

## Test Report S132EN

**System model** NATURAL SOL 280

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**Sample received:** 18.04.2008

**Start of test:** 11.08.2008

**End of test:** 22.10.2008

**Test standard:** EN 12976:2006

**Note:** Manufacturers' information is printed in *italics*.

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## 1 Description of the system

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### 1.1 Manufacturer

Name: IMMERGAS S.p.A.  
Address: Via Cisa Ligure 95  
Postcode / City: IT-42041 Brescello (RE)  
Country: Italy  
Phone: +39 0522-689011  
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E-mail: immergas@immergas.com

### 1.2 Test pattern

System model: NATURAL SOL 280  
Serial number of tested unit: IB28000198

### 1.3 System Classification

System type: Thermosiphon  
Heat transfer: Indirect  
Solar system: Closed  
Collector loop: Filled  
Location of heat storage: Close-coupled system  
Other (specify): --

### 1.4 Heat transfer medium:

Specification: *Water-propylene glycol mixture / concentration of glycol  
25 % vol.*  
Total medium content: 5 kg

### 1.5 Antifreeze protection:

cp. 1.4

### 1.6 Number of collector modules:

2

### 1.7 Collector

Type: Flat plate collector  
Model name: ARIS 2003  
Certifications: Solar Keymark, Register Nr. 011-7S493 F  
Test report: 08COL676 (ITW)  
Serial number: SA140800277, SA140800278  
Gross area: 2.095 m<sup>2</sup>  
Aperture area: 1.905 m<sup>2</sup>  
Number of covers: 1  
Cover material(s)/ Manufacturer: Low-iron tempered solar glass  
Cover thickness: 4 mm  
Insulation material(s): Rock wool  
Insulation thickness: 40 mm, 20 mm (side)  
Casing material: Aluminium  
Fluid volume of Collector area  
(without the connection piping  
between the collector(s) and the  
tank): 3 l  
Weight of collector without fluid: 40 kg/collector  
Gross dimensions (L x W x H): 2.032 m x 1.031 m x 0.093 m

### 1.8 Absorber

Manufacturer:	<i>Prime Laser Tech</i>
Material(s):	Aluminium sheet with copper tubes
Type of absorber:	Plane
Flow type:	Parallel
Number of tubes / channels:	10
Absorber tube dimensions:	Outer diameter 8 mm x wall thickness 0.5 mm
Distance between tubes:	90 mm
Area of absorber:	1.831 m <sup>2</sup>
Sheet thickness:	0.4 mm
Bonding Technique	Laser welding

#### Coating of Absorber

Manufacturer	<i>Elval</i>
Coating	<i>Black paint</i>

### 1.9 Storage tank

Manufacturer:	SAMMLER
Serial number:	IB28000198
Model name / Type:	S300 / horizontal
Material:	Steel, enamelled
Volume:	282 l
Outside diameter:	0.580 m
Insulation material:	Rigid polyurethane
Insulation thickness	35 mm
Heat exchanger(s):	Mantle heat exchanger
Max. operating pressure:	6 bar (domestic hot water)
Protection against corrosion:	Enamelled, Mg sacrificial anode

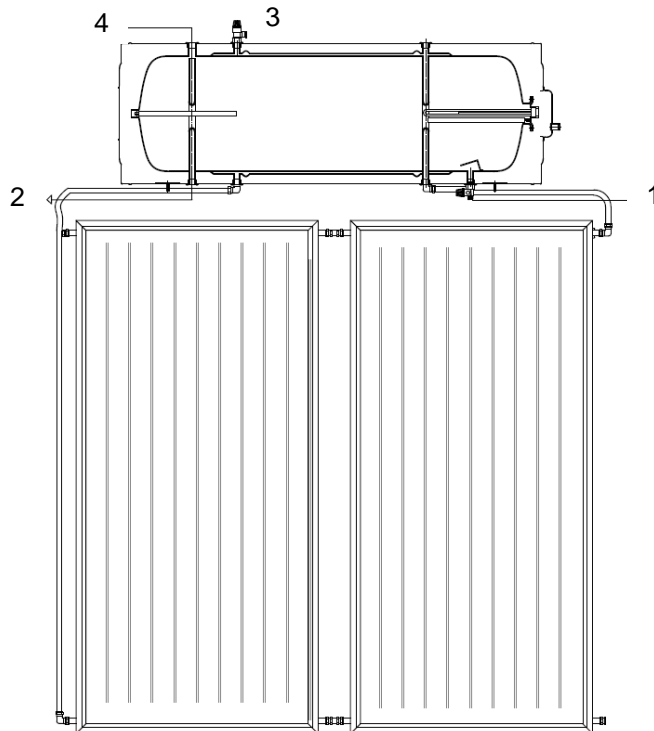
### 1.10 Pump

Manufacturer:	--
Model name / Type:	--
Electrical power:	-- W (for recommended settings)

