INSTITUT FÜR SOLARTECHNIK SWISSOLAR

## Why use solar thermal process heat?

The use of heat by solar thermal collectors has many advantages

## **Environmentally friendly**

Solar heat is CO2 neutral and converts about 60% of the freely available solar energy into heat. The technology is mature and proven in practice.

### Uncomplicated

Solar thermal can be easily combined with other heat sources, such as heat pump, oil-fired boiler or pellet stove. Thus, the collectors can pave the way from fossil to renewable energy system step by step.

### **Competitive advantage**

After a one-time investment a solar thermal system provides solar generated heat for at least 20 years at a fixed heat price with low maintenance and operating cost. In contrast, fossil fuel and electricity prices are volatile and highly dependent on the international commodity market.

### **Positive Image**

The solar system is visibly installed on the roof, facade or parking lot of the company and directly reflects environmental commitment of the company to the outside.

# Technology

A solar thermal system essentially consists of collectors and a storage tank, the specifications of which are largely determined by the purpose for which the solar heat is used.



**Air-collectors** use the radiated solar energy to heat the air. They are typically used for drying processes.

**Flat plate collectors** are robust and inexpensive and can deliver heat up to 80°C. Evacuated flat plate collectors can deliver temperatures even up to 160°C.





Vacuum tube collectors suffer less heat loss to the environment than in conventional flat plate collectors. Therefore, they are also suitable for temperatures up to about 100°C.

**Concentrating collectors** track the sun and can achieve temperatures up to 200°C. These are suited for regions with high direct irradiation.

## **Best practice examples**



Thermal Bad, 196m<sup>2</sup>, 90°C Bad Krozingen (DE)

## est practice examples



Stadion Letzigrund, 90m<sup>2</sup>, 30°C-90°C Zürich

#### Hotel, 30m<sup>2</sup>, 60°C-100°C Engelberg

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