PVTRIN
INSTALLER CERTIFICATION

Benefits for the installers, the PV industry and the society

- Creating a qualified installers workforce, PVTRIN supports the **EU PV Industry** to address the need for qualified technicians. The increased confidence of PV investors will lead to market growth.
- The **trained installers** improve their skills and knowledge and gain professional competitive advantage; the certification provides the "passport" to the EU job market. The training material, tools and web platform will provide them a "24/7" technical assistance.
- **Developers and engineers** will profit by the existence of skilled technicians. Involving them to their PV project means efficient development, technical failures and satisfied customers.
- **PV investors** win confidence that the appropriate level of quality and performance is met and maintained for their PV system.
- **National authorities** will find a supporting instrument to meet their obligations for acknowledged certifications for RES installers.
- The **entire society** is to be benefit; the higher PV penetration to the energy mix will reduce the greenhouse gas emissions improving citizens' quality of life.

Contact us:

For additional information please contact the project coordinator:

TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF CRETE (TUC)
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
RENEWABLE AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS LAB

Address: University Campus, Kounoupidiana, 73100 Chania, Greece
stavroula.tournaki@enveng.tuc.gr
www.enveng.tuc.gr

PVTRIN
INSTALLER CERTIFICATION

TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION OF PHOTOVOLTAIC INSTALLERS IN EUROPE

www.pvtrin.eu

Supported by INTELLIGENT ENERGY EUROPE

PVTRIN is supported by the Intelligent Energy - Europe (IEE) programme. The sole responsibility for the content of this website lies with the authors. It does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the European Union. Neither the EACI nor European Commission are responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein. Photographs acknowledgments to Chris Rudge, Rob Baxter, Standontcady, Optisol, European Commission.

INTELLIGENT ENERGY EUROPE
FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

THE PVTRIN INITIATIVE

The high photovoltaic market growth rates, further favored by the EU supporting policies and the favorable national regulatory frameworks, may turn to a threat for the PV industry due to the lack of adequately skilled workforce for the PV installation and maintenance. Furthermore, the interested parties (manufactures, developers, investors) seek for skills certification and quality assurance in all phases of a PV/BIPV installation life cycle (design, installation, and maintenance).

The PVTRIN (Training of Photovoltaic Installers) project addresses to the market needs by developing a training and certification scheme for the technicians who activate in the installation and maintenance of small scale PV systems.

The under development scheme incorporates the criteria set by the 2009/28/EC Directive for qualification schemes, certified training courses and accredited training providers in each Member State, taking into account the national framework and legislation. It will initially be implemented in 6 countries (Greece, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Romania and Spain). In order to achieve maximum consensus, the key stakeholder groups are involved in the project's activities.

The PVTRIN challenges are to:

- set the base for the adoption of a common acknowledged certification scheme
- establish a pool of local technicians who are competent at installing PV systems according multinational quality standards
- ensure the best performance of PV/BIPV installations lowering the risks, problems or failures during installation and life cycle
- reinforce PV technology's credibility and boost the competitiveness of the PV industry

The PVTRIN is supported by the Intelligent Energy-Europe programme of the European Commission. The project started at May 2010 and ends at April 2013.

THE NATIONAL CONSULTATION COMMITTEE

The National Consultation Committee (NCC) plays a significant role providing guidance, counseling, information and support during the whole duration of the project.

In each country, representatives of the interested key stakeholder groups (i.e. PV/RES industry associations, professional unions and installers associations, vocational training organizations, accreditation bodies, chambers of commerce, consumers/investors associations, national authorities) are involved in order to:

- transfer the market's experience and needs
- support the development and training scheme
- reinforce the dissemination activities
- facilitate the adoption of the certification

Expected results

The PVTRIN activities will result to:

- Accredited training courses and an operational certification scheme for PV installers in 6 countries;
- Practical training material/tools for installers and their trainers; Web portal with access to technical information
- 8 pilot training courses implemented, a pool of skilled/certified PV installers in participating countries
- A roadmap for the adoption of the certification scheme across Europe

Long term, PVTRIN will:

- contribute to the PV/BIPV market growth in the participating countries
- encourage a greater number of technicians to advance their professional skills
- provide a supporting instrument, for EU Member States, to meet their obligations for acknowledged certifications for RES installers till 31/12/2012
- enforce the EU countries to achieve the mandatory target of a 20% share of energy from RES in overall Community energy consumption, by 2020.

The PVTRIN Consortium

The participating partners and countries are:

Partner		Country	Website
	PROJECT COORDINATOR Technical University of Crete Environmental Engineering Dpt. *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Systems Lab*	*Greece*	www.tuc.gr
ABMEE	Agency of Brasov for the Management of Energy and Environment	*Romania*	www.abmee.ro
bre	Building Research Establishment Ltd	*UK*	www.bre.co.uk
EIHP	Energy Institute Hrvoje Požar	*Croatia*	www.eihp.hr
EPIA	European Photovoltaic Industry Association	*EU/ Belgium*	www.epia.org
ETEK	Scientific and Technical Chamber of Cyprus	*Cyprus*	www.etek.org.cy
SEC	Sofia Energy Centre	*Bulgaria*	www.sec.bg
tecnalia	Tecnalia RBTK	*Spain*	www.tecnalia.com
TEE	Technical Chamber of Greece *Branch of Western Crete*	*Greece*	www.teetdk.gr

Certification offers:

To installers

- Progression
- Recognition
- Portability
- Aspirations
- Employability

To PV investors / owners

- Confidence
- Better system performance
- Reduced risks

To PV industry

- Efficient workforce
- Customer satisfaction
- Lower operational costs
- Increased credibility