Verification Report SolarChill B for domestic and "light" commercial use series

DTI Refrigeration and Heat Pump Technology J.no. 1101 Test no. 1 – Type-test







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2. Introduction

Environmental technology verification (ETV) is an independent (third party) assessment of the performance of a technology or a product for a specified application, under defined conditions and quality assurance.

DANETV is a Danish center for verification of environmental technology.

The verification is conducted under the verification protocol for the specific technology tested in accordance with the test plan.

2.1. Name of product

The product is the SolarChill B for domestic and "light" commercial use series

2.2. Name and contact of vendor

SolarChill Project Coordinator, Mr. János Maté

Contact: 5106 Walden St., Vancouver, BC., Canada V5W 2V7 Phone: +1-604-327-0943, E-mail: jmate@telus.net

2.3. Name of centre/verification responsible

Danish Technological Institute ,Verification Center, Refrigeration and Heat Pump Technology, building 2, Gregersensvej, DK-2630, Taastrup, Denmark.

Verification responsible:	Emil Jacobsen (EMJA), e-mail: emil.jacobsen@teknologisk.dk, phone: +45 7220 2323
Internal reviewer:	Bjarke Paaske, e-mail: bjarke.paaske@teknologisk.dk, Phone: +45 7220 2037

2.4. Verification and test organization

The verification was conducted by Danish Technological Institute. The test organization is shown in Figure 1.

The verification was planned and conducted to satisfy the requirements of the ETV scheme currently being established by the European Union (EU ETV).

Verification and tests was performed by Danish Technological Institute under DANETV under contract with Danfoss A/S.

The day to day operations of the verification and tests was coordinated and supervised by TI personnel, with the participation of the vendor.

The Subbody at TI test centre performed all testing during the verification.







Figure 1 Verification organization

Table 1 Re	esponsible	personnel in	test org	anization
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Unit in test organization	Responsible
DTI Dan ETV steering committee member	Lars Jøker
DTI organization management Life science division	Claus S. Poulsen
DTI Life science division Test Centre, Verification subbody	Emil Jacobsen
DTI Life science division Test Centre, Test subbody	Bjarke Paaske





2.5. Expert group

The expert group assigned to this verification and responsible for review of the verification plan and report documents includes:

Preben Munter (PM), SEAS-NVE, phone +45 7029 2457, e-mail pm@seas-nve.dk

2.6. Verification process

Verification and tests were conducted in two separate steps, by the Verification sub body and the Test sub-body respectively.

The verification sub-body is responsible for preparation and compilation of the Verification protocol and the Verification report.

The Test sub-body is responsible for the test plan and the test report.

A DANETV verification is issued after completion of the verification report.

The steps in the verification are shown in Figure 2.



Figure 2 - Verification steps

3. Description of the technology

The following technology description is based on the workings of an existing prototype. This description might not be applicable to future models, but is intended to give the reader a basic idea of how the concept of SolarChill B solar powered refrigerators without battery storage work.

The SolarChill B refrigerator series provides cooling by the means of a DC compressor powered by an external PV array. The cooling cycle is a Rankine vapor-compression refrigeration cycle with a natural refrigerant, isobutane (R600a), as working fluid.

The PV array consists of 3 x 60 W modules providing 12 V DC, which can be directly connected to the compressor.





The compressor is equipped with an electronic control with a build-in adaptive speed control known as Adaptive Energy Optimizer – AEO. Thereby the compressor will stepwise speed up from low speed to maximum speed in increments of 12.5 RPM/min. If the power from the PV array is not sufficient the compressor will stop, thereafter it will try to start every minute until the power is sufficient again. The compressor also has a "soft-start" feature, thus requiring a low starting current. The speed range of the compressor is 2000 - 3500 PRM. The compressor is thus enabled to deliver a varying cooling capacity that accordingly utilizes most of the energy potential collected by PV array. The characteristics of the PV array and the implementation of the adaptive speed control ensures that power from the PV array is delivered at the maximum power point (MPP).

When there is no or negligible solar radiation during overcast days or during the nighttime the cooling demand is met by means of convection from a thermal energy storage that consists of ice. The cooling capacity of the refrigerator is principally dictated by the amount of solar radiation being converted into power delivered to the compressor. When the compressors instantaneous cooling capacity exceeds the cooling demand, energy is stored in the thermal energy storage, as ice, for later use. Accordingly, when the cooling demand is higher than the compressors cooling capacity, or when the compressor is turned off, additional cooling capacity is released from the thermal energy storage.



