ASI® Glass

Integrated Architecture
Powered by the Sun

SCHOTT
solar

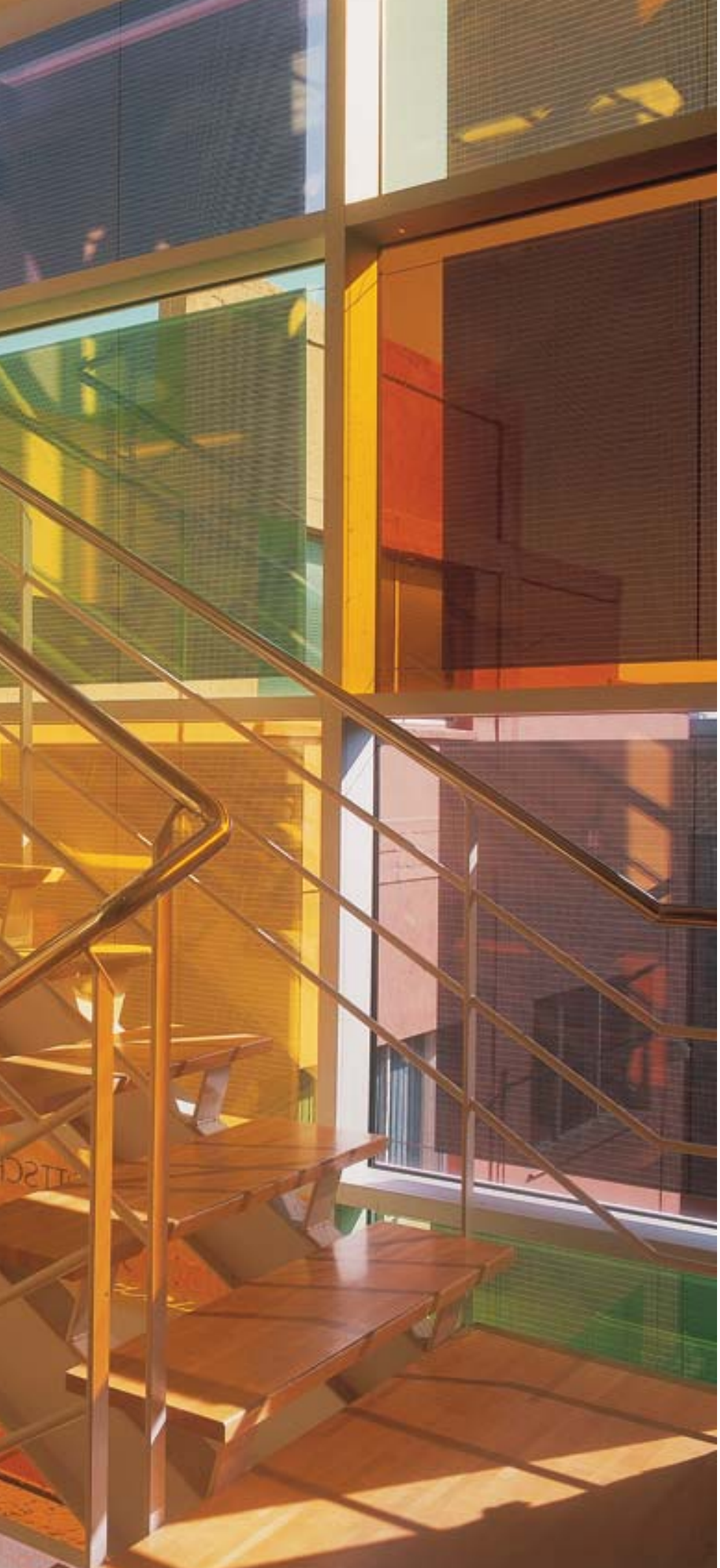
BIPV – Building Integrated Photovoltaics with ASI® Glass

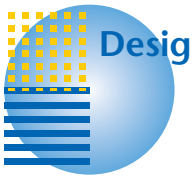
All the benefits of glass plus integrated solar power

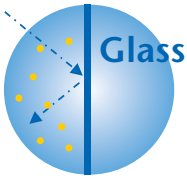
Whether a facade or a roof, today's building envelope fulfills multiple purposes.
Along with its conventional roles of providing privacy and protection from rain and noise, additional factors are becoming increasingly important, such as thermal insulation and shading. All of these requirements are addressed by the shell of the building.

