



▶ Gaining Momentum

The demand for information and product in the renewable energies has grown substantially. It's hard to believe it's already been one year of teaching for the Training Centre. We will celebrate our 1st Anniversary in June and we have seen a tremendous evolution in the 'green' industry in that time. People have traveled from across Western Canada to learn more about sustainable living and we have enjoyed their smiles in the classes. We've even had a 'Green Pavilion' included in the Home Show this year. Our next class on Biodiesel is in May and we are creating new course offerings all the time. The first offering of An Introduction to Ecohousing with Alan Carpenter is coming up on April 30th. If you haven't registered already, there are a few spots left. The two day PV course is hands on and you will learn how to power a cabin off grid. And just in time for the heat season, our one day course on Solar Hot Water will teach you how to build your own solar hot water collector. The global attention to renewable energy and sustainable living has expanded with huge force and we are looking forward to being part of the shift toward reducing the use of fossil fuel.

▶ Courses

Full course calendar and registration available on line.

MAY AND JUNE

Grid-connected Solar Electricity
Biodiesel - Make Your Own
Solar Water Collector - Build Your Own
Straw Bale Construction
Introduction to Photovoltaics
Geothermal Systems



Students examine the Geothermal pump system on display at the Training Centre. Wherever possible, the courses are hands-on and are taught by those involved in the industry.

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▶ Our Featured Product

SunRise™ Solar Powered Attic Fan

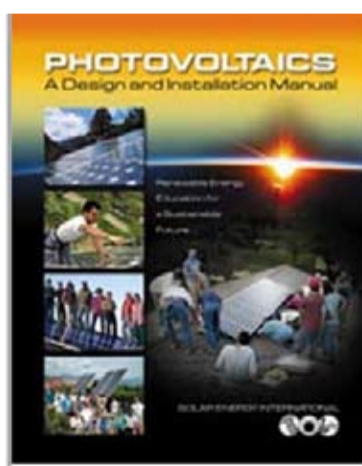


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▶ Our Newest Resources



The book contains an overview of photovoltaic electricity and a detailed description of PV system components, including PV modules, batteries, controllers and inverters. It also includes chapters on sizing photovoltaic systems, analyzing sites and installing PV systems, as well as detailed appendices on PV system maintenance, troubleshooting and solar insolation data for over 300 sites around the world. Used worldwide as the textbook in SEI's PV Design & Installation workshops, topics covered include:

- * The basics of solar electricity
- * PV applications and system components
- * Solar site analysis and mounting
- * Stand-alone and PV/Generator hybrid system sizing
- * Utility-Interactive PV systems
- * Component specification, system costs and economics
- * Case studies and safety issues

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▶ Canadian Energy Bytes

A new micro generation regulation passed in Alberta makes it a little easier to become a micro-generator of electricity. Although not quite the net metering process available in BC, Saskatchewan and Ontario, this does open the door for a more economical system for the small producer. Much more needs to be done before we come close to having renewable energy policies like those in Europe, but this is a step in the right direction. We've posted the regulations on the website. [Full details....](#)

▶ International Energy Bytes

"Promoting renewables must now become a global and universal priority, and IRENA is a necessary condition for that goal. If we intend to embark on the renewable energy revolution, we cannot do it without IRENA." -- Bianca Jagger, Chair of the World Future Council

A collective 'sense of urgency' spurred the creation of The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) early April and was supported by over 60 countries gathered in Germany. This intergovernmental organization will exist to exclusively promote the adoption of renewable energy worldwide.

Let's think about that. An international agency devoted solely to promoting the adoption of renewable energy worldwide. Even a small measure of international influence will have an impact and although it is at present only a European operation, it is heartening to note that there is now an agency devoted to this industry. We've included the full article on our website. [These are exciting times for our industry. Full details....](#)