"Solar Chill B.1.b": Tests @ 32°C Power Supply (230 V ac): 8 hours ON - 16 hours OFF - etc.

Figure 3 Initial lab test of a SolarChill upright prototype at 32°C ambient temperature. The temperature inside the compartment is between 2.5 and 7.5°C. The compartment contained 10 kg of test packages.





The temperature inside the refrigerator compartment is regulated by a mechanical thermostat with a sensor inside the cabinet. The thermostat can be set by the user. When the temperature gets to cold inside the compartment the compressor is stopped by the thermostat and vice versa.

4. Description of the product

The SolarChill B refrigerator series is characterized by appliances having well insulated cabinets with internal ice storage, and solar powered DC compressors without battery backup. The compressors are filled with a natural refrigerant. The ice storage is placed close to the evaporator, and has the function of a thermal energy storage.

At the moment the SolarChill B refrigerator series consists of a lineup of two different models, an upright type and a chest type, with the possibility of more to come in the future.

The main specifications of the existing models are as follows:

Compressor	
Make and model:	Danfoss BD35F
Refrigerant:	R600a (isobutane)
Refrigerant charge:	48 – 60 gr.
Speed range:	2000 – 3500 RPM
Operating voltage:	12 – 24 DC
Starting current:	< 3 A
Displacement:	3 cm^3
Electronic control	
Make and model:	Danfoss AEO
Operating voltage:	10–45 V
Cabinet (chest type, 160	l)
Cabinet (chest type, 160 Insulation:	l) 100 mm
Insulation:	100 mm
Insulation: Dimensions:	100 mm 850 x 720 x 600 x mm
Insulation: Dimensions: Ice storage:	100 mm 850 x 720 x 600 x mm 17.5 kg
Insulation: Dimensions: Ice storage: Condenser:	100 mm 850 x 720 x 600 x mm 17.5 kg
Insulation: Dimensions: Ice storage: Condenser: Evaporator: Cabinet (upright type, 2	100 mm 850 x 720 x 600 x mm 17.5 kg Extrnal fin and tube
Insulation: Dimensions: Ice storage: Condenser: Evaporator:	100 mm 850 x 720 x 600 x mm 17.5 kg Extrnal fin and tube 00 l) PUR, 80 mm
Insulation: Dimensions: Ice storage: Condenser: Evaporator: Cabinet (upright type, 2	100 mm 850 x 720 x 600 x mm 17.5 kg Extrnal fin and tube 00 l)
Insulation: Dimensions: Ice storage: Condenser: Evaporator: Cabinet (upright type, 2 Insulation:	100 mm 850 x 720 x 600 x mm 17.5 kg Extrnal fin and tube 00 l) PUR, 80 mm

Evaporator:

Roll-bond type





5. Application and performance parameter definitions

5.1. Matrix/matrices

The matrix is the type of material the product is intended for

- Food and drinks.

5.2. Target(s)

A target is defined as the property affected by the product

The target of the product is:

- Adequate cooling of refrigerated products using solar power only.

5.3. Effects

The effects are described as the way the target is affected

The effect of this application is primarily:

- Refrigeration of products without external power supply or batteries.

Secondarily the application will:

- Improve food safety and food hygiene in developing countries.
- Provide refrigeration technology to people with a need or wish to refrigerate food or drinks in parts of the world with no or unreliable electricity supply.
- Provide a more reliable, safer and cleaner form of refrigeration than kerosene refrigerators.
- Provide a refrigeration technology that is environmentally friendly as it does not use any ozone depleting or potent global warming substances.
- Improve on existing solar powered cooling technologies by bypassing the use of conventional lead batteries which have proven to be a major obstacle to the uptake of solar technology in developing countries.





5.4. Performance parameters for verification

The ranges of performance relevant for the application, as derived in Appendix 3, are presented below. These ranges are used for planning the verification and testing only.

Concerning the performance of the PV array the following parameter is measured at different irradiation levels:

- UI-curve

Concerning energy use of the refrigerator the following parameters must be measured:

- Current
- Voltage

Other performance parameters that are measured include:

- Temperature in test packages
- Temperature in climate chamber
- Humidity in climate chamber

All parameters are measured every minute and with a tolerance according to ISO 15502.

