# Solar Boiler <sup>™</sup>

Solar Domestic Hot Water System Technical Specifications SRCC Certification # 100-2006-005A – CSA # 243150



Thermo Dynamics Ltd. 101 Frazee Avenue Dartmouth, Nova Scotia Canada, B3B-1Z4 Tel: (902) 468-1001 Fax: (902) 468-1002 Email: solarinfo@thermo-dynamics.com www.thermo-dynamics.com



# **A.** General Information

## 1.0 System Description:

The Thermo Dynamics Solar Boiler™ system is a revolutionary concept in solar domestic water heating systems. It is a solar preheat system using the external Side-Arm™ heat exchange system pioneered by Thermo Dynamics and the Micro-Flo® collector system for unsurpassed heat exchange efficiency.

#### 1.1 Warranties:

Thermo Dynamics Ltd. warranties the Micro-Flo® collectors and Solar Boiler<sup>TM</sup> heat exchange module for ten (10) years, all other components are warranted for one (1) year.

## 1.2 System Options:

Micro-Flo® collectors are available in 1.2m x 2.4m, (4' x 8'). The Solar Boiler<sup>TM</sup> system can have either one or two Micro-Flo® collectors installed. Collector mounting hardware is available for either sloped or flat roof installations.

## 2.0 Product Use:

Year round domestic and small commercial hot water preheat systems. Ideal for remote locations where power electrical power consumption is limited or unavailable.

#### 2.1 Geographic and Climatic Limitations: None. Freeze protection, using food grade

antifreeze, protection, using tood grade antifreeze, protects the system in cold climates. In hot climates over temperature protection is provided by thermostatic system shut off.



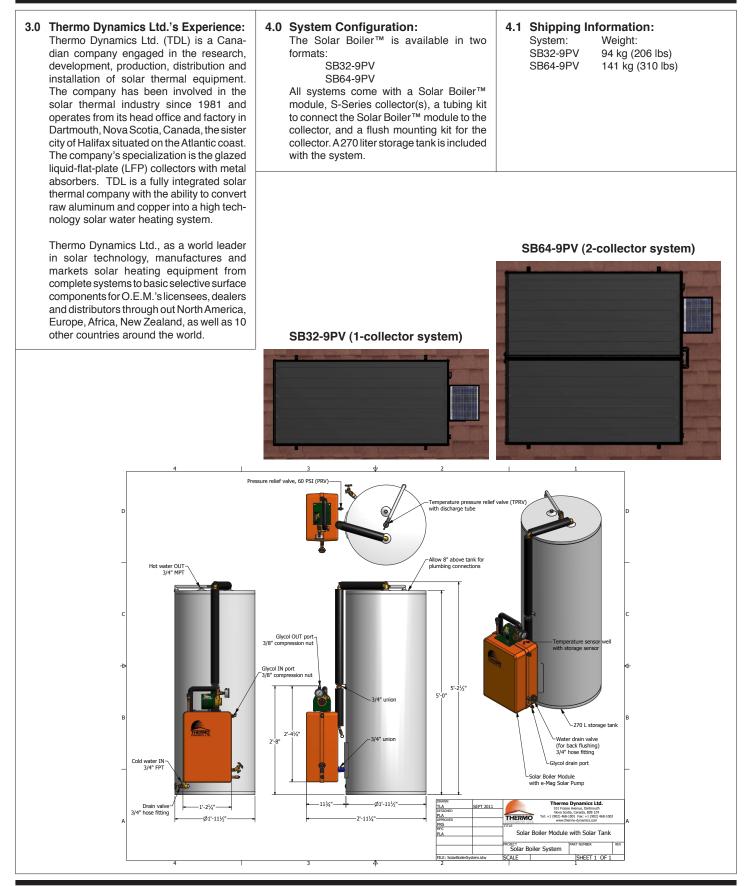
Solar Boiler™ Technical Specifications; page 1 of 8

Solar Boiler <sup>™</sup>

Solar Domestic Hot Water System

Technical Specifications

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TC.230.07.MAR2014



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# **B. Collector Array**

## 1.0 Micro-Flo® Collectors:

Thermo Dynamics S32 flat plate liquid collectors are single glazed with low-iron tempered glass. The absorber consists of a single serpentine aluminum fin with an integral copper tube , which is completely surrounded by the aluminum and metal-lurgically bonded together. The back and sides are insulated with a 25 mm (1") layer of compressed fiberglass. The collector frame is extruded aluminum with a baked-enamel finish, (dark brown). Collector mounting is by way of a sliding bolt-track. Flush and racked collector mounting formats are easily accommodated.