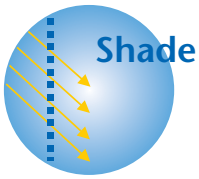
Today, building integrated photovoltaic systems are able to provide all of these functions plus solar electricity.

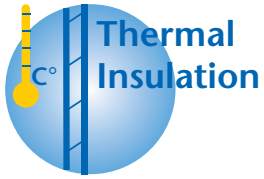
- Solar electricity generation
- Light management
- Comfort
- Effective shading
- Glare protection
- Thermal management
- Innovative architecture
- Cost savings by combining and integrating several functions




Design


Glass


Shade

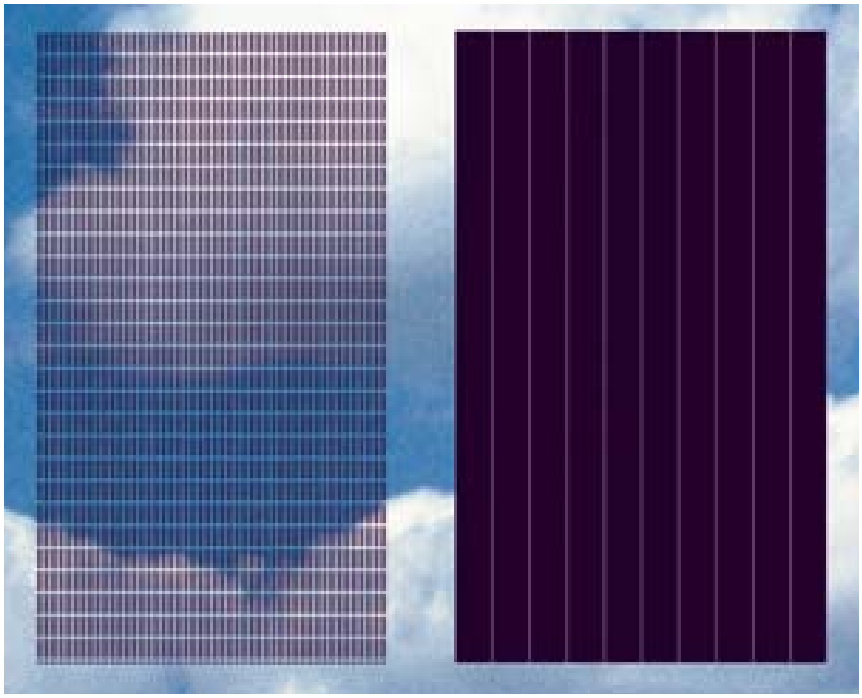

C°
Thermal
Insulation


Solar
Electricity

Design options with ASI® Glass

Integrated solar modules from transparent to opaque

ASI® Glass elements are available in various design options. Depending on the application and the desired architectural appearance, this flexibility always allows the designer to optimize the integration of solar panels into the building.



ASI THRU® *ASI OPAK®*

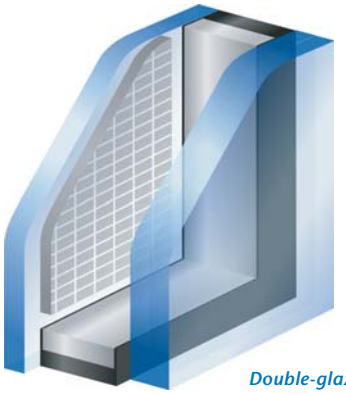
ASI THRU® is a semi-transparent module with a see-through effect. It is available in laminated form or as double-glazed units.
ASI OPAK® is the technology for homogeneous facade surfaces, where no vision is required.

