Renewable Energy and Environmentally Sustainable Design Case Studies

40 Albert Road - Solar Pergola

Award Winning Project:

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

Site: South Melbourne

Dates:

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



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

Project Features:

- 35 x 30W Schott Solar ASITHRU PV panels.
- SMA 1100E Inverter
- System size: 1050 Wp

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

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 by installing some panels nearby, it illustrates the importance of keeping the Solar Project Team informed of any building design changes.

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