

Domestic solar energy system

In Germany, the Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems (ISE) and several industrial partners have jointly developed a new domestic energy system concept. The "1-liter" has been tested in a block of seven row houses with successful results. The total energy consumed was just a tenth of the value recorded for low-energy homes.

ISE also supported a project to develop a compact ventilation device for use in passive solar houses. This system recovers heat from the exhaust air in combination with a heat pump. In this way, it provides an intake of fresh, warm air and – as a back-up to the solar collectors – also serves in heating household water. There is no need for other forms of space heating, such as hot-water radiators. Heat is distributed throughout the buildings together with the fresh air brought in by the ventilation system.

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