### 1.11 Controller

Manufacturer:	--
Model name / Type:	--

### 1.12 Schematic of system



### 1.13 Picture of system



Fig. 1 Thermosiphonsystem NATURAL SOL 280

#### 1.14 Connecting piping between the collector(s) and the tank

Diameter:	19.05 mm, corrugated pipe
Length:	2.8 m return (cold); 1.0 m flow (hot)
Material:	Stainless steel
Insulation material:	Elastomeric insulation coated with a polymer membrane (UV protection)
Insulation thickness:	20 mm

#### 1.15 System data

Recommended tilt angle of collector area <sup>1</sup> :	45° to horizontal; min. 15°, max. 50°
Collector mounting:	Tilted roof, flat roof with support
Module orientation during test:	Vertical
Collector loop flow rate:	n/a
Remarks:	--

#### 1.16 Comments on system design

The drinking water circuit has a temperature and pressure relief valve (93°C, 6 bar). The collector loop is fitted with a pressure relief valve of 3 bar.

#### 1.17 Documentation

**Documents for the installer:** The system is accompanied by an installer manual according to the requirements of the EN 12976-1:2006 chapter 4.6. The following information is missing in the installation manual:

- Technical data:
  - Working limits: admissible temperature
- Support frame:
  - Maximum values of  $s_k$  (snow load) and  $v_m$  (mean wind velocity) according to ENV 1991-1-3 and ENV 1991-1-4
- Safety equipment:
  - Type and size of the safety and security devices and their draining
  - The assembly instruction shall demand that any pressure relief valves from which steam can escape during normal or stagnation conditions shall be mounted, in such a way that no injuries, harm or damage can be caused by the escape of steam.

<sup>1</sup> - Support frame for flat roof installation (40° to horizontal) of manufacturer was used during test at SPF.

**Documents for the user:** The system is accompanied by an owner's manual according to the requirements of the EN 12976-1:2006 chapter 4.6. The following information is missing in the owner's manual:

- Existing safety and security components and their thermostat adjustment
- Performance data for the system:
  - The solar fraction of the annual performance prediction for Athens for a demand volume of 250 l/d in accordance with EN 12976-2 does not correspond with the test results.

## 2 Freeze resistance

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Test in accordance with EN 12976-2, Chapter 5.1

Specification:	Flat plate collector with anti-freeze fluid in the collector loop with the following specification: Water- / Propyleneglycol mixture MPG – Industrial, Shell Chemicals
Measured after the system test:	Glycol concentration: approx. 25 vol. % Freeze resistance: approx. -10°C
Test result	No major failure
Remarks	The glycol concentration could not be exactly determined. No data is available for the refractive index of this product. The freeze resistance was estimated according to general physical properties of propylene glycol.
Date of test	22.10.2008

### 3 Over temperature protection

Test in accordance with EN 12976-2, Chapter 5.2

Inclination of collector plane:	40°
Type of over temperature protection:	Combined temperature and pressure relief valve (93 °C / 6 bar).
Number of days	3, solar irradiation on the collector plane has exceeded 20 MJ/m <sup>2</sup> per day.
Test result	No major failure
Remarks	The maximal fluid temperature in the storage tank exceeded temperatures of 100°C. The manufacturer added a T, p-relief valve to solve the problem. The over temperature protection was retested successfully (see Appendix A).
Date of test	20.08. till 27.08.2007

### 4 Pressure resistance

Test in accordance with EN 12976-2, Chapter 5.3

**Draw-off loop** Date of test: 27.08.2008

Working pressure [bar]	6.0	
	Test pressure [bar]	Test duration [min]
Pressure at begin of test	9.0	21
Pressure at end of test	9.0	