Engineering with ASI® Glass

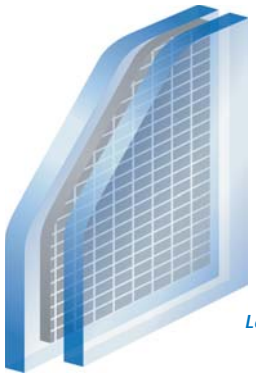
Effective with conventional glazing systems

There are special solar cell encapsulations available for every application, for example, laminated glass for overhead applications. Used horizontally or vertically, ASI® Glass solar modules fulfill the requirements of the construction industry and can be used with almost all conventional framing systems. Static load requirements can be met by changing the type and thickness of the glass panes.
The encapsulation of ASI® solar cells in laminated or double-glazed constructions makes use of proven technology and manufacturing methods.

In addition to a large number of standard types and sizes, customized solutions can also be provided. Please contact us for additional information.

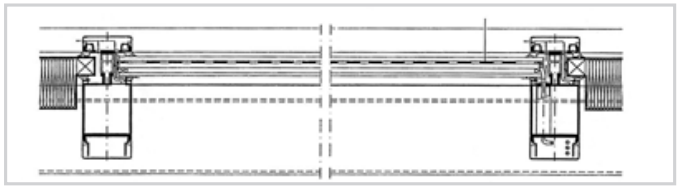


Double-glazing



Laminate

Glass laminates and double-glazed units incorporating ASI® solar panels are compatible with commercially available metal profile systems.



Cables are within the framing system

Canopy

Insulated roof glazing

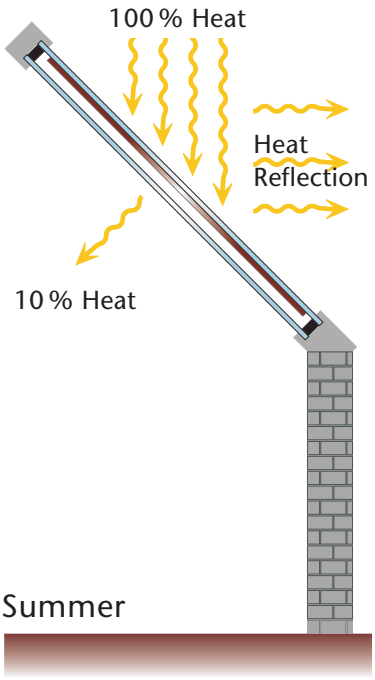
Louvers

Opaque cladding

Insulated facade

Integrated roof panels

Solar control and shading with ASI® Glass



Minimizing heat gain in summer

In order to reduce the influx of thermal energy during the summer months, the glazing must be provided with some sort of sun shielding. This may be accomplished by additional coatings on the glass, the roller blinds or venetian blinds. The energy transmission of the entire solar spectrum is determined by the g-value – the smaller the g-value, the more effective the shielding.

In the table below various sun shielding techniques are compared with ASI THRU® in double-glazing elements.

Solar Heat Gain Coefficient (SHGC) comparison of different glazing and shading systems with ASI THRU® double-glazed units

	SHGC (g-value)
GLAZING	
Single glass pane	~80 %
Double-glazed with uncoated glass	~80 %
Double-glazed with solar control coating	30 - 70 %
ASI THRU® double-glazed unit	**10 %**
SHADING SYSTEMS	
External Venetian blind (white)*	12 %
External fabric canopy*	9 %
Internal roller blind (white)*	40 %

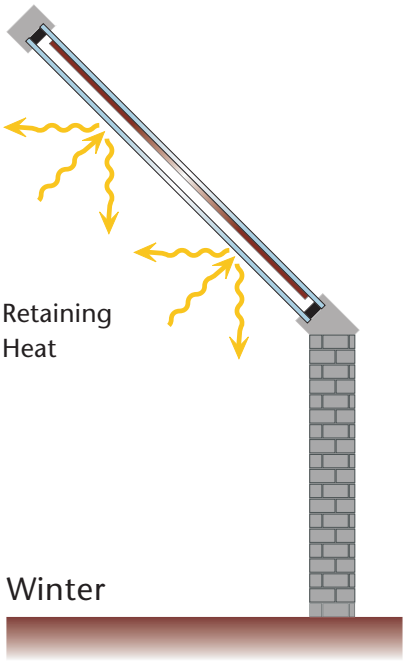
** at values in combination with double-glazed windows with a SHGC = 61 % and a U-value of 1.4 W/m²K (0.24 Btu/hr ft²F)*

