

Global Solar Certification Network Meeting No. 7



GSCN Web Meeting 2020 GSC_N0079.R1
Date/Time: Thursday, 11 March 2020, 16:00–18:20 CET
Location: In-person meeting originally set to be held in Tunis, Tunisia on 12 March cancelled . Rescheduled meeting to be held online on 11 March by means of webmeeting using the login information below.
Web Conference Login: https://iccsafe.webex.com/iccsafe/j.php?MTID=mb2271d4e83f91139c229d9b797adf4c3 Access code: 920 694 358 Global call-in numbers
Contacts: GSCN Manager: Shawn Martin/Jaime Fernandez; manager@gscn.solar GSCN Chairman: Harald Drück; harald.drueck@igte.uni-stuttgart.de

The 7th meeting of the GSCN was conducted on 11 March, 2020 by webmeeting. It was originally scheduled for in-person on 12 March, 2020 in Tunis, Tunisia, but was rescheduled as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. It was conducted using the Webex platform to allow access by members and interested stakeholders worldwide. A PowerPoint presentation GSC_N0078.R0_Meeting_Presentation was used to present the agenda items in turn. The following details the minutes of the meeting. Note that action items are denoted in the right column using an asterisk (*).

Global Solar Certification Network Meeting No. 7



7. Global Solar Certification Network Meeting Agenda – 11 March, 2020 16:00 – 18:20CET

Item	Decision Requested	Topic/Content/Responsible	Related documents / comments / details
1		<p>Short welcome and roll call of participants / HD</p> <p><i>Start 16:04 CET</i></p> <p><i>HD Welcomed attendees. Attendee introductions (see attendee list at the end of the report).</i></p> <p>Approval of agenda /HD</p> <p><i>HD summarized the agenda and asked for proposed changes. No changes were proposed, but Korbinian Kramer requested a short time to raise a topic under New Business. Agenda approved.</i></p> <p><i>HD provided a short introduction on GSCN for new attendees.</i></p>	
2		<p>Minutes of last meeting / SM</p> <p><i>Minutes from Meeting #6 held in Stockholm presented for approval. Approved unanimously.</i></p>	N0073.R0-M6 Minutes.pdf
		<p>Minutes of last board meeting /SM</p> <p><i>No meeting of the board scheduled since Meeting #6 in Stockholm.</i></p>	

Global Solar Certification Network Meeting No. 7



3		<p>Status of GSCN Membership /SM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal members: SM provided an update on the current GSCN membership. He listed 32 total, consisting of 9 Inspection Bodies, 7 Supporting, 7 Test Labs, 7 Certification Bodies and 2 Supporting members Applicants: SM listed all applicants currently in process. He noted for several, the process has been completed, but invoicing issues is preventing finalization of several Chinese applicants. HD suggested adding a new membership category – “VIP”. Approved. Suggestion was made to add Souad Abrougui in this category. AB to contact Souad to determine interest in joining in this role and possibly to serve on the GSCN Board. Addendum: Souad Abrougui, SHAMCi chairwomen accepted the offer to become a member of the GSCN-Board representing Africa and MENA region 	<p>http://gscn.solar/members/members.html</p> <p>* SM/JF to add VIP category to GSCN website and documents</p>																																																								
4		<p>Board Membership / HD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of current board members <p>HD reviewed the current board membership. Jeremy Osborne was removed, as he has changed industries. The need for a Secretary was discussed, and it was determined that it was not necessary.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="436 894 1514 1240"> <thead> <tr> <th>Continent</th> <th>Africa & MENA</th> <th>Asia</th> <th>Europe</th> <th>North America</th> <th>Oceania</th> <th>South America</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Manufacturer</td> <td></td> <td>Xiaowen Zhou</td> <td>Harald Poscharnig</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Manufacturer</td> <td></td> <td>Qingtai Jiao</td> <td>Harry Michalopolous</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Certification body</td> <td></td> <td>Xiaochao Tong</td> <td>Sören Scholz</td> <td>Les Nelson (Vice Chair)</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Certification body</td> <td></td> <td>Lin Jiali</td> <td></td> <td>Shawn Martin (Manager)</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Test lab</td> <td></td> <td>He Tao (Treasurer)</td> <td>Harald Drück (Chair)</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Test lab</td> <td></td> <td>James Huang</td> <td>Korbinian Kramer</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>VIP</td> <td>Souad Abrougui</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Continent	Africa & MENA	Asia	Europe	North America	Oceania	South America	Manufacturer		Xiaowen Zhou	Harald Poscharnig				Manufacturer		Qingtai Jiao	Harry Michalopolous				Certification body		Xiaochao Tong	Sören Scholz	Les Nelson (Vice Chair)			Certification body		Lin Jiali		Shawn Martin (Manager)			Test lab		He Tao (Treasurer)	Harald Drück (Chair)				Test lab		James Huang	Korbinian Kramer				VIP	Souad Abrougui						
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Global Solar Certification Network Meeting No. 7



