



solar electricity



DENVER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT



PROJECT

Operated by the city and county of Denver, Denver International Airport is the fifth busiest international airport in the United States, serving nearly 50 million passengers annually. The airport is now home to a significant new renewable energy project—the nation’s most visible solar photovoltaic system plant. Spanning seven-and-a-half acres at the entrance of the main terminal, Denver International Airport’s two megawatt solar electric system will generate over three million kilowatt hours of clean electricity annually. The project demonstrates Denver’s commitment to environmental sustainability by reducing carbon emissions by more than 6.3 million pounds each year.

SOLUTION

Designed and installed by WorldWater & Solar Technologies (now Entech Solar), this new ground-mounted solar array features more than 9,200 Sharp solar modules. It is a single-axis tracking system maximizing solar electrical generation by following the path of the sun for greater efficiency and production.

Renewable Ventures, which financed, owns and operates the 2 MW solar system, joined with WorldWater & Solar Technologies and the Denver International Airport to develop an innovative public-private partnership, leveraging tax credits and incentives to finance this landmark solar power system. This enabled the City of Denver and the Airport to secure solar power generation through a

OVERVIEW

LOCATION:

Denver, Colorado

SYSTEM FINANCIER, DEVELOPER, OWNER AND OPERATOR:

Renewable Ventures

INSTALLER:

WorldWater & Solar Technologies (now Entech Solar)

DATE COMPLETED:

August 2008

PEAK CAPACITY:

2 MW

NUMBER OF MODULES:

9,254

PRODUCT:

Sharp 216 watt modules

PROJECT SURFACE AREA:

7.5 acres

BECOME POWERFUL



SOLUTION (CONTINUED)

long-term contract known as a power purchase agreement (PPA)—rather than major capital investment by the airport. As a result, Denver International Airport will benefit from a renewable energy system that is cost-effective from its very first day of operation.

The project is part of the Xcel Energy Solar*Rewards program and received a rebate to offset the upfront construction costs. Xcel Energy is purchasing the renewable energy credits from the clean electricity produced in support of Colorado's Renewable Energy Standard, which requires large utilities to generate 20 percent of their power from renewable energy sources by 2020.

PERFORMANCE RESULTS

By adopting clean, reliable and renewable solar power, Denver International Airport is helping Colorado and its local utility, Xcel, meet its Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) goals—while making a commitment to long term sustainability.

Denver International Airport's solar power systems help reduce the amount of carbon dioxide emitted into the atmosphere by gasfired power plants.

THE NAME TO TRUST

When you choose Sharp, you get more than well-engineered products. You also get Sharp's proven reliability, outstanding customer service and the assurance of our 25-year limited warranty on power output. A world leader in solar electricity, Sharp has more solar modules currently in use than any other company worldwide.

Design and specifications are subject to change without notice.
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SHARP ELECTRONICS CORPORATION
5901 Bolsa Avenue, Huntington Beach, CA 92647
1-800-SOLAR-06 • Email: Sharpsolar@SharpUSA.com
www.SharpUSA.com/solar

“This installation at Denver International Airport fits with our Greenprint Denver action agenda for sustainability and our pledge to do all that we can to reduce our carbon footprint.”

– Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper

SYSTEM BENEFITS

- The project demonstrates Denver's commitment to environmental sustainability by reducing carbon emissions by more than 6.3 million pounds each year.
- Having a solar electric system as part of its overall sustainability measures is helping Denver International Airport reduce its reliance on fossil fuels.
- The solar power array is generating 3,000,000 kW hours each year, offsetting the airport's annual power usage.
- This is the equivalent electricity used to power 1,800 homes during the day.