Picture on the left side by courtesy of WIBATEC GmbH
Picture on the right side: Primary school Markgrafenstrasse, Munich. By courtesy of building authority of Munich

Building insulation with ASI® Glass

Minimizing thermal loss in winter

The U-value refers to the thermal insulation effect of the building; it is the coefficient of heat transmission for the materials that comprise the building shell. The glazing must serve two purposes: it must be transparent to sunlight, but insulate from thermal radiation. Modern glass coatings (low-e coatings) facilitate the separation of the shorter wavelength sunlight from the longer wavelength thermal radiation. In the table below U-values of various glazing systems are compared to those of ASI THRU® double-glazing. The photovoltaic ASI THRU® double-glazed elements reach low U-values comparable with high-quality conventional double-glazing; hence they are suitable for large areas of glazing without sacrificing any loss in thermal comfort during the winter and, most importantly, with the additional benefit of generating electricity.



Comparison of the heat transmittance values of ASI THRU® double-glazed units to other glazing configurations

	U-Value (EN673)	US Standard
Single glass pane or laminated glass	5-6 W/m² K	0.88-1.1 Btu/hr ft² F
Double-glazed unit without low-e coating	2.7 W/m² K	0.48 Btu/hr ft² F
Double-glazed unit with low-e coating	1.2 W/m² K	0.21 Btu/hr ft2 F
ASI THRU® double-glazed unit	**1.2 W/m² K**	**0.21 Btu/hr ft² F**

Kulturhaus Milbertshofen, Munich. By courtesy of building authority of Munich

The ASI® solar cell technology

Optimized for building integration

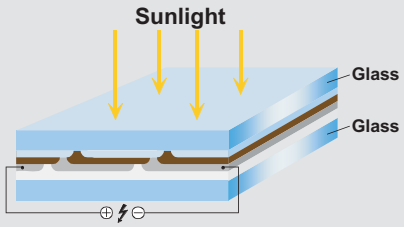
The ASI® semiconductor converts sunlight directly into electrical power. It is applied in very thin layers (<1 µm) on glass, so only one gram of semiconductor material is needed per square meter (~11 square feet) of modular surface. The semiconductor material consists of 99 % silicon, derived from quartz sand. The ASI® semiconductor is free of heavy metals such as cadmium.

Why ASI® modules for building integration?
In addition to their homogeneous surfaces, thin film solar modules based on amorphous silicon have decisive advantages for building integration compared with crystalline silicon and other thin-film technologies.

- Reliable power output even at low light levels down to 10 % of full sun - a typical light condition on overcast days or caused by shading from neighboring buildings.
- The very small temperature coefficient of the power output guarantees almost full power at higher cell temperatures, as typically encountered with building integration.

The performance at low light levels or high cell temperatures leads to significantly higher energy yields during the course of a year. This has been proven by independent studies (copies of these studies are available on request).

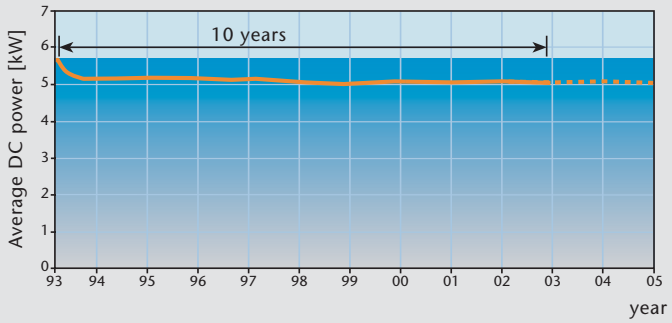
ASI® Thin Film Solar Cell - How it works



The ASI® Solar Cell is made of amorphous silicon. The sunlight frees electrons in the semiconductor layer. Each strip is one solar cell. The cells are connected by laser line bridges.

