera offers the ideal basis for installations such as those in place on the Cactus supermarkets in Luxembourg. The modules are durable and highly efficient and, above all, offer an excellent weak light performance. In other words, even if the sky is overcast, the modules generate an above-average output.

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All modules were developed and produced directly by Kyocera. The Japanese company operates a production facility for the European market in Kadan (Czech Republic).

Installation of the Kyocera photovoltaic systems on the Cactus supermarket roofs in Bascharage, Ingeldorf and Redange is not only another important contribution to the sustainable production of energy. It also links the supermarkets together in a new way. A total of 1,5 gigawatt-hours (GWh) per year are fed into the grid by all three facilities. This means that Cactus is a highly efficient energy supplier.

Facility	Bascharage	Ingeldorf	Redange
Actual power output	755,04 kWp	348,48 kWp	528 kWp
Number of solar modules (TYPE KD220)	3.432	1.584	2.400
Annual return	694.600 kWh	320.602 kWh	485.760 kWh
CO₂-Saving	450.000 kg/a	208.711 kg/a	316.229 kg/a

For more information about Kyocera: www.kyocera.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.

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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, fineceramic products and complete solar power systems. The Kyocera Group has two independent companies in the Federal Republic of Germany: Kyocera Fineceramics GmbH in Neuss and Esslingen and Kyocera Document Solutions in Meerbusch.

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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