

Connector

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Solar Panel Connectors; Made In America

The sun is not a renewable energy source, but it will last longer than oil reserves. So, attention is once again turning toward solar power and how to make its components less expensive and more efficient. Die-Tech engineers have been working closely with their customers to develop connectors for the solar energy market.

Connectors, at first glance, do not appear to dramatically rely on high technology. "Wrong," says Jim Riddle, Business Development Engineer at Die-Tech. Riddle just returned from the Solar Power International Conference in San Diego. "We are not talking of the simple television or hi-fi connector, but of a much more sophisticated product that will be used in powerful and environmentally friendly solar panels."

The newest generation of solar panels will feature extended length cables that can eliminate home-run wiring, new clickable connectors that make hook-ups between panels quick and reliable, and low-voltage configurations that enable the most cost effective commercial-scale installations.

"Die-Tech's customers are designing panels that are the most powerful to date, with the tightest tolerances in the industry," Riddle explains. "Die-Tech engineers team with the customer's engineering staff to fully understand what is required for a particular applica-



tion, and then help develop product that is less expensive and has better electrical connectivity."

"What our customers find vital to their success is the engineering support we bring to their planning table. Die-Tech's customers lead the industry in environmental credentials with the smallest carbon footprint, and the quickest energy pay-back available today. And they expect our stamped connectors to perform to their rigorous standards," notes Riddle.

"And this is what we do best -- working side by side with our customers on non-standard applications," adds Riddle.

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