



Photovoltaics

Photovoltaics (PV) - forging a path to a brighter and sustainable future

Imagine generating your own electricity using the power of the Sun. PV systems allow you to do just that, bringing environmental, social and economic benefits to your organisation and your community.

What are the benefits of a PV installation?

The installation of PV panels at your organisation's premises can bring the following benefits:

- Generate your own electricity from the free, abundant and inexhaustible energy of the Sun
- Reduce CO₂ emissions making the UK a cleaner and greener place to live
- Reduce your fuel bills
- Protect yourself from future energy price increases
- Sell back surplus electricity generated to the National Grid
- A positive way of meeting your organisation's social responsibility
- Take the lead in bringing renewable energy to your community

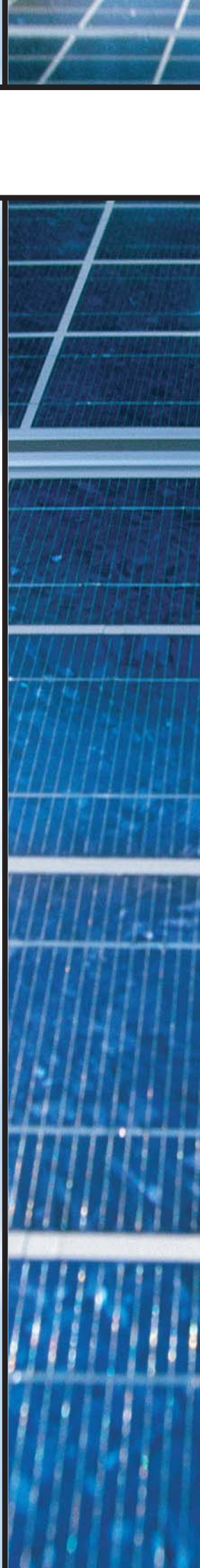
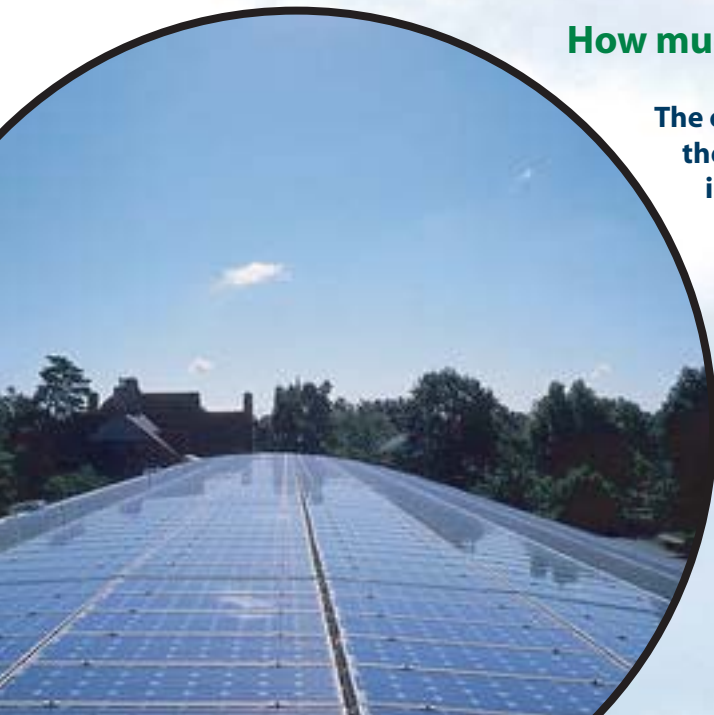
And to address the most common misconceptions...

- Even in Britain solar energy has the capacity to supply much of our electricity needs.
- PV panels are easily integrated into a building's design and come in a variety of shapes and colours. They can be an attractive part of the structure or a feature that complements the architecture.
- PV systems require almost no maintenance and have a life span in excess of 20 years. The tempered glass is self-cleaning and impact resistant.

How much does a PV system cost?

The cost of a PV system varies depending on the size and type of the system to be installed. However, there are a number of grants available to help alleviate the cost impact, including:

- The DTI Major Demonstration Programme
- The Community Renewables Initiative
- Green Tariff Funds





How does PV work?

PV uses energy from the Sun to create electricity to run appliances and lighting. PV requires only daylight, not direct sunlight.

The PV cell consists of one or two layers of a semi-conducting material, usually silicon. When light shines on the cell, it creates an electric field across the layers, causing electricity to flow. The greater the intensity of the light, the greater the flow of electricity.

How do I get started?

Over the past year Creative Environmental Networks (CEN) has committed itself to developing the partnerships, systems and services that will help organisations access renewable energy. CEN offers the following:

- Impartial advice, information and energy audits
- Assistance with grant applications
- Assistance with the planning application process
- Access to discounted manufacturer and installation rates
- Management of the installation process
- Post installation audits for peace of mind
- Dissemination and local publicity

So what are you waiting for?

It won't cost you the earth. In fact, with numerous grants available, it may not even cost you a penny. Call the REAL project team at CEN on 020 8683 6683 today to find out how you can take part in the energy revolution.

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Creative Environmental Networks, Ambassador House,
Brigstock Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey, CR7 7JG
Tel: 020 8683 6683 Fax: 020 8683 6601 Email: real@cen.org.uk