5.5. Additional parameters

Besides the performance parameters that are part of test result, compilation of parameters describing, and occupational health & safety issues of the product and user manual were evaluated as part of the verification.

6. Existing data

6.1. Summary of existing data

Previously tests of both the current SolarChill B prototypes refrigerators have been conducted. These tests primarily had the aim of final development and adjusting of the prototypes.

The SolarChill B upright prototype was tested in a climate chamber at a 25°C ambient temperature at DTI in Aarhus primo 2004. The compressor was powered by an external power supply simulating a PV array. The cabinet was filled with 10 kg of test packs and the temperature measured inside 3 of the test packs. The main test results from this test are shown in Figure 4, and show that the achievable temperature is adequate for food storage.







Figure 4 The main test results from the upright prototype tested primo 2004

Similarly a test has been conducted on the SolarChill chest prototype at 30°C ambient temperature, and has again shown the great potential of solar powered refrigerators.

6.2. Quality of existing data

Documentation of previous experiments exists, but the experiments were not intended as an actual type-test, but more a final development and adjusting of the prototypes and a suggestion to a future type-test.

6.3. Accepted existing data

Data from previous experiments is not usable for this verification process.





7. Test plan requirements

7.1. Test design

The type-test is based on existing standard WHO/PQS/E03/RF05-VP.2 (20.05.2010), which is a standard for testing solar powered refrigerators and water-pack freezers without battery storage. The standard deal with performance, quality and safety, and includes tests for evidence of conformity, power consumption, day/night test, and the like.

As the above mentioned standard has been developed for verifying the performance vaccine coolers some alterations to the temperature requirements, test packages, and packing plan have been made. Changes to temperature are based on the existing European Standard EN ISO 15502 clause 6, changes to the test packages are made in accordance with clause 8.5, and changes to the packing plan are made in accordance with clause 13.3.

These alterations have been made to ensure the verification of proper food safety and hygiene, and relevance to the intended use of the product, which is refrigeration of perishable foods and drinks. EN ISO 15502 is a standard test of characteristics for household refrigerating cabinets.

Furthermore, to give a better idea of how the refrigerator will perform in an actual setting only being powered by a PV array, the voltage and current supplied from the PV array will be measured at the maximum power point at different solar radiation levels according to a solar radiation reference period. The measured voltage and current will then be the values used when the refrigerator is supplied by an external power supply during different performance related tests carried out in a climate chamber. Establishing the actual performance characteristics of the PV array prior to the tests in the climate chamber ensures that vendor claims are verified and that tests between different models and makes are comparable.

The solar reference periods used during the test of the PV array and the refrigerator performance tests is based on existing standard IEC 62124, which is a standard PV system design verification.

7.2. Reference analysis

No references are used for this verification process.

7.3. Data management

Data storage, transfer and control must be done in accordance with the requirements of the ETV Quality manual enabling full control and retrieval of documents and records.

7.4. Quality assurance

The quality assurance of the tests includes control of the test system and control of the data quality and integrity.

The test plan and the test report were subjected to review by the review group, see Figure 2.





7.5. Test report

The test report follows the template of the TI Verification Centre Quality Manual /2/ with data and records from the tests presented.





8. Evaluation

8.1. Performance parameter summary

Test 1 - Type-examination

Identification	
Model	MK 204 multizone
Manufacturer	Vestfrost
Product type	Refrigerator
Country of origen	Denmark
Conformity assesment markings	N/A
Temperature rating	32°C
Interface requirements	OK
Terminals marked with polarity	ОК
No specials tools required	ОК
Terminals and connections isolated	ОК
Materials	
Natural refrigerant	ОК
Foaming agent	OK
Heavy metals, PBDE, etc.	ОК
	UK
Instructions	
Installation	ОК
Guidelines for food storage and hygiene	Not OK
Maintenance tasks	ОК
Preventative maintenance checks	ОК
List of spare parts	ОК
Ressource and recycling procedures	ОК
Test 2 – PV performance test results	

Radiation level [w/m2]	100	500	700
U [V]	10,89	13,93	13,69
I [A]	0,93	5,68	7,94





Test 3 - Stable running test

Målepunkter

malepulliter	
	12-04-2011
Start	15:33
	13-04-2011
Stop	15:38
Duration	24:05 [HH.MM]
Ave. ambient temperature [°C]	32,1
M-packages	
Ave. Top [°C]	4,9
Ave. bottom [°C]	3,6
Min. temp. [°C]	0,5
Max. temp. [°C]	8

Test 4 – Holdover time

21 hrs. 53 min.