## 1.1 Options:

Factory installed temperature sensors.

## 1.2 Dimensions:

S32: 1.20 m x 2.47 m x 0.086 m (47-3/8 in x 97-3/8 in x 3-3/8 in) Gross area: 2.96 m2 (31.9 ft2) Aperture area: 2.78 m2 (30.0 ft2) Absorber area: 2.87 m2 (30.9 ft2) Liquid capacity: 0.389L (0.086 IG)

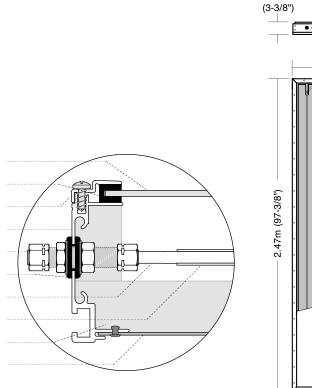
# 1.3 Weight:

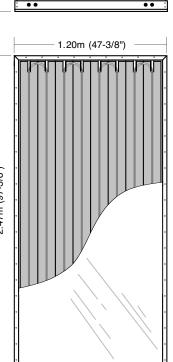
 Model
 Net
 Shipping

 S32
 45 kg (99 lb)
 55 kg (120 lb)

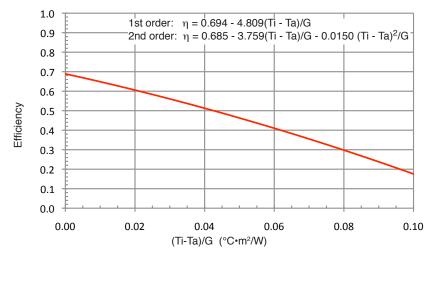
#### 1.4 More Information:

See the Thermo Dynamics publication "S Series Solar Collectors - Technical Specifications (TC.201.03.JAN/09)" for more complete specifications on the Micro-Flo® collectors.





# **Collector Thermal Efficiency**



Solar Domestic Hot Water System Technical Specifications

SRCC Certification # 100-2006-005A - CSA # 243150

# C. Liquid Handling System

# 1.0 General Description:

The Solar Boiler<sup>TM</sup> module is a Shell and Coil<sup>TM</sup> all copper heat exchanger and glycol reservoir. The heat transfer fluid in the solar loop circulates from the reservoir to the solar collectors and back through the coils of the heat exchanger by a positive displacement pump. The solar loop is closed from the atmosphere. A 414 kPa (60 psi) pressure relief valve is installed for safety. Circulation on the shell or water side of the heat exchanger is generated by natural circulation.

# 2.0 Principles of Operation:

# 2.1 Freeze Protection:

Freeze protection is provided by a solution of 40% Propylene Glycol USP and 60% distilled water in the solar loop. Propylene glycols freezing point is -19°C (-2.4°F). The water in the system starts to form ice crystals and pumping becomes difficult. The 40/60 aqueous solution of Propylene Glycol provides burst protection to -51°C (-60°F).

# 2.2 Contamination Protection:

The Solar Boiler<sup>TM</sup> module operates at atmospheric pressure. The storage tank is at city water pressure and the water will flow into the Solar Boiler<sup>TM</sup> module if there is a leak in the heat exchanger, diluting and dispelling the small volume of heat transfer fluid from the system. Propylene glycol is nontoxic food grade approved heat transfer fluid and is compatible with a single wall heat exchanger.

# 2.3 Leak Detection:

The glycol reservoir in the Solar Boiler™ module will overflow onto the floor. Propylene glycol is clear (older propylene glycol may be slightly green and/or brown). The fluid has an oily, slippery feeling when rubbed between your fingers.

# 2.4 High Temperature Limit:

A high temperature limit sensor installed on the Solar Boiler™ module prevents the storage tank from exceeding 82°C (180°F). An adjustable tempering valve can be installed on the hot water outlet if required by the local plumbing code.

