

Renewable Energy and Environmentally Sustainable Design Case Studies

40 Albert Road – Solar Pergola

Site: South Melbourne

Dates:

- Design Phase Commencement: July 2004
- System Commissioning: August 2005

Client: Szencorp

Project Goals:

To provide shade and weather protection to the rooftop deck area of the landmark 40 Albert Road building, additionally generating electricity.

Project Features:

First installation in Australia of the Schott Solar ASI-Thru building integrated PV laminates. Highly aesthetic installation.

The process involved discussions with the client, architect and electrical consultants. Being the first installation of this product, selection of a suitable glazing installer was important. Careful selection of the Pergola's rooftop position was crucial to maximum solar gain and avoid over shadowing by existing or future buildings. (Photovoltaic panels should not be unnecessarily shaded.)

A building design change that was not communicated to Going Solar almost disrupted successful functioning of the Solar Pergola. The erection of small parapet, not present upon supplied plans or at time of site inspection, cast a shadow over three panels. Though the problem was ultimately solved, it illustrates the importance of keeping the ESD Project Team informed of any building design changes that could affect the installation of the renewable energy equipment.

Award Winning Project:

This project won for us the 2006 BCSE* award for *Excellence in Designing and Installing a Grid-Connect Photovoltaic Energy System*. There are over 4,000 grid-connected PV systems throughout Australia and this is the first to win an award in this category.

Project Team:

- Lachlan Bateman, Project Engineer, Going Solar
- Stephen Ingrouille, Principal, Going Solar
- Steve Cook, Electrician

Further Information:

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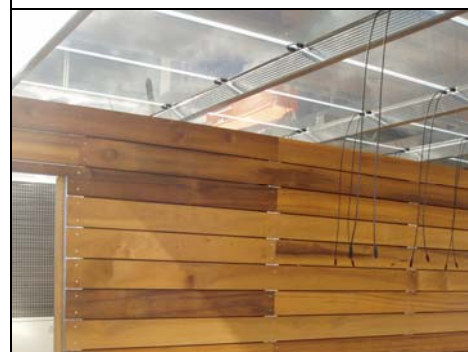
40 Albert Road showing rooftop¹



Solar Pergola (note the shadow)



Top of the Solar Pergola



Under the Pergola - note the shadow

*BCSE = Australian Business Council for Sustainable Energy

¹ Drawing courtesy of SJB Architects, Melbourne