

## TRANSPIRED SOLAR COLLECTORS

A simple, efficient and cost effective solar technology.

The transpired solar collector is an air preheating system. Sunlight strikes and warms a south facing vertical wall. Heat is transferred to ventilation air as it is passes through tiny holes or slits in the wall. The result is a model of simplicity and efficiency. These systems conservatively collect 60-70 percent of the incident solar energy.

During the heating season, the system collects both solar energy and recaptures wall heat loss. During the cooling season, collector bypass vents can be opened allowing the wall to dump heat, thus reducing cooling loads.

This technology is ideally suited for buildings that have a south-facing wall near with access to the building ventilation system. The collector surface is generally

corrugated steel or aluminum and can be any dark color.

## **Application Prerequisites**

- Suitable south-facing wall
- Ventilation load
- The absence of a heat recovery system

## Payback of system in Central Oregon

Building Occupancy: Daytime, 7 days/week Collector Area: 30 ft tall by 60 ft wide

Energy Savings:  $150 \text{ kBtu/ft}^2 \times 1,800 \text{ ft}^2 = 270 \text{ MMBtu}$ 

Cost Savings \$2,880 per year (75% heating system, \$0.80 per therm)

Collector Cost:  $$11/ft^2 \times 1,800 \text{ ft}^2 = $19,800$$ State Tax Credit 33% of \$19,800 = \$6,534

Federal Tax Credit 10% of \$19,800 = \$1,980 (IRS Form 3486) Accelerated Deprec. Varies ~10% ~ \$2,000 (IRS Section 168)

Net Cost < \$10,000 Simple Payback: < 4 years

## For more information:

Oregon Office of Energy <a href="https://www.energy.state.or.us">www.energy.state.or.us</a> or call (800) 221-8035

US DOE http://www.eren.doe.gov/femp/prodtech/tranfta1.html

http://www.pnl.gov/techguide/36.htm

Conserval Inc. <a href="http://www.solarwall.com">http://www.solarwall.com</a> (system manufacturer)