# 2.5 Over Temperature Protection:

The boiling point of 40/60% aqueous solution of Propylene glycol/distilled water is  $105^{\circ}C$  (221°F). The maximum recommended bulk temperature is  $163^{\circ}C$  (325°F) and the maximum recommended film temperature is  $191^{\circ}C$  (375°F). The Solar Boiler<sup>™</sup> is equiped with a 414 kPa, (60 psi) pressur relief valve (PRV) on the solar loop. In the event of a pump failing to circulate the glycol on a hot sunny day, the glycol expands in the solar collector, increasing the pressure in the solar loop, and thereby increasing the boiling point of the glycol to prevent boiling.

# 2.6 Corrosion Protection:

In the collector loop, the propylene glycol, when the pH is approximately 5-7, is non aggressive. All wetted parts are copper, stainless steel, carbon and brass.

# 3.0 Pump Description:

- The e-Mag Solar Pump<sup>™</sup> is a brass body, vane-type, positive displacement pump. The pump has special clearances and ethelyene-propylene seals for high temperature protection. It has a maximum output pressure of 500 kPa (73 psi). The nominal flow rate is 1.2 L/min. (0.32 USGPM). The pump is driven by an efficient brushless DC motor. Nominal power consumption is 18 watts (1/40hp).
- 3.1 Maximum Operating Temperature: 88°C (190°F)
- **3.2 Maximum Operating Pressure:** 414 kPa (60 psi)

# 4.0 Piping:

The connection between the Solar Boiler™ module and the solar collectors is made with soft copper tubing

# 4.1 Copper Tube Kit:

A copper tube kit is supplied for connecting the solar collectors to the Solar Boier<sup>TM</sup> module. The kit consists of two 9.53 mm (3/8") copper tubes, Armaflex<sup>TM</sup> foam insulation, and 16/4 communication wire. The insulation is put on the copper tubing on site by the installer.





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# **D.** Controls

# 1.0 General Description:

The Solar Boiler<sup>TM</sup> uses a proportional control strategy, achieved by the variable output of a 20 W photovoltaic module. The variable collector flowrate and thermosyphonic flow between the Solar Boiler<sup>TM</sup> and the storage tank ensure that high quality water is supplied to the auxiliary heater throughout the year. The PV module drives the DC motor through a linear current booster to ensure good performance at low light levels.

## 1.1 Trade Names

PV Module: BP Solar S320J photovoltaic module

LCB: Delta-T Booster II, manufactured by Thermo Dynamics Ltd.

## 2.0 PV Module:

The BP Solar 20 Watt PV module is used to drive the DC motor. The module has 36 single-crystal silicon solar cells connected in series, and weighs 2.95 kg (6.5 lb) and has outside dimensions of 421 mm (16.6") x 502mm (19.8"). The modules electrical specifications are:

Current at Peak Power	1.17 A
Voltage at Peak Power	17.1 VDC
Typical Peak Power	18.0 W
Short Circuit Current	1.19 A
Open Circuit Voltage	20.8 VDC

# 3.0 Linear Current Booster (LCB) & Differential Controller:

The e-Mag Solar Pump<sup>™</sup> motor driver includes TDL's most recent LCB technology complete with differential temperature control, fail-safe protection, high-temperature limits, and an electronic jolting function to overcome static friction and/or minor pump blockages.

The eMag Solar Pump<sup>™</sup> uses a Linear Current Booster (LCB) to match the power delivery of the PV module to the DC motor under varying light condition. At peak irradiance the PV module runs the motor at rated speed, at lower light levels the LCB transforms the voltage into current to allow the motor to start. The motor runs at reduced speed at lower light levels providing a proportional control for the Solar Boiler<sup>™</sup>. The controller also measures the collector temperature and the storage temperature to provide differential temperature control.

Other features include high temperature storage shut off and high collector temperature shut off.

# E. Heat exchanger and tank

# 1.0 General Description:

The Solar Boiler<sup>™</sup> uses Thermo Dynamics high performance Shell-and-Coil<sup>™</sup> heat exchanger mounted in the Side-Arm<sup>™</sup> configuration. This system provides a highly stratified storage tank. The storage tank can be any commercially available tank with the correct connections.