**Collector loop** Date of test: 11.08.2008

Working pressure [bar]	3.0	
	Test pressure [bar]	Test duration [min]
Pressure at begin of test	4.5	38
Pressure at end of test	4.5	

Test result	No major failure
Remarks	A retest was necessary. The gasket of the flange for an optional electrical heater failed. The redesigned storage tank (see Appendix A) was tested successfully after the high temperature test sequence.
Date of test	27.08.2008



## 5 Water contamination

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Test in accordance with EN 12976-2, Chapter 5.4

Test result	No major failure
Remarks	None
Date of test	27.08.2008

## 6 Safety equipment

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Test in accordance with EN 12976-2, Chapter 5.6

Safety valves	Comply with the requirements according to EN 12976:2006
Safety and expansion lines	Not required
Blow-off lines	Comply with the requirements according to EN 12976:2006
Test result	No major failure
Remarks	The maximum temperature in the storage was not limited. A redesign and a retest was necessary; S99/2
Date of test	27.08.2008

## 7 Labelling

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Test in accordance with EN 12976-2, Chapter 5.7

### Labelling of the Solar heating system

Place of label plate	Storage, collector
Labelling	The label contains all major information required in accordance with EN12976:2006
Test result	No major failure
Remarks	None
Date of test	15.12.2009

## 8 Thermal performance characterisation

The performance and reference conditions are in accordance with EN 12976-2 Chapter 5.8  
Test method: ISO/DIS 9459-5:1997

### 8.1 Description of the measured data

The solar radiation is an average value of the solar irradiation in the collector plane. For a valid day, the irradiation in the collector plane shall exceed 12 MJ/m<sup>2</sup> during this day. The ambient air temperature is an average value measured close to the collector array.

$S_{solA}$ : The aim is to acquire information about collector array performance at high efficiencies. The draw-offs specified are designed to keep the collector inlet cold.

$S_{solB}$ : The aim is to acquire information about store heat loss and collector array performance at low efficiencies. The draw-offs are specified are designed to allow the system to become as hot as possible for as long as possible. Overheating of the store is avoided.

$S_{sto}$ : The test sequence is to identify the overall store losses. The store is heated up by sun for two consecutive days. Subsequently the collectors are covered and no draw-offs are specified for 36 to 48 hours.

$S_{aux}$ : This sequence is intended to determine the heat losses and the volume fraction of the auxiliary heated portion of the store.

Sequence number	1	2	3	4
Sequence type	$S_{solA}$	$S_{solB}$	$S_{sto}$	$S_{aux}$
Solar radiation [W/m <sup>2</sup> ]	218	199	154	n/a
Ambient air temperature [°C]	19.3	17.3	18.5	n/a
Start date	18.08.2008	22.08.2008	08.09.2008	n/a
Number of days	4	5	4	n/a
Number of valid days	3	3	2	n/a

### 8.2 System Parameters

Determined according to the test method ISO/DIS 9459-5

Effective collector area	$A_C^*$	2.059	m <sup>2</sup>
Effective collector loss coefficient	$u_C^*$	9.012	W m <sup>-2</sup> K <sup>-1</sup>
Total store heat loss coefficient	$U_S$	2.156	W/K
Total store heat capacity	$C_S$	1.133	MJ/K
Fraction of the store used for auxiliary heating	$f_{aux}$	n/a	-
Mixing constant	$D_L$	0.1572	-
Stratification parameter	$S_C$	0.3541	-
Thermal resistance of load heat exchanger	$R_L$	n/a	K/W
Wind speed dependence of $u_C^*$		n/a	
Wind option used		$W_{ignore}$	
Wind correction used		n/a	

**8.3 Annual performance prediction in accordance with EN 12976-2 for European locations**

$Q_d$  Heat demand.

$Q_L$  Heat delivered by the solar heating system (load).

$f_{sol}$  Solar fraction: the energy supplied by the solar part of the system divided by the total system load.

$Q_{par}$  Parasitic energy (electricity) e.g. for pump, controller etc.