5	x	<p>Quality Assurance Committee /SF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of current QAC membership /SM • QAC Chair Election – Replace Shawn Martin /HD • QAC Working Rules and Procedures /SF <p><i>HD reviewed the current QAC membership. SF agreed to continue as chair, SM agreed to continue. Daniele Bernacchioni expressed interest in joining the QAC as a CB. All changes approved.</i></p> <p><i>SF noted that changes made to the QAC rules during the last meeting had not yet been added to the GSCN Rules. SM to update and post the revised rules.</i></p>					<p><i>* SM/JF to update and post the revised rules.</i></p>		
		Continent	Africa & MENA	Asia	Europe	North America		Oceania	South America
		Certification body			Daniele Bernacchioni	Shawn Martin			
		Certification body			Sören Scholz				
		Test lab		Zheng Ruicheng	Carsten Lampe				
		Test lab		He Zinian	Stephan Fischer				
		Test lab			Stefan Mehnert				

Global Solar Certification Network Meeting No. 7



6	x	<p>GSCN Finances</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of economy status • Transfer of bank account • Register the Global Solar Certification Network as a non-profit international association based on the current GSCN working rules? Discussion / Decision <p><i>SM presented the current economic status. Summary provided below. HD suggested that the GSCN continue to use the account hosted by JE. Approved. HD to follow up with JE to confirm his willingness to continue, with the annual fee of 500 € to be charged to the GSCN.</i></p> <p><i>Done by with the following answer from Jan Erik Nielsen: “Ok, I can continue to host the GSCN account - but I will appreciate if you still look for other options. To give some motivation for that, I give below the future annual fees to be paid for hosting here:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2020: 500€ Paid January 2020 - OK • 2021: 550€ To be Paid January 2021 • 2022: 600€ To be Paid January 2022 • 2023: 650€ To be Paid January 2023 • 2024: 700€ To be Paid January 2024 • 2025: 750€ To be Paid January 2025” <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="background-color: #4f81bd; color: white;">Account Balance (2/28/2020)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">5.152,02 EUR</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #d9e1f2;">Expenses</td> <td style="text-align: right;">575 EUR</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #d9e1f2; text-align: right;">Web/email</td> <td style="text-align: right;">75 EUR</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #d9e1f2; text-align: right;">Account Hosting</td> <td style="text-align: right;">500 EUR</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #d9e1f2;">Previous Account Balance (12/31/2018)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">3,042.54 EUR</td> </tr> </table> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="background-color: #d9e1f2;">CATEGORY</th> <th style="background-color: #d9e1f2;">2019 FEES</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="background-color: #d9e1f2;">Certification Bodies</td> <td style="text-align: right;">200 €</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #d9e1f2;">Inspection Bodies and Inspectors</td> <td style="text-align: right;">200 €</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #d9e1f2;">Test Labs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">200 €</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #d9e1f2;">Industry (manufacturers, distributors)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">250 €</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #d9e1f2;">Passive Network Supporting Members</td> <td style="text-align: right;">75 €</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>HD proposed that the current fees from 2019 be retained for 2020, as shown below. Approved. SM to update the GSCN website.</i></p>	Account Balance (2/28/2020)	5.152,02 EUR	Expenses	575 EUR	Web/email	75 EUR	Account Hosting	500 EUR	Previous Account Balance (12/31/2018)	3,042.54 EUR	CATEGORY	2019 FEES	Certification Bodies	200 €	Inspection Bodies and Inspectors	200 €	Test Labs	200 €	Industry (manufacturers, distributors)	250 €	Passive Network Supporting Members	75 €	<p><i>* SM to update GSCN website with 2020 fees.</i></p> <p><i>*HD to follow up with JE on continued use of bank account. (Done on 17 March 2020)</i></p>
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Global Solar Certification Network Meeting No. 7