# 2.0 Heat Exchanger

# 2.1 Materials

Shell-and-Coil<sup>™</sup> heat exchanger is manufactured entirely from copper. The heat exchanger consists of several copper coils enclosed in a copper shell. All connections are brazed and are external to the shell.

# 2.2 Thermal Performance

The Solar Boiler™ utilises a high performance, Shell-and-Coil™ heat exchanger. Heat transfer area: 0.61 m2 (6.5 ft2). Overall heat transfer coefficient: 380 W/ m2•K (67 Btu/h•ft2•°F).

# 2.3 Durability

Hot water in contact with copper tubing has shown a life expectancy in excess of 30 years. Corrosion inhibitors on the propylene glycol heat transfer fluid offer excellent protection in the collector loop.

## 2.4 Pressure Rating:

The Shell-and-Coil<sup>™</sup> heat exchanger is tested to 300 psi on the city water side and 120 psi on the collector side.

# 3.0 Storage Tank

The Solar Boiler<sup>™</sup> module is designed to work with many commercially available storage tanks. Minimum solar storage is 272 L (72 USG) of water. Tanks must be suitable for hot water service and have at least 2 ports (19 mm, 3/4") at the top of the tank and one bottom port. Most electric water heater tanks are suitable. Electric elements must not be activated.



Cut-out view of storage tank and heat exchanger

Technical Specifications SRCC Certification # 100-2006-005A – CSA # 243150

Solar Domestic Hot Water System

# F. Heat Transfer Fluid

## **1.0 Genral Description**

The propylene glycol, used in the Solar Boiler™, is a non toxic, food grade approved heat transfer fluid. It is commonly used in the food industry for high speed freezing of meats and poultry through direct immersion in the fluid, as well as an additive in many food items such as salad dressings, vanilla extract, etc.

#### 2.0 Chemical Composition:

Solution of Propylene Glycol, USP and distilled water.

Composition: 40% Propylene glycol (% by volume) 60% distilled water

pH: 7.0 Colour: clear

The Solar Boiler™ module contains 4L of the Propylene glycol/distilled water mixture.

#### 3.0 Fire Safety:

No flash point and noncombustible

## 4.0 Toxicity:

Propylene Glycol heat transfer fluid is generally recognized by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as a food additive under Part 182 and 184 of the Food Additive Regulations. The regulation for propylene glycol is 21CFR 184.1666.

## 5.0 Durability:

Maximum anticipated life span is 5 to 15 years.

# G. Installation

#### 1.0 Packaging:

The Solar Boiler<sup>™</sup> system is shipped in three or four boxes depending on the collector configuration. One for the Solar Boiler<sup>™</sup> module, one for the LIFELINE® tubing, and one or two for the solar collectors.

## 1.1 Labour and Equipment:

Two (2) men with a ladder and rope can easily mount collectors. The system may be installed with normal plumber's and carpenter's tools. Special tools are not required.

# 2.0 Connection with Water Supply:

Install a back flow preventer and tempering valve if required by local plumbing code.

# H. Maintenance

**1.0 General Description:** The installation manual, with maintenance and troubleshooting procedures, is supplied with systems.

2.0 System Shut-Down and Start-Up: The system does not need to be shut down for vacation or winter periods. Initial system start-up should be carried out in early morning or late evening when the collectors are not under stagnation conditions.

#### 3.0 Cleaning and Maintenance:

Check for fluid loss in the collector loop every year. Check the pH of the collector loop fluid annually, and replace it if not between 6.0 and 7.0. Replace the collector fluid every five to fifteen years. The storage tank should be drained every year to prevent sedimentation. The backflushing procedure for the heat exchanger must be followed every year. The backflushing procedure is listed under the top of the Solar Boiler<sup>™</sup> and in the installation manual.



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# I. Solar Thermal Performance Canada:

#### 1.0 Test Method: CAN/CSA F378 and T.I.L. MSE-45

1.1 Location: Bodycote Testing Group

Bodycote Testing Group, Mississauga, Ontario. Date: February 25, 2009.

# 1.3 Details of System:

Model: SB64-9PV Solar Collectors: 2 - S32 Collector Area: 5.95 m2 (64.1 ft2) Tank: 270 L (60 IG) Heat Exchanger: Shell-and-Coil™ Heat Transfer Fluid: 40% Propylene Glycol/60% Water Controls: TDL Delta T Booster II PV Module: BP Solar SX20U, 20 Watt Pump: TDL Solar Pump™ P24070M

## 2.0 Test Conditions:

System tested on indoor test bench using solar simulator.

2.1 Collector Tilt:

Normal to incident radiation

- 2.2 Ambient Temperature: Tank: 20°C (68°F) Collectors: 15°C (59°F)
- 2.3 Windspeed: Day: 3.3 m/s (10.8 ft/s)
- 2.4 Hot Water Load: 300 L/Day @ 55°C. (66 IG/DAY @ 131°F)
- 2.5 Total Daily Solar Radiation: 63.83 MJ (60.50 MBtu)
- 2.6 Solar Output: 27.22 MJ/day (25.81 MBtu/day) 9.94 GJ/year (9.42 MMBtu/year)
- 3.0 Simulated System Performance Canada The system referred to in section 1.3 was

simulated using WATSUN 12.1 and TMY weather data.

#### 3.1 Simulation Results Canada Halifax: 2,982 kWh, (10.2 MMBtu) Ottawa: 3,286 kWh, (11.2 MMBtu)

Victoria: 2,997 kWh, (10.2 MMBtu)

4.0 Certifications Solar Boiler systems, SB32-9PV and SB64-

Solar Boiler systems, SB32-9PV and SB64-9PV are CSA certified

4.1 CSA Certification Certification # 243150

4.2 Energystar Certification

The SB64-9PV qualifies for the Energystar rating



Solar Boiler<sup>™</sup>

Solar Domestic Hot Water System

**Technical Specifications** 

SRCC Certification # 100-2006-005A - CSA # 243150

#### Solar Thermal Performance USA J

#### 1.0 Test Method:

SRCC Dosument OG-300, Operating Guidelines and Minimum Standards for Certifying Solar Water Heating Systems.

#### 1.1 Location:

Bodycote Testing Group, Mississauga, Ontario. Date: February 25, 2009.

## 1.2 Details of System:

Model: SB64-9PV Solar Collectors: 2 - S32 Collector Area: 5.95 m2 (64.1 ft2) Tank: 270 L (60 IG) Heat Exchanger: Shell-and-Coil™ Heat Transfer Fluid: 40% Propylene Glycol/60% Water Controls: TDL Delta T Booster II PV Module: BP Solar SX20U, 20 Watt Pump: TDL Solar Pump™ P24070M

## 2.0 Test Conditions:

System tested on indoor test bench using solar simulator.

- 2.1 Collector Tilt: Normal to incident radiation
- 2.2 Ambient Temperature: Tank: 20°C (68°F) Collectors: 14°C (58°F)
- 2.3 Water Mains Temperature: 14°C (58°F)

#### 2.4 Hot Water Load: 43.3 MJ/day @ 57°C. (41,045 Btu/day @ 135°F)

2.5 Total Daily Solar Radiation: 4,733 Wh/m<sup>2</sup>-day (1,500 Btu/ft<sup>2</sup>-day)

#### 2.6 Solar Rating:

SB32-9PV Solar Energy Factor: 1.5

SB64-9PV Solar Energy Factor: 2.3

# 4.0 Certifications

Solar Boiler systems, SB32-9PV and SB64-9PV are OG-300 certified

- 4.1 SB32-9PV Certification Certification # 300-2009051A
- 4.2 SB64-9PV Certification Certification # 300-2009051B
- 5.0 Simulated System Performance USA: The system referred to in section 1.3 was simulated using WATSUN 12.1 and TMY weather data.
- 5.1 Simulation Results USA: Boston: 3,234 kWh, (11.3 MMBtu) Ft. Worth: 4,931 kWh, (16.8 MMBtu) Denver: 4,851 kWh, (16.5 MMBtu) Seattle: 2,873 kWh, (9.8 MMBtu) San Fran.: 4,667 kWh, (15.9 MMBtu) Miami: 4,794 kWh, (16.3 MMBtu) Chicago: 3,586 kWh, (12.2 MMBtu)



The Solar Boiler M described by this brochure, when properly installed and maintained, meets the minimum standards established by the SRCC (Solar Rating & Certification Corporation). This certification does not imply endorsement or warranty of this product by SRCC.



# SOLAR RATING AND **CERTIFICATION CORPORATION**