Performance indicators for solar-only and solar preheat systems on annual base for a demand volume of <b>80 l/d</b>				
Location (latitude)	$Q_d$ MJ	$Q_L$ MJ	$f_{sol}$ %	$Q_{par}$ MJ
Stockholm (59.6° N)	4478	2821	63.0	0
Würzburg (49.5° N)	4289	2912	67.9	0
Davos (46.8° N)	4857	4347	89.5	0
Athens (38.0° N)	3343	2771	82.9	0

Performance indicators for solar-only and solar preheat systems on annual base for a demand volume of <b>110 l/d</b>				
Location (latitude)	$Q_d$ MJ	$Q_L$ MJ	$f_{sol}$ %	$Q_{par}$ MJ
Stockholm (59.6° N)	6150	3634	59.1	0
Würzburg (49.5° N)	5897	3774	64.0	0
Davos (46.8° N)	6654	5643	84.8	0
Athens (38.0° N)	4573	3649	79.8	0

Performance indicators for solar-only and solar preheat systems on annual base for a demand volume of <b>140 l/d</b>				
Location (latitude)	$Q_d$ MJ	$Q_L$ MJ	$f_{sol}$ %	$Q_{par}$ MJ
Stockholm (59.6° N)	7821	4302	55.0	0
Würzburg (49.5° N)	7506	4503	60.0	0
Davos (46.8° N)	8483	6702	79.0	0
Athens (38.0° N)	5834	4440	76.1	0

Performance indicators for solar-only and solar preheat systems on annual base for a demand volume of <b>170 l/d</b>				
Location (latitude)	$Q_d$ MJ	$Q_L$ MJ	$f_{sol}$ %	$Q_{par}$ MJ
Stockholm (59.6° N)	9492	4860	51.2	0
Würzburg (49.5° N)	9114	5177	56.8	0
Davos (46.8° N)	10281	7597	73.9	0
Athens (38.0° N)	7064	5143	72.8	0

Performance indicators for solar-only and solar preheat systems on annual base for a demand volume of <b>200 l/d</b>				
Location (latitude)	$Q_d$ MJ	$Q_L$ MJ	$f_{sol}$ %	$Q_{par}$ MJ
Stockholm (59.6° N)	11164	5336	47.8	0
Würzburg (49.5° N)	10691	5741	53.7	0
Davos (46.8° N)	12110	8344	68.9	0
Athens (38.0° N)	8326	5803	69.7	0

Performance indicators for solar-only and solar preheat systems on annual base for a demand volume of <b>250 l/d</b>				
Location (latitude)	$Q_d$ MJ	$Q_L$ MJ	$f_{sol}$ %	$Q_{par}$ MJ
Stockholm (59.6° N)	13939	5910	42.4	0
Würzburg (49.5° N)	13371	6512	48.7	0
Davos (46.8° N)	15137	9203	60.8	0
Athens (38.0° N)	10407	6723	64.6	0

Performance indicators for solar-only and solar preheat systems on annual base for a demand volume of <b>300 l/d</b>				
Location (latitude)	$Q_d$ MJ	$Q_L$ MJ	$f_{sol}$ %	$Q_{par}$ MJ
Stockholm (59.6° N)	16746	6263	37.4	0
Würzburg (49.5° N)	16052	7047	43.9	0
Davos (46.8° N)	18165	9736	53.6	0
Athens (38.0° N)	12488	7468	59.8	0

## 9 Reverse flow protection

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Test in accordance with EN 12976-2, Chapter 5.10

Test result No major failure

Remarks None

Date of test 27.08.2008

## 10 Electrical safety

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Test in accordance with EN 12976-2, Chapter 5.11

Test result --

Remarks The system does not contain any electrical devices.

Date of test 27.08.2008

## 11 Remarks

The applied test methods meet the requirements of the European Standard EN 12976-2:2006, "Thermal solar systems and components – Factory made systems – Part 2: Test methods". The thermal performance of the system is carried out according ISO/DIS 9459-5:1997.

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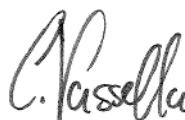
This test report refers only to the tested system.

This test report is issued according to the requirements of EN 12976 and ISO 17025.

Rapperswil, 15.12.2009



Dr. Andreas Bohren  
Head of SPF-Testing



Carlo Vassella  
Test engineer

## Appendix A: Summary

System test according to EN 12976

Test	Results
Freeze resistance	Passed
Over temperature protection	Passed
Pressure resistance	Passed
Water contamination	Passed
Safety equipment	Passed
Labelling	Passed
Thermal performance characterisation	See chapter 8
Reverse flow protection	Passed
Electrical safety	Not applicable

Remarks: The pressure resistance test of the storage tank as well as the over temperature protection have been done with a redesigned storage tank. The manufacturer changed the design of the storage tank to be able to add a T, p-relief valve.

