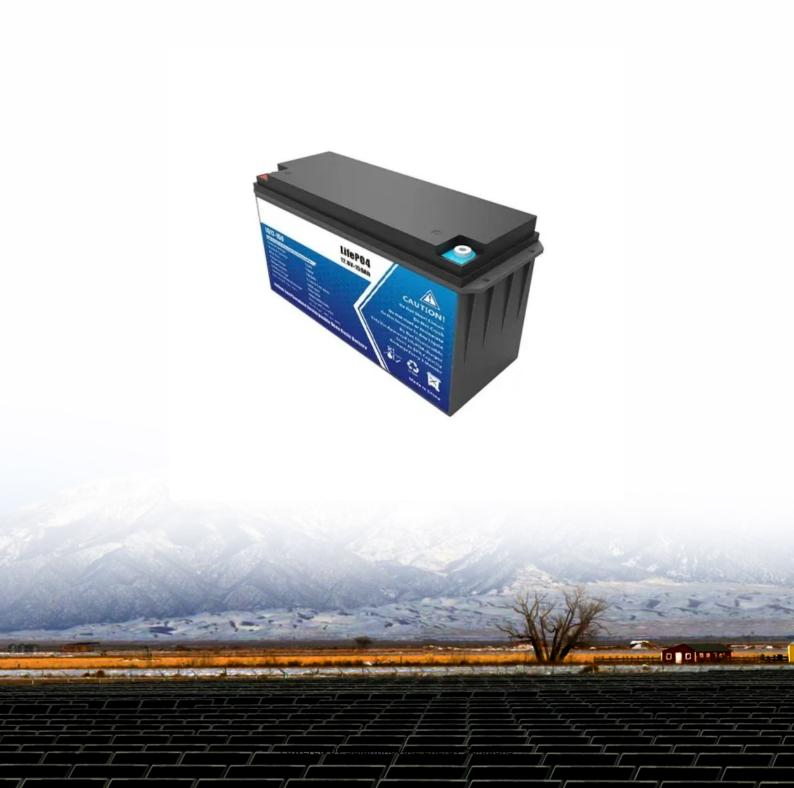


SolarInnovate Energy Solutions

Why do photovoltaic panels generate electricity differently





Overview

How do solar panels generate electricity?

There are two primary ways in which solar panels generate electricity: thermal conversion and photovoltaic effect. Photovoltaic solar panels are much more common than those that utilize thermal conversion, so we'll be focusing on PV solar panels. Sunlight strikes the solar cells of the solar panel.

How do photovoltaic solar panels work?

Photovoltaic solar panels are much more common than those that utilize thermal conversion, so we'll be focusing on PV solar panels. Sunlight strikes the solar cells of the solar panel. Some of the rays of light or photons pass through the outer layers of the cell and into the silicon core.

How do solar panels convert solar energy into heat?

Instead, the solar panels, known as "collectors," transform solar energy into heat. Sunlight passes through a collector's glass covering, striking a component called an absorber plate, which has a coating designed to capture solar energy and convert it to heat.

How does a solar inverter work?

Solar inverters convert DC electricity into AC electricity, the electrical current appliances run on when plugged into a standard wall socket. Other types of solar technology include solar hot water and concentrated solar power. They both use the sun's energy but work differently than traditional solar panels.

How is sunlight manifested in a photovoltaic system?

Sunlight is manifested in several ways including visible light, infrared radiation, and ultraviolet light. Visible light – This is the portion of the solar spectrum that we can see. It is an essential component in photovoltaic systems, which convert solar energy to electrical energy.



How do solar cells work?

Here's how it works: Solar cells have two layers of silicon. Each one is specially treated, or "doped," with phosphorus and boron to create the positive and negative sides of the solar cell, respectively. When photons hit the solar cells, they create an electric field at the junction between the layers.



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