7	x	<p>GSCN Manager</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unfortunately Shawn Martin will be unable to continue as GSCN Manager • Successor? <p><i>HD indicated that SM was unable to continue as GSCN manager in the new year and asked for interested parties. In this context HD also mentioned that up to now no payment is related to the work of the GSCN manger. Jaime Fernandez (JF) indicated a willingness to serve as GSCN Manager for at least one year. No other individuals expressed interest and JF was approved. SM to work with JF to transfer tasks and collaborate on meeting minutes and 2020 GSCN Renewal Invoicing. JF indicated that assistance may be needed for any travel costs associated with the next GSCN meeting. HD supported the use of GSCN funds to underwrite GSCN Manager travel costs for meetings. No opposition voiced by attendees.</i></p>	<p>* SM to transfer GSCN materials to JF</p>
8		<p>GSCN Working Rules (main part)</p> <p>Proposals for revisions / Proposals for resolutions? <i>No proposals were made by the participants</i></p>	<p>N0001.R27</p>

Global Solar Certification Network Meeting No. 7



8	x	<p>GSCN Working Rules Annex A: Requirements for certification bodies, inspection bodies / inspectors and test labs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarify requirements for "an updated list of qualified or approved inspectors" /SF • Discuss the acceptance of inspection bodies approving inspectors under ISO 17065 and the relationship to ISO 17020 accreditation requirements /SM • Add requirements for Industry Members and Supporting Members? /SM • Proposals for revisions / Proposals for resolutions? <p><i>SM proposed that the procedures for confirming that factory inspections are conducted in accordance with ISO 17020 (which is required by ISO 17065) be addressed by the GSCN. He noted that this could involve assessment of inspector credentials, revisions to the inspection form, and minimum guidelines for the conduct of inspections. He indicated that he believes that doing so could provide the necessary process for CBs to accept inspection reports from GSCN Inspection Body members who are not ISO 17020 accredited. Group created to study the issue and make recommendations: Martin, Bohren, Fischer, Mehnert</i></p>	<p>N0001A.R9</p> <p><i>* SM to work with working group to develop proposal for changes to GSCN procedures/policies for unaccredited inspection providers.</i></p>
9		<p>GSCN Working Rules Annex B1: Collector data sheet template</p> <p>Proposals for revisions / Proposals for resolutions?</p> <p><i>SM noted that the use of the SKN data sheet for the GSCN was discussed during the last meeting and that SKN was to confirm that GSCN was permitted to utilize the form. AB indicated that there was no concern about GSCN having permission to utilize the form. But he also noted that some of the material, especially location results on the second page would not be applicable outside of the EU. AB to confirm use of the form with RISE (original creator). AB will also review for any recommended updates to facilitate use by the GSCN.</i></p>	<p>N0001B1.R7</p> <p><i>* AB to confirm permission to use SKN data sheet in GSCN and determine whether changes will be needed.</i></p>
10		<p>GSCN Working Rules Annex B2: Inspection report template</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposals for revisions / Proposals for resolutions? See #8 above. 	<p>N0001B2.R5</p>

Global Solar Certification Network Meeting No. 7



11		GSCN Working Rules Annex C1: Requirements for factory production control <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposals for revisions / Proposals for resolutions? <i>No proposals were made by the participants</i> 	N0001C1.R5
12	x	GSCN Working Rules Annex D: Fees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add language addressing the handling of non-payment of annual fees. /SM Proposals for revisions / Proposals for resolutions? <i>No proposals were made by the participants</i> 	N0001D.R1
		GSCN Working Rules Annex F: GSCN Finance Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposals for revisions / Proposals for resolutions? <i>No proposals were made by the participants</i> 	N0001F.R3
13	x	GSCN Working Rules Annex E: Template for signing up for the Global Solar Certification Network / SM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rename from "Template" to "Application Form" and revise per DRAFTN001E.R3 Proposals for revisions / Proposals for resolutions? <i>HD noted that the revisions to the Application Form had been posted and seemed to be working well.</i>	N0001E.R2
14		GSCN Mark and Certificate Use <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposals for revisions / Proposals for resolutions? <i>HD asked for any observed misuse of the mark. None reported to date.</i>	GSCN Mark
15	x	Status of Website / SM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposals for revisions / Proposals for resolutions? <i>SM summarized updates to the website and requested other suggested changes. None.</i>	www.gscn.solar

Global Solar Certification Network Meeting No. 7



16	x	<p>Promotion of GSCN / HD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-operation with Bärbel Epp • GSCN Flyer / HD • Webinar? /SM • Case study? /SM • <p>solarthermalworld.org. has fixed costs of 396 EUR per news article which includes the writing, the sending back to the responsible person within GSCN and the proof reading by a British corrector. Each news will be featured in one of the monthly newsletters send out to 7500 subscribers. The news will also be promoted via our twitter channel with 3779 followers. News published on solarthermalworld.org could be certainly also published on the SKN or GSCN website or in the newsletter of Solar Heat Europe.</p> <p><i>HD summarized the cooperation with Bärbel Epp to promote the GSCN. He noted the charge to create and run an article would be 396 €. He recommended one article be approved and funded by the GSCN focusing on the growth, new manager and status of the GSCN. Approved. HD volunteered to take the lead, LN volunteered to review.</i></p> <p><i>HD previewed a draft one-page flier on the GSCN and asked for feedback. Requested that any feedback be provided directly to HD by 27 March 2020. He indicated that no additional photos were needed at this time, unless changes to the current photos are proposed. KK volunteered to work with ISE staff to refine the layout and design. HD to send KK the draft of the current flier design in PPT format. KK to provide alternate format(s) for consideration.</i></p> <p><i>The need for a webinar on the GSCN was discussed. KK noted that HD did a webmeeting at the end of Task 57 that was recorded. During discussion it was determined that a webinar is not needed at this time and that the group should instead focus on the proposed flier and article (above).</i></p>	<p>GSCN_N9977_Flyer_March2020</p> <p><i>* HD to work with BE to develop an article promoting the GSCN.</i></p> <p><i>* KK to develop additional format concepts for GSCN flier for consideration.</i></p> <p><i>* HD to send KK PowerPoint of current flier draft (done on 11 March)</i></p> <p><i>* ALL – provide feedback on current flier draft to HD by 27 March</i></p>
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Global Solar Certification Network Meeting No. 7



17	x	<p>Solergy Label (30 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion and decision <p><i>Ina Förster provided a summary of proposed collaboration between SHI and GSCN to utilize the Solergy label presented during the previous meeting by SF. HD invited comments on the proposed collaboration. In the discussion that followed, some manufacturers expressed concerns about additional costs, since the GSCN was intended to reduce costs. Others expressed support for the concept, while acknowledging cost concerns. HD suggested a working group to further discuss the issue and requested volunteers. Those interested included: Scholz, Förster, Albrecht, Druck, Poscharnig, Fernandez, Kramer, Martin, Althaus. HD to schedule working group call and/or meeting.</i></p>	<p>GSCN_N0075.R0_Questionnaire_Coll1 GSCN_N0076.R0_SHI_Alliance_March20</p> <p><i>* HD together with DIN CERTCO to convene working group to consider use of Solergy label within GSCN</i></p>
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Global Solar Certification Network Meeting No. 7