## Appendix B: Reference conditions for performance presentation

in accordance with EN 12976-2  
Reference conditions for system performance

Collector tilt angle	45°
Collector orientation	South
Draw-off flow rate	10 dm <sup>3</sup> /min
Daily load volume	50 to 600 litres per day
Daily load pattern	100 % at 6 h after solar noon
Desired temperature $T_D$ (if the temperature exceeds $T_D$ , cold water will be mixed to reach $T_D$ .)	45°C
Cold water supply temperature	s. the following table
Store ambient temperature For systems where the store is located outside, the ambient temperature from the climate data shall be used.	15°C
Temperature of integrated auxiliary heating	52.5°C

Data for calculation of the cold water temperature and the energy of solar radiation received in the collector array over one year at the reference locations.

	Data correspond to EN 12976-2			
	Average cold water supply temperature [°C]	Amplitude [K]	Solar radiation [kWh m <sup>-2</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> ]	Ambient temperature [°C]
Athens	17.8	7.4	1338	17.7
Davos	5.4	0.8	1684	3.2
Stockholm	8.5	6.4	1113	6.9
Würzburg	10.0	3.0	1230	9.0



## Appendix C: Annual performance prediction for Swiss locations <sup>\*)</sup>

<sup>\*)</sup> Performance prediction according to SPF-internal guidelines.

The solar radiation indicated in the table specifies the received energy of solar radiation in the collector plane over one year.  $Q_L$  is the heat delivered by the solar heating system (load) if applicable minus the supplementary energy.

Climate data and locations	Rapperswil <sup>2</sup>	Davos <sup>2</sup>	Sion <sup>2</sup>
Latitude	47.2 N	46.8 N	47.2 N
Solar radiation [ $\text{kWh m}^{-2} \text{a}^{-1}$ ]	1200	1710	1570
Ambient air temperature [ $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ]	9.6	3.3	9.6
Daily heat demand [ $\text{kWh/d}$ ]	$Q_L$ [ $\text{kWh/a}$ ]	$Q_L$ [ $\text{kWh/a}$ ]	$Q_L$ [ $\text{kWh/a}$ ]
5	1141	1452	1423
7	1432	1824	1829
10	1735	2192	2265

SPF reference conditions for the annual performance prediction

Collector tilt angle	Latitude
Collector orientation	South
Draw-off flow rate	10 $\text{dm}^3/\text{min}$
1. Hot water withdrawal (fraction, Time of day)	15%, 07:00
2. Hot water withdrawal (fraction, Time of day)	15%, 08:00
3. Hot water withdrawal (fraction, Time of day)	10%, 11:00
4. Hot water withdrawal (fraction, Time of day)	10%, 13:00
5. Hot water withdrawal (fraction, Time of day)	12.5%, 16:00
6. Hot water withdrawal (fraction, Time of day)	12.5%, 18:00
7. Hot water withdrawal (fraction, Time of day)	12.5%, 20:00
8. Hot water withdrawal (fraction, Time of day)	12.5%, 22:00
Desired temperature $T_D$ (if the temperature exceeds $45^{\circ}$ , cold water will be mixed to reach $T_D$ .)	$50^{\circ}\text{C}$
Cold water supply temperature	$10^{\circ}\text{C}$
Store ambient temperature For systems where the store is located outside, the ambient temperature from the climate data shall be used.	$15^{\circ}\text{C}$
Temperature of integrated auxiliary heating	$52.5^{\circ}\text{C}$

### Differences of the SPF reference conditions for the annual performance prediction to the reference conditions of EN12976

Location	Deflection to the Standard
Rapperswil, Davos, Sion	Negative load was considered (Option SkipNegativLoad: Off)
Rapperswil, Davos, Sion	Desired hot water temperature $T_D$ is $50^{\circ}\text{C}$

<sup>2</sup> The weather data was generated with the program Meteororm 3.0. Meteorological database for solar energy use - Edition '97, 3.9.1997, CH-3012 Bern, office@meteotest.ch