



Silicon Valley Solar Industry-Driven Regional Collaborative: Solar Photovoltaic Installation

SV Solar IDRC
CACT
Professional & Workforce Development
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(a 4energy partner initiative)***

Partners

- CACT – De Anza College – Project Management
- Silicon Valley Leadership Group – Advisory. Liaison to industry, SVWorks partner
- SolarTech – Industry partner/driver, evaluation criteria, DACUM participants, Interns
- NOVA WIB – Internships, workforce outreach
- Workplace Learning Resource Center –Mission College – Assessment, intake, screening
- San Jose City College –Applied Science & Tech. – Credit program development
- Cabrillo College – Community Education & Economic Development – Credit program
- Advanced Transportation Technology & Energy – West Valley College – DACUM
- Sustainability Institute Ohlone College – Curriculum deployment

SV Solar IDRC (Silicon Valley Solar Industry-Driven Regional Collaborative) is a strategic regional response to meet the need for a skilled workforce in photovoltaic solar system design and installation. This industry-driven effort, responding to the message conveyed at the February 2007 New Energy Workforce **SVWorks** event, aims to institutionalize within the community colleges training that individual employers are currently having to provide – at cost to productivity and quality.

Industry commitment includes paid internships and job interviews for successful completers. The companies involved are members of the SolarTech industry coalition, plus additional installation companies. The coordination and management for the project is from Foothill-De Anza Community College District. The planning has been by a steering committee including four community college districts, industry leaders, and economic development agencies.

This project is in the process of developing curriculum in solar photovoltaic design and installation at the two community colleges in Silicon Valley that were best equipped to deploy rapidly due to existing programs, faculty, and facilities. The curriculum will be modularized (approx 80-120 hours), with a significant paid internship component (320 hours), and delivered in accelerated, flexible formats. It is intended to prepare students for an entry level certification from the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP). It will be expanded to a certificate program based on the higher-level, industry standard NABCEP certification and will provide preparation for certification exams.

Other services will be provided by sister initiatives and colleges as listed above.