Test 5 – Half reload

6 hrs. 45 min.

It is concluded that the SolarChill B refirgerator:

- Provides aadequate cooling of refrigerated products using solar power only with no battery storage.
- Conforms with all tested requirements, except instructions for users on how to store food and ensure hygiene

Evaluation of test data quality

The data quality is evaluated to be at scientific level using measuring equipment with high accuracy, thorough quality assurance procedures and adequate running-in periods.

8.1.1. Control data

The procedure of data processing is repeated independently once by the test sub-body and once by the internal reviewer. This provides three independent results that are matched in order to secure correct results.

8.1.2. Audits

No audits were performed.

8.1.3. Deviations

The were no deviations from the test plan





8.1.4. User manual

The manuals for use and technical manuals for the SolarChill B refrigerator were read thoroughly and the description of the following topics was found sufficient:

- Operation of the system
- Installation
- Troubleshooting
- Occupational health and safety issues
- Service and maintenance
- Surveillance of the installation

8.1.5. Occupational health and environment

The use of this product does not imply special health, safety or waste issues.





Recommendations for verification statement

It is recommended to issue a verification statement for SolarChill B refrigerators stating that the product is suitable and provides adequate cooling of refrigerated products using solar power only with no battery storage. However, it is important to notice that the product conforms with all tested requirements, except instructions for users on how to store food and ensure hygiene

Only one temperature rating and reference period was tested.

Therefore the following liability exclusions should be included in the verifications statement.

9. Liability exclusion

ETV verifications are based on an evaluation of technology performance under specific, predetermined operational conditions and parameters and the appropriate quality assurance procedures. DTI makes no expressed or implied warranties as to the performance of the technology and do not certify that the technology will always operate as verified. The end user is solely responsible for complying with any applicable regulatory requirements.

10. Quality assurance

The test protocol, test plan, test report and verification report was reviewed by internal and external experts according to the Quality plan for the verification, see table 4.

Table 4 QA p	olan for the	verification
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Reviewers	TI	Experts
Plan document with application definition, verification protocol and test plan	EMJA	РМ
Report document with test report and verification report	EMJA	РМ

Reviews were done using the TI review report template.





Appendix 1 Terms and definitions used in the verification protocol

Terms and definitions used in the protocol are explained in table 1:

Table 1 - Terms and definitions used by the DANETV test centers

Word	DANETV	Comments on the DANETV approach
Analytical laboratory	Independent analytical laboratory used to analyse test samples	The test center may use an analytical laboratory as subcontractor
Application	The use of a product specified with respect to matrix, target, effect and limitations	The application must be defined with a precision that allows the user of a product verification to judge whether his needs are comparable to the verification conditions
DANETV	Danish center for verification of environmental technologies	None
(DANETV) test center	Preliminary name for the verification bodies in DANETV with a verification and a test sub- body	Name will be changed, when the final nomenclature in the EU ETV has been set.
Effect	The way the target is affected	The effect could be reduced energy consumption, better cooling performance etc.
(Environmental) product	Ready to market or prototype stage product, process, system or service based upon an environmental technology	The product is the item produced and sold and thus the item that a vendor submit for verification
Environmental technology	The practical application of knowledge in the environmental area	The term technology is covering a variety of products, processes, systems and services.
Evaluation	Evaluation of test data for a technology product for performance and data quality	None
Experts	Independent persons qualified on a technology in verification	These experts may be technical experts, QA experts for other ETV systems or regulatory experts





Word	DANETV	Comments on the DANETV approach
Matrix	The type of material that the product is intended for	Matrices could be cooling systems, cabinets, heat exchangers etc.
Method	Generic document that provides rules, guidelines or characteristics for tests or analysis	An in-house method may be used in the absence of a standard, if prepared in compliance with the format and contents required for standards.
Performance claim	The effects foreseen by the vendor on the target (s) in the matrix of intended use	None
Performance parameters	Parameters that can be documented quantitatively in tests and that provide the relevant information on the performance of an environmental technology product	The performance parