



SolarTech Power Solutions

Megawatt-class dish solar power generation



Overview

Parabolic dish concentrators have demonstrated the highest thermal and optical efficiencies among the available concentrator options. This paper proposes a novel design approach for fabricating large parab.

What is a dish/engine system?

The dish/engine system is a concentrating solar power (CSP) technology that produces smaller amounts of electricity than other CSP technologies—typically in the range of 3 to 25 kilowatts—but is beneficial for modular use. The two major parts of the system are the solar concentrator and the power conversion unit.

How does a solar dish work?

The resulting beam of concentrated sunlight is reflected onto a thermal receiver that collects the solar heat. The dish is mounted on a structure that tracks the sun continuously throughout the day to reflect the highest percentage of sunlight possible onto the thermal receiver.

What type of heat engine is used in dish/engine systems?

The most common type of heat engine used in dish/engine systems is the Stirling engine. A Stirling engine uses the heated fluid to move pistons and create mechanical power. The mechanical work, in the form of the rotation of the engine's crankshaft, drives a generator and produces electrical power.

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