Our formula for success: Yield = life span x performance

ASI® solar modules – stable energy yield and long lifetime



In 1993 the Bavarian Ministry of Environment installed one of the first ASI OPAK® facades. Ten years later, in 2003 the building was fully renovated. The ASI OPAK facade is still in place. Measurements of the solar facade, conducted by an independent research institute, show the long term stability offered by ASI® technology. The graph shows the average DC power output over the course of the last 10 years.

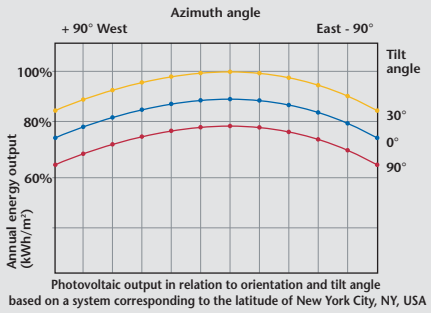
Solar electricity

Using the building envelope for grid connected local electricity generation

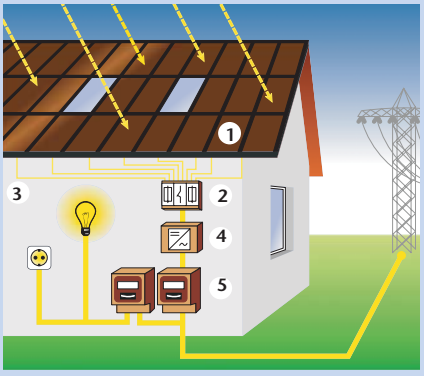
Photovoltaic technology, allows for direct conversion of solar energy into electricity and is, by definition, a worldwide concept. However it also provides a very localized solution through the use of modular panels to provide solar electricity for individual buildings.

The nominal electrical power of solar modules is rated according to Standard Test Conditions. This value is usually given in Watt peak (Wp). The energy yield during the course of a year depends on the location and orientation (azimuth angle and tilt angle) of the photovoltaic elements. The graph shows the principle energy yield depending on the azimuth angle and tilt angle of the module based on a system in New York City, NY (USA). The actual energy yield may depend upon the local situation, such as shading influences of neighboring buildings.

The photovoltaic module panels on the roof or façade of a building produce DC, which is then converted into grid compliant AC by means of an inverter. In this way the solar electricity can be used in the most efficient and economical way. Usually the total solar energy generated is supplied into the public grid system in return for monetary remuneration.



Photovoltaic output in relation to orientation and tilt angle based on a system corresponding to the latitude of New York City, NY, USA

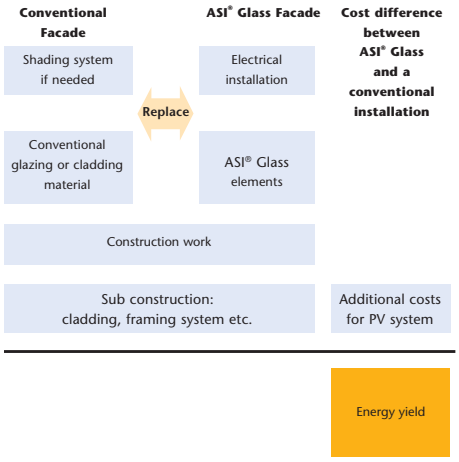


A grid-connected PV system is usually built with the following components:

