

# One step ahead

The new solar label creates  
transparency in the heating market



# Energy label for heating systems

## The new energy efficiency label for heating generators and storage tanks

From red to green, from G to A+++; the energy efficiency label is well known for consumers when buying a washing machine, a lamp, a television and other home devices. The colour scale and the energy efficiency classification provide information about the energy use of the corresponding device.

### A decision about efficiency

As of September 26th, 2015 all heating generators such as gas boilers, heat pumps, heaters with cogeneration, water heaters and storage tanks, must also be marked with a label. The new label should help consumers to make an informed decision when choosing a heating system. The less primary energy the heating system uses, the more efficient it is.

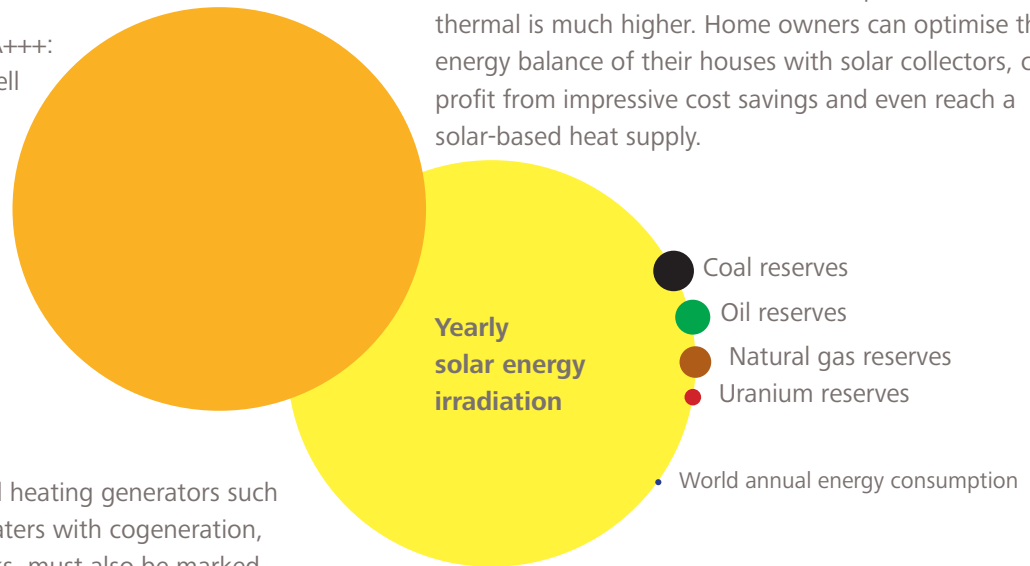
### Not everything has been considered

Though, what the label does not provide is information about the efficiency of the individual technologies and devices. It tells only indirectly something about the expected energy costs.

# Solar thermal

## Environmentally friendly and cost-effective heating

Nowadays, consumers can cover more than 50 percent of their heat consumption for water and heating with solar thermal collectors. However, the potential of solar thermal is much higher. Home owners can optimise the energy balance of their houses with solar collectors, can profit from impressive cost savings and even reach a solar-based heat supply.



## Happy without an own label?

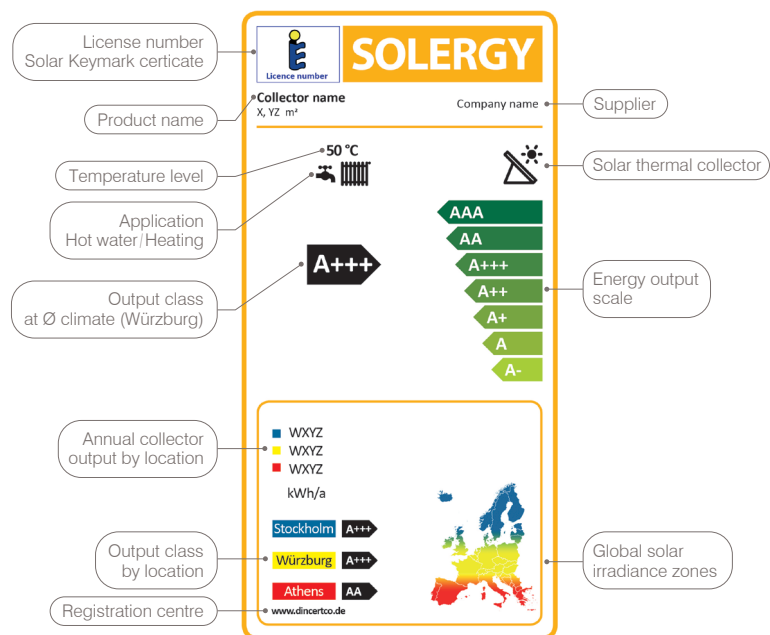
However, someone willing to get information about the efficiency of a solar thermal collector by means of the official EU efficiency labels will not get any further. Since solar thermal collectors consume almost no energy at all, but supply heat instead, they are not required to be labelled as a product. Only in combination with another heating generator, such as gas condensing boiler, solar collectors are included in the so-called package label. Due to their minimal primary energy consumption they make the efficiency class of the whole heating system better off.

## More transparency

In order to offer consumers a transparent decision making tool, relevant market players of the solar thermal sector have joined forces and elaborated on existing EU regulations for the benefit of the solar thermal market. The result: a voluntary solar label which provides information about the energy output of the collectors. It is based on the standardised, independent and worldwide accepted Solar Keymark certification.

## The solar label

It looks familiar, but is it actually quite different: the solar label refers to the energy output and not to the energy efficiency.

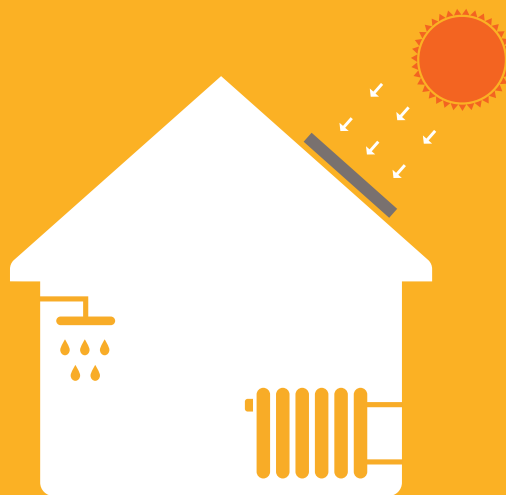


From A- to AAA: there is no red classification because all solar thermal collectors consume almost no primary energy.

# What does the label tell me?

Whether hot water or heating: the collector label offers reliable information about the energy output.

Three questions, three answers.



## What does the label tell me?

The label is a decision making tool for the selection of a solar thermal collector which meets the own heating demand.

## What is an energy output class?

The energy output class shows how good the solar irradiation is used. It refers to the annual efficiency.

## Is it an official label?

Within the current EU labelling system, solar thermal collectors are not to be labelled. Suppliers with a high sense of responsibility have initiated a voluntary collector labelling system.



**Solar Heating  
Initiative**  
For CO<sub>2</sub>- free heat

**About us:**

Several well-known system and component suppliers as well as associations have joined forces through the Solar Heating Initiative. Their goal: to create more transparency for consumers.

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## In good hands:

Whether the package label for heating systems or the meaningful collector label: your installer can answer further questions. He is the right partner when it comes to the evaluation of various heating combinations according to your needs.