# **Task 38 Solar Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration**



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#### **Outline**

Introduction to solar cooling

Overall status and achievements

Summary & conclusion





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#### Stucture of Task 38 12/2010

Duration: 09/2006 –



Pre-engineered systems for residential and small commercial applications **AEE INTEC (Austria)** 

Subtask B

Custom-made systems for large non-residential buildings and industrial applications **EURAC (Italy)** 

Subtask C

Modeling and fundamental analysis

**INES (France)** 

Subtask D

Market transfer activities

**POLIMI (Italy)** 

**Operating Agent: Fraunhofer ISE (Germany)** 



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#### Solar thermal cooling - basic principle



#### **Basic systems categories**

- Closed cycles (chillers): chilled water
- Open sorption cycles: direct treatment of fresh air (temperature, humidity)



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### **Open cycles – desiccant air handling units**

#### Solid sorption

- Desiccant wheels
- Coated heat exchangers
- Silica gel or LiCI-matrix, future zeolite

#### Liquid sorption

- Packed bed
- Plate heat exchanger
- LiCl-solution: Thermochemical storage possible







#### **Closed cycles – water chillers or ice production**



- Liquid sorption: Ammonia-water or Water-LiBr (single-effect or double-effect)
- Solid sorption: silica gel water, zeolite-water
- **Ejector systems**



Thermo-mechanical systems

Turbo Expander/Compressor AC-Sun, Denmark in TASK 38





# System typology

Driving temperature	Collector type	System type
Low (60-90°C)		Open cycle: direct air treatment
		<i>Closed cycle:</i> high temperature cooling system (e.g. chilled ceiling)



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# System typology

Driving temperature	Collector type	System type
Low (60-90°C)		Open cycle: direct air treatment
		<i>Closed cycle:</i> high temperature cooling system (e.g. chilled ceiling)
Medium (80-110°C)		<b>Closed cycle:</b> chilled water for cooling and dehumidification
		<b>Closed cycle:</b> refrigeration, air- conditioning with ice storage





# System typology

Driving temperature	Collector type	System type
Low (60-90°C)		Open cycle: direct air treatment
		<i>Closed cycle:</i> high temperature cooling system (e.g. chilled ceiling)
Medium (80-110°C)		<b>Closed cycle:</b> chilled water for cooling and dehumidification
		<b>Closed cycle:</b> refrigeration, air- conditioning with ice storage
High (130-200°C)		Closed cycle: double-effect system with high overall efficiency
		<b>Closed cycle:</b> system with high temperature lift (e.g. ice production with air-cooled cooling tower)





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#### "Market"





SOLA HEATING & COULD'S POGGAMHE MIERDATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY



#### New small capacity chillers





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no claim on completeness

### **High-temperature applications**





- Increasing number of systems using single-axis concentrating collectors (parabolic trough, Fresnel) in combination with thermally driven chillers (150°C ... 200°C)
  - Double-effect chiller with high conversion efficiency (Coefficient of Performance COP 1.1...1.3)
  - Single-effect chiller with high temperature lift for low cooling temperatures (e.g. ice production) and high heat rejection temperatures (dry cooling towers)
- Application in sunny regions for buildings (e.g. hotels) or industrial application (e.g. cooling of food, ice production)





#### Large and very large installations (examples)





FESTO Factory Berkheim, Germany 1218 m<sup>2</sup> collector area

1.05 MW (3 adsorption chillers)



United World College (UWC) (in planning)

Singapore

3900 m<sup>2</sup> collector area

1.47 MW absorption chiller

Source: SOLID, Graz/Austria

Source: Paradigma, Festo

Source: SOLID, Graz/Austria



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#### System performance

Significant progress in overall system performance

Electric COP-values up to >8 shown in monitoring of Task 38
> 8 kWh of cold production per 1 kWh of electricity for solar + cooling equipment (pumps, fans, heat rejection)

Goal: electric COP > 10



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### Summary

- Energy saving up to > 50 % achievable compared to conventional reference systems (heating, hot water, cooling)
- Main challenges
  - High quality in all phases of project lifetime: design, installation, commissioning, operation
  - Minimize auxiliary energy demand: heat rejection, pumps & fans, part load behaviour
- Cost issues
  - First cost 2 to 5 times higher than for conventional solutions
  - Under good conditions life cycle cost lower than for conventional solutions





#### **Example: hotel in Spain (simulation study)**







### Conclusion

- Future buildings have to be highly energy-efficient and make use of locally available renewable energies, mainly solar
- Integrated solutions for heating, cooling and hot water adapted to specific buildings / load profiles / applications and climatic (solar) conditions are needed
- Solar heating and cooling (SHC) systems will play a significant role, since they provide an energy saving solution on the demand side without affecting the electricity grid
- For SHC considerable potentials for further reduction of cost and increase of efficiency exist on both, component and system level
- Main challenge is to assure high quality of installations in broad market
- Development of quality procedures for all phases of projects are essential: Design  $\rightarrow$  Installation  $\rightarrow$  Commissioning  $\rightarrow$  Operation / Maintenance / Monitoring





# Task 38 outputs (examples)



- Generic systems analysis
- Monitoring of overall 23 systems
- Tool to assess successful projects in an early phase
- Commissioning guidelines
- Completely revised third edition of a handbook for planners (mid next year)
- Thermodynamic analysis reports (exergy, simulation)







## ... thank you for your attention



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#### Backup



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#### Primary energy saving - solar fraction of driving heat

reference: chapter 7 of the new handbook







#### Primary energy saving - electricity consumption of heat rejection

reference: chapter 7 of the new handbook







#### Primary energy saving - EER of conventional vapour compression chiller reference: chapter 7 of the new handbook







### **Energy saving and cost – an example (simulation study)**

#### Comparison of 4 solutions

- Reference: natural gas + vapour compression chiller
- Natural gas + solar thermal (heating + hot water) + vapour compression chiller
- Natural gas + solar thermal (heating + cooling + hot water) + bakcup vapour compression chiller
- Natural gas + vapor compression chiller + PV system
- Application: Hotel in Madrid (3100 m<sup>2</sup> useful area)
- Analysis of life cycle cost without any funding





#### Results







#### **Results**







#### **Results**





