

TiSUN gives help for Christmas

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Tyrolean Solar Expert gives a South African orphanage a water-purifying solar installation

The phrase ‘Merry Christmas’ is all around us – we hear it, think it or say it almost every day of December. Yet saying it does not make it happen. For many, Christmas is far from merry, and the season of Peace and Goodwill is in fact the most hectic time of the year. Presents, hot drinks and cookies take centre stage, while the true values of Christmas—joy, giving, and thanks—take a back seat.

So TiSUN has decided to donate gifts to those who really need them, rather than to our clients, who no doubt approve. With your help we will build a solar thermal installation to turn salt water into purified, clean drinking water for orphans in South Africa.

TiSUN will put all of its expertise and 25,000 Euros towards developing, producing and installing the product. It will go to the Mordecai orphanage in Port Elizabeth, South Africa, which is run by Pastor Geert Jansingh and financed by donations alone. The daily purification of 250 litres of salt water into clean drinking water will help 24 children orphaned by the AIDS virus to improve their living and health standards.

A 3-year old wishing for a Merry Christmas sounds naive at best. An adult sounds almost laughable. Which is why we are trying to live up to our simplest Christmas wishes—bringing good cheer to those who need it—by doing what we do best.

You can learn more about the progress of these 24 children on www.tisun.com, where we will document every step of the project.

Market leader TiSUN shows the way in innovation

TiSUN produces high-quality solar collectors and storage systems for heat recovery from solar energy, built to withstand the harsh conditions of an alpine climate. The company has now been researching and developing its own technology for several decades, with the last ten years seeing it establish a position as one of Europe's top solar thermal manufacturers.

Around 75 per cent of production output from TiSUN is shipped outside Austria.

In 2007, the company, which employs 120 people at its site in Söll, Austria, was once again awarded the Austria Solar Seal of Quality. All standard-series TiSUN solar collectors are manufactured according to the standards of the Europe-wide SOLAR KEYMARK certification programme. The commercial success of the company has also received outside recognition, with the Wirtschaftsblatt economic journal, PricewaterhouseCoopers, and KSV1870 (Austria's largest association for the protection of creditors) all ranking TiSUN among the top three Tyrolean medium-sized enterprises in the “Austria's Leading Companies” awards.

TiSUN achieved a further milestone in the second quarter of 2008 with the establishment of TiSUN LLC in New Jersey, USA.

The TiSUN success story

1989 - Company founded by Arnold Teufel and Gerhard Schwarz in Kitzbühel, Austria

1991 - Relocation with four members of staff to St. Johann in the Austrian Tyrol

1994/1995 - Second relocation to Going am Wilden Kaiser, Austria, with nine employees

1998 - Application for patent for Pro-Clean® solar stratified tank

1999 - Implementation of first large-scale project at the Neue Heimat residential complex in Innsbruck, Austria, with a collector area of 1150 m².

2003 - TiSUN becomes the first company to receive the Austria Solar Seal of Quality

2004 - Sales of TiSUN systems in Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Belgium, Czech Republic, and the autonomous Province

of South Tyrol/Alto Adige.

- 2005 - TiSUN achieves the impressive milestone of 100,000 m2 installed collector area
- 2006 - France, Italy, and Spain are added to the TiSUN sales area
- 2007 - TiSUN continues to export large volumes and adds markets in Portugal, Ireland, United Kingdom, Finland, Sweden, Poland, Hungary, Turkey, Greece, Slovenia, and Croatia.
- January 2007 - Move to the 30,000 m2 TiSUN site in Söll, Austria.
- March 2007 - Official opening of the new TiSUN site
- June 2007 - Inaugural open day at Söll attracts more than 2000 visitors
- November 2007: Austrian Leading Companies – 3rd place in the medium-sized enterprises category
- December 2007 - First company in the solar industry to achieve ISO 9001 certification
- 2008 - TiSUN now also supplies to Russia, Belarus, Latvia, Ukraine, Pakistan, Morocco, Tunisia, Oman, United Arab Emirates, and Chile
- June 2008 - Establishment of TiSUN LLC at Pennington, New Jersey, USA.

Facts and figures

- 2004 - Doubling of turnover to 9 million euros with 50 employees
- 2005 - Turnover increased to 12.4 million euros with 67 employees
- 2006 - Turnover increased to 21.2 million euros with 86 employees
- Export ratio at 75 percent
- Market leader in the Tyrol and Western Austria (over 50 percent market share)
- Top 3 player in the Austrian solar thermal sector
- 124 employees
- Total collector area produced to end of year 2008: 385,000 m2 (equivalent to the energy provided by over 102 million litres of oil)

Quality certification

- European certification: Solar Keymark
ISO 9001:2000 quality management system
- Austrian certification: Austria Solar Seal of Quality
- Swiss certification: SPG Rapperswil (solar technology testing and research institute), SVGW Zurich (Swiss Gas and Water Industry Association)
- German certification: ITW Stuttgart (Institute of Thermodynamics and Heat Engineering)
- French certification: ENERPLAN, Solar Climate. Scheme offering TiSUN customers up to 90% state subsidy.
- Spanish certification: Ministerio de Turismo Industria y Comercio (Ministry of Tourism, Industry and Commerce)

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