



Media Release
Zizers, 18.10.2019

HORIZON folding solar roof wins Swiss Solar Prize

The Swiss Solar Agency has awarded the Swiss Solar Prize since 1990. This year, the HORIZON folding solar roof at the Chur wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) has been selected as the winner in Category C, "Power Plants". Thanks to the HORIZON folding solar roof, the Chur WWTP is now able to generate its own electricity on site. The Chur WWTP will be recognised in Geneva for this pioneering achievement. Martin Derungs, IBC Chur's Managing Director and Roland Arpagaus, Head of Civil Engineering Services in the City of Chur, will accept the prize at today's award ceremony.

Successful pilot project

The folding solar roof was developed and manufactured by the Grisons-based startup, dhp technology AG. Working in conjunction with the IBC and the Chur WWTP, the Managing Partners Gian Andri Diem and Andreas Hügli were able to find a suitable partner for an initial pilot project. dhp technology put the pilot project into operation in 2018 after a two-year construction period. The operations manager at the Chur wastewater treatment plant, Curdin Hedinger, has since noticed some positive side effects of the folding solar roof: the folding solar roof also provides welcome shade for employees during the summer months. Curdin Hedinger has also seen a reduction in algae growth in the secondary settlement tank to coincide with the use of the new solar roof.

On-site generation of electricity

The folding solar roof enables industrial sites to be used in two ways at the same time. Access to the sedimentation tanks for maintenance work is always guaranteed since the folding solar roof can be retracted and extended at any time. At the same time, it allows electricity to be generated right where it will also be consumed: with a peak power rating of 643kWp, the folding solar roof at the Chur sewage treatment plant generates around 550 MWh per year. This roughly corresponds to the consumption of 120 households.

Further projects in the pipeline

The dhp technology startup is presently constructing a folding solar roof above the Seez wastewater treatment plant in Flums. Additional folding solar roofs are planned in Bassersdorf, Münsterlingen and Romanshorn. At the beginning of 2020, the first folding solar roof ever to be constructed over a parking area will be built in the carpark of the Kronberg Bahnen in the canton of Appenzell Innerrhoden.

Contact



Gian Andri Diem
Managing Partner
gian.diem@dhp-technology.ch
+41 78 612 50 03