SOLERGY

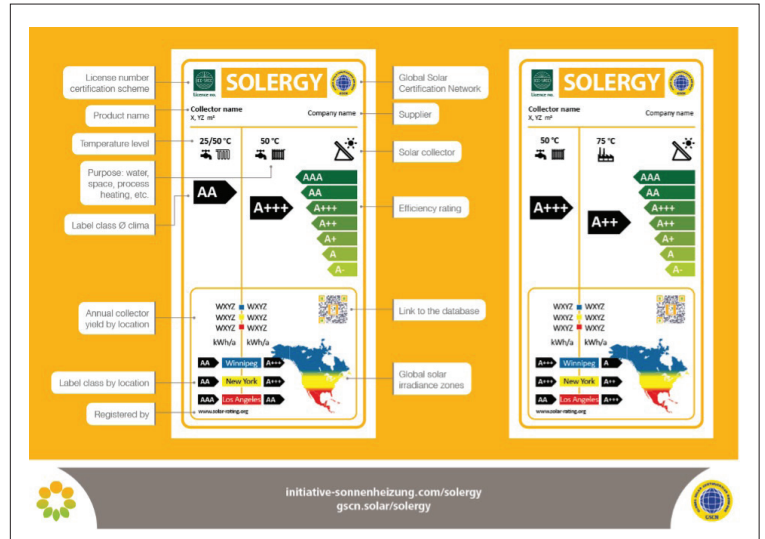# Solar Thermal Collector Label Now Available in North America

The Solar Rating Certification Corporation (ICC-SRCC) and DIN CERTCO partnered to expand the SOLERGY label to North America. Since 2016, DIN CERTCO has been the designated certification body responsible for granting the SOLERGY collector label in Europe. The principal requirement to get the optional label is to have a valid Solar KEYMARK certificate. As of this October, 23 manufacturers and distributors of flat plate, evacuated tube, and PVT collectors have obtained and registered the SOLERGY label through DIN CERTCO.

On September 26, 2023, a major milestone was achieved – the Solar Rating Certification Corporation (ICC-SRCC) of the United States formally announced the successful collaboration with DIN CERTCO to issue the SOLERGY label in North America.
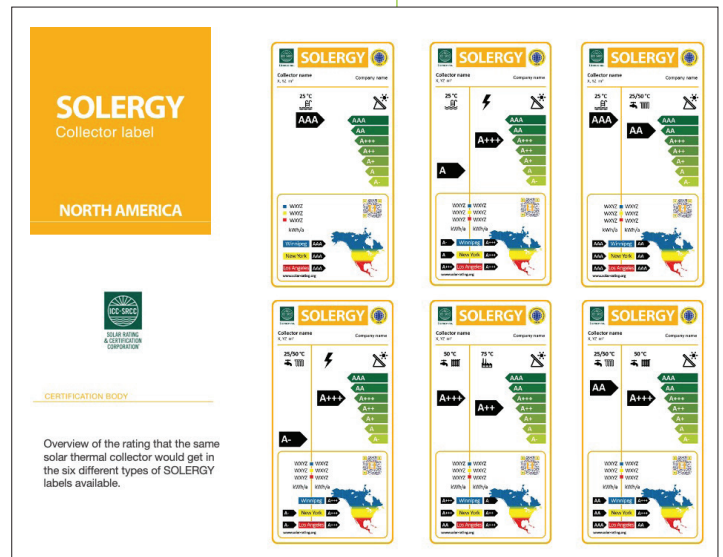
The SOLERGY label joins the certifications and ratings of solar collectors that ICC-SRCC provides under the OG-100 program. Through the collaboration, manufacturers of solar thermal collectors can now apply to ICC-SRCC to obtain the SOLERGY label for any qualifying liquid-heating collector certified under the OG-100 program. ICC-SRCC then works with DIN CERTCO to develop the SOLERGY standardized performance ratings for North American climate zones and generate the SOLERGY consumer label. The label gives an easy-to-read performance rating ranging from A- to AAA, showing the energy produced per unit area for different climates in North America, including Mexico, the United States of America and Canada. It also references the ICC-SRCC OG-100 certification, which provides additional performance information and compliance with regional minimum durability and safety requirements.

"We are pleased to be working with DIN CERTCO and the Solar Heating Initiative (SHI) to bring this product label to North America," says Shawn Martin, ICC-SRCC VP of Technical Services. "It can sometimes be difficult for consumers to appreciate the performance benefits that products like solar water heaters can bring. Tools like the SOLERGY label provide manufacturers with another option that works well with existing regional certifications like OG-100."

Ongoing collaboration between leading global solar thermal evaluation and certification bodies, like ICC-SRCC and DIN CERTCO, continues to yield benefits for manufacturers and consumers alike. "We are delighted to have found a great

▲ **The SOLERGY label helps consumers choose a sustainable and cost-effective solar thermal collector.**

▲ **Summary of the ratings assigned to a single solar thermal collector across the six distinct SOLERGY label categories.**

partner in ICC-SRCC, with whom the label can grow beyond European borders. We are convinced that the label will bring a great benefit to North America," remarks Dr. Ina Förster, Product Manager at DIN CERTCO.

Decarbonization is a paramount concern for various sectors, encompassing multinational corporations, with more than two-thirds of energy consumption in the industrial domain being attributed to heating purposes. "The SOLERGY label serves as an effective instrument for effortlessly showcasing the core function and versatility of solar thermal collectors: supply of clean heat and performance according to climate zone and temperature level," states Marisol Oropeza of the Solar Hearing Initiative (SHI).

Implementing the SOLERGY label in further regions, such as Oceania and Africa, is planned as part of the activities to be performed in alliance with the Global Solar Certification Network (GSCN).

This article was contributed by Marisol Oropeza, Solar Heating Initiative/Global Solar Certification Network, m.oropeza@solar-heating-initiative.com. For more information on the SOLERGY label, visit www.solar-heating-initiative.com/solergy/. For more information on the Global Solar Certification Network, visit www.gscn.solar.