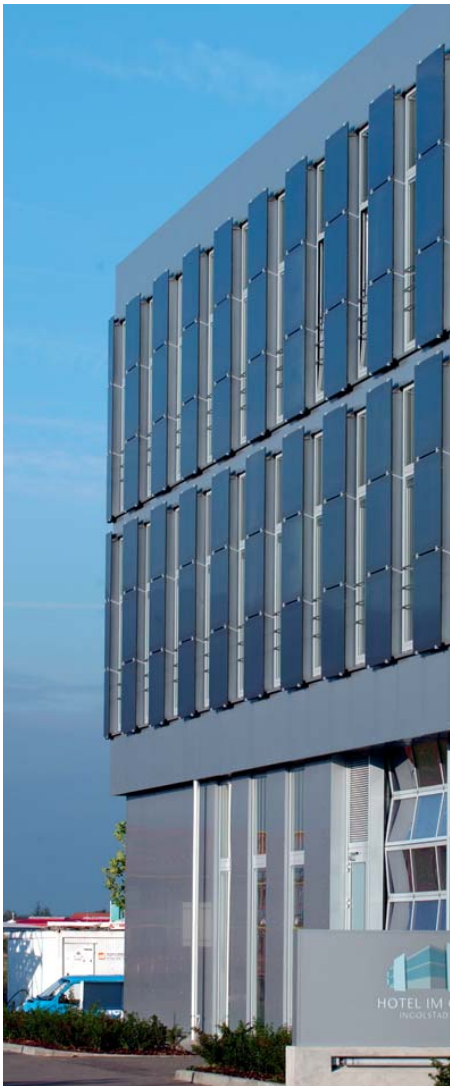
1: Solar modules
2: Combiner box
3: Cabling
4: Inverter
5: Meter

Cost Savings with ASI® Glass

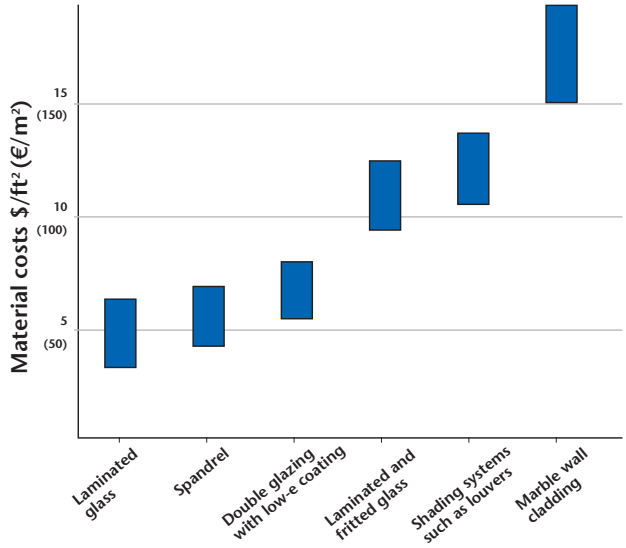
Comparison with conventional glazing systems



Besides generating electricity, ASI® Glass elements fulfill different functions such as the glazing or shading of a building envelope. The costs for these construction materials are eliminated when ASI® Glass elements are used. Subtracting the savings on the conventional construction material from the overall costs for the ASI® Glass photovoltaic system, results in the actual costs for the photovoltaic system.



Average costs for different construction materials



The figure shows budget prices for conventional glazing or cladding materials and shading systems. These materials could be replaced by the ASI® Glass elements.

All pictures on this page: GVZ Ingolstadt. By courtesy of IFG Ingolstadt

About SCHOTT Solar

SCHOTT is an international technology group that sees its core purpose as the lasting improvement of living and working conditions. For this purpose special materials, components and systems are developed. The main areas of focus are the household appliances industry, optics and opto-electronics, pharmaceuticals, solar energy and integral architecture solutions. The SCHOTT Group has approximately 16,800 employees producing worldwide sales of 2.23 billion euros. SCHOTT Solar GmbH is one of the leading manufacturers of photovoltaic products worldwide. Such products include crystalline silicon wafers, solar cells and modules, as well as thin-film solar cells and special modules based on amorphous silicon (ASI®).

SCHOTT and solar architecture

Large scale architectural façades lend themselves to the use of integrated photovoltaics and our custom sizes are often used in combination with other elements such as laminated safety glass or insulation units. Working with highly specialized glass processing facilities SCHOTT produce photovoltaic solutions to meet the specific technical and aesthetic requirements of individual building projects.
For example the panels themselves can be styled using decorative colored glasses from SCHOTT's IMERA® colored glass line, or processed with the same anti-reflective coating used for SCHOTT's AMIRAN® anti-reflective glass. The worldwide network of SCHOTT facilities provides local support for any given project and an efficient service from manufacture to site.

All pictures on this page: Stillwell Avenue Terminal, New York. By courtesy of MTA New York

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