

Press Release

Text 4209 - Polster-En vom 19.05.10
3 Seite(n), 781 Wörter, 4032 Zeichen
für Presse

Mastervolt-Partner Gerhard Polster:

Pioneers of the Sun

One of the first Solar Manufacturers

Company boss Gerhard Polster is an old-hand when it comes to solar matters. After all, he had already started thinking about developing solar energy in Germany at the beginning of the 1980s. The Mastervolt partner is a competent and recognised expert in both photovoltaics and other renewable energies.

In the coming year, the parent company will celebrate its 30-year anniversary. The company has been dealing with the use of solar energy for more than 25 of these. In this time, Polster has put much down on paper and held in excess of 500 lectures. But he says himself that it is always practice, "which moved us to action and derived meaningful actions from it". He wrote a lot about it in his 1993 textbook "Energie aus der Sonne". The work of reference sold several thousand copies. Polster is currently working on a second edition.

Polster's company is one of the oldest dealing with solar heat and photovoltaics – and, quite definitely, one of the most competent. In 2004, the company's own solar panel took the top position in the Öko-Test consumer magazine. As early as 1983, he had built a photovoltaic system for a dentist, which was self-sufficient and capable of being updated. It was assembled on a concrete base and could be rotated to align with the sun.

In another experiment, he and his employees equipped ten Bundeswehr vehicles with PV modules back in 1990. They were very early prototypes.

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Gerhard Polster is a proven specialist, particularly on the theme of power invertors. So no wonder that Mastervolt, one of the world's leading manufacturers of self-sufficient power systems, works with him and has now managed to procure him as a partner. For solar energy production alone, the 55-year old employs seven employees. The largest system is located in the town, it provides 115 kWp. During the year, Gerhard Polster supplies and installs about 50 PV systems with his team, exclusively within a radius of 100 kilometres.

Polster finds the compact power pack Mastervolt Sunmaster XL interesting. The new development is a high-performance and highly efficient solar inverter with AC> performance between 10 and 15 kW.

The new models can be just as easily connected into a networked tracker system as in a fixed installed PV-system. The AC performance is between 10 and 15 kW. The Sunmaster XL 10 has 3 3.3 kW modules installed, the Sunmaster XL 15 has 3 5 kW modules.

The new Sunmaster XL has an efficiency rating of over 95% according to EU Standards. The output voltage is 230 by AC and 50 Hertz tri-phase. The high capacity solar inverter switches itself on automatically after installation and commissioning, as soon as sufficient sunlight falls on the photovoltaic module.

55-year old Polster, who is an electrical engineering master technician, master HVAC installer and electrical technician, has also been a court-appointed, sworn expert for the last ten years. He deals with the development of renewable energies, meaning he does not just see light on the horizon. He anticipates that the turnover will see a marked decrease in 2009 when the buyback price for photovoltaic systems is reduced. For this reason, the masses of suppliers will no longer be able to survive through German customers alone.

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The Arzberg resident thoroughly criticises his own craft. "Badmouthing from your own ranks is a major risk," says Polster. He finds poorly carried-out product tests of media just as damaging as the much repeated question, "When will a photovoltaic system pay itself off?" Sales are becoming more and more difficult as a result.

The 55-year old knows that profitability is essential. But he thinks that only looking at return and amortisation is too restrictive. Of course, you can build up more capital by investing money in a bank. However, Polster considers another thought to be just as important: the reduction of CO² and other far-reaching environmental aspects. Polster is sure that "people focussing on photovoltaics will save some real money in the future, in addition to the strong arguments for the environment."

However, according to the trader, the craft has no separate philosophy. The price still regulates everything. "If we do not change," he says, "black clouds will appear on the horizon." But the man is not a pessimist by any stretch. He focuses consistently on solar heat and photovoltaics, with modular products and a clear conception of environmental protection, which does not just see profit in terms of money.

More information about the Mastervolt-Partner can be obtained from Mastervolt in 51105 Cologne. =MASTERVOLT/BfC=

Note for editors:

This text and photographs can be found and downloaded under the following link: <http://www.waschzettel.de/page.cgi?ID=24421>

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