Training and Certification in Italy

With a very attractive incentive scheme, today Italy represents the second largest PV market in the world. According to GSE the total installation at present amounts to about 250,000 units, and the cumulative installed and operating power has reached 9550 MW.

Due to this impressive growth, PV installers are now required to comply with the certification rules foreseen by the Italian legislation.

The installers of PV plants will receive a certification after having attended a training programme and passed an examination of competences by the institutional bodies.

The "certified installers" will be reported in a national register under control of ENEA and of the regional authorities.

Training courses available 2010 - 2011

Education and training provided by No-PV companies

The cumulative installed PV power sum to around 9550 MW corresponding to about 250,000 installations.

The "Fourth Conto Energia" (DD 5 May 2011)

- Total spending limit for the period 2011-2016: 23 GW with cap every six months.
- Reduction of the incentive tariffs starting in June this year.
- More generous tariffs to BIPV with innovative features.
- Cost Limits, until the end of 2012, only for large plants.
- From 2013 an all-inclusive tariff will be introduced with an additional tariff for self-consumption.
- Increase of tariffs, for plants owned by small municipalities, for installation on brownfield sites, landfill, etc., and for modules that replace asbestos.
- Tariff increase for plant using components manufactured within the European Union.

Market situation

Training programs provided by PV companies

The Italian Legislative Decree on Renewables

The purpose of the RES Leg. Decree n.28/2011

It defines instruments, mechanisms, incentives and the institutional, financial and legal frameworks necessary for achieving the 2020 goals as regards the total quota of renewable energy in final consumption and in transport.

Article 15 – Qualification system for installers

- Before 1st August 2013, installers of photovoltaics plants must respect specific technical and professional requirements such as:
  - University degree or technical degree with 2/4 years of experience in PV sector, according to the existing article 4 of the Ministerial Decree 37 of the 2006.
  - Certificate of professional training course and final examination in order to demonstrate competences is in accordance with Annex IV of the DL 28/2011:
- Within the 31st December 2012 training courses for RES installers should be provided directly by Italian Regions or by their accredited bodies - in agreement with the Annex IV.
- In order to promote the consistency with the Annex IV criteria and the homogeneity at national level, Regions together with ENEA will design training courses aiming to issue certification of installers of RES, before 31 December 2012.

Annex IV - Installers Certification and training criteria

The certification schemes referred to Article 15 are based on the following criteria:

- The qualification should be made by a transparent and clearly defined procedure and assure regional coverage of the training program offered by the supplier.
- The training courses should include both theoretical and practical parts.
- The training provider should have adequate technical facilities to provide practical training.
- The training provider can be a manufacturer of the equipment or system, an institute or an association.
- The qualification of installers has a limited duration and qualified installers should attend refresh courses in the form of a seminar or event every year.
- The training courses should end with an examination leading to a certificate or a qualification. The examination shall include practical assessment of installations.