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# SOLAR EUROPE

Newsletter of the Solar Energy Programme of the European Communities  
 Issued by the Directorate-General XII for Research, Science and Education

## *Changes in the European Communities*

At the beginning of 1981 Greece became a new member of the European Communities. As a consequence, the number of stars surrounding the sun in our Newsletter sign was increased from 9 to 10.

Furthermore, under its President Mr. Thorn, 14 newly appointed Commissioners took up responsibility in Brussels.

The Solar Energy R & D Programme is maintained as before at DG XII with Director General Dr. Günter Schuster and the Energy R + D Division Head Dr. Albert Strub.

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## **European Currency Unit (ECU)**

Equivalent in European currencies as at February 1981

Belgium and Luxembourg	F	41.67
Germany, F.R.	DM	2.59
Netherlands	Fl.	2.81
United Kingdom	L	0.52
Denmark	Kr.	7.99
France	F	5.99
Italy	L	1231
Ireland	L	0.69
US	\$	1.23

## **EC completes world's first large-scale solar tower plant in Sicily**

The European Community has completed the installation of the world's first 1 megawatt solar power plant, EURELIOS, at Adrano, Sicily, designed to deliver electrical power into the grid of ENEL.

EURELIOS will be brought to power within the next eight months. Similar plants are still under construction in Spain, France, Japan and the United States.

Half the cost of EURELIOS were borne by the European Community as part of its solar energy R & D programme. The other half comes from Italy, France and the Federal Republic of Germany.

Design and construction work has been performed by an industrial consortium consisting of Ansaldo Meccanica Nucleare and Ente Nazionale per l'Energia Elettrica (Italy), CETHEL (France), and Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm (Germany). General Technology Systems (London) act as management consultants to the Commission.

The plant is of the tower type: 182 large mirrors (heliostats) reflect the sun's heat into a receiver, in which steam is generated to drive a turbine. First tests have been successfully carried out.

The photo below shows Eurelios as it was in December 1980.

### Technical data of Eurelios

Nominal rating 1 MW <sub>(el)</sub>	Heliostats 112 × 23 m <sup>2</sup> mirror (MBB) 70 × 52 m <sup>2</sup> mirror (CETHEL)
Thermal power 4.8 MW	Steam 512°C, 64 ata
Total mirror surface 6216 m <sup>2</sup>	Tower height 55 m
Heat storage: 1/2 hour (molten salt + hot water)	