18	x	<p>Global Certification Schemes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential update and use of Annex I • Opportunities for Alignment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SRCC – Standard 100 and 300 /SM ○ Saudi Arabian Certification Program /KK ○ Others? <p><i>SM provided an update on the process of revising the SRCC 100, 300 and 400 standards, which is currently under way. He reported that several discrepancies with EN 12975 have been removed in the current draft. Meetings are open and he invited anyone interested to contact him for more information at smartin@solar-rating.org</i></p> <p><i>KK indicated that there was no significant update on efforts to reach out to Saudi Arabian counterparts on their certification program (to invite them to participate in the GSCN). A letter sent to Saudi Arabia has not been answered to date. HP reported that he is involved in a effort to obtain their first certification under the program, which has been very difficult, with many steps. HP to provide any suggested contacts within the program to KK for follow-up.</i></p> <p><i>SM indicated that he has reached out to several parties in Mexico to encourage involvement in the GSCN with no success yet. He also noted that some new Mexican standards for solar thermal products went into effect at the end of 2019 and he was seeking additional information. HD mentioned that he is active as a consultant in Mexico and therefore also has some knowledge related to NOM 0027 for systems and offered to follow up with SM.</i></p>	<p>zGSC_N002I.R0.docx</p> <p>SRCC Standard Project https://www.iccsafe.org/codes-tech-support/codes/code-development-process/is-stsc/</p> <p>Saudi Organizations Ministry of Commerce & Investment (MCI) Ministry of Energy, Industry & Mineral Resources (MEIM), Saudi Standards, Metrology & Quality Organization (SASO) Saudi Energy Efficiency Center (SEEC)</p> <p><i>* HP and KK to continue to reach out to Saudi certification body.</i></p>
19		<p>Meetings 2020???</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GSCN meeting: March 12th 9:00 – 12:00 (now) • EuroSun, Athens Greece September 1 – 4 • ISES SWC Melbourne December 2 – 4 <p><i>HD proposed that the next GSCN meeting hold an in-person meeting in conjunction with the SKN meeting rescheduled for October 2020 in Tunis. He proposed 22 October, 2022. There were no objections.</i></p>	

Global Solar Certification Network Meeting No. 7



20	<p>New Business</p> <p><i>KK asked for consideration of a potential new IEA task to pursue world-wide standardization, and to facilitate the transferability of testing reports. He also suggested that such a task should include a project to promote digitization of testing, certification and inspections. HD expressed support for such a project.</i></p>	
18:20	<p>End of meeting</p> <p><i>The meeting was adjourned at 18:20 CET.</i></p>	

Attendees:

Name	Organization	Status
Oscar Mogro	BDR Thermea - Industry	None
Les Nelson	IAPMO – Certification Body	Member (Vice Chair)
Thomas Althaus	Ritter Energie – Industry	Applicant
Harald Poscharnig (HP)	GREENoneTEC – Industry	Member
Stephan Fischer (SF)	IGTE – Test Lab	Member
Leopoldo Mico	SHE – Supporter	Member
Korbinian Kramer (KK)	Fraunhofer ISE – Test Lab	Member
Ina Förster (IF)	DIN CERTO – Certification Body	Member
Daniele Bernacchioni	ICIM – Certification Body	None
Andreas Bohren (AB)	SPF – Test Lab	Member
Jaime Fernandez	Consultant – Industry	None
Stamatios Babalis	NCSR Demokritos – Test Lab	Member
Stefan Mehnert	Fraunhofer ISE – Test Lab	Member
Pedro Dias	ESTIF – Supporter	Member
Costas Travaseros	Greek Solar Industry Association – Industry	Member
Souad Abrougui	SHAMC - VIP	None
Harald Drück (HD)	IGTE – Test Lab	Member (Chair)
Shawn Martin (SM)	SRCC – Certification Body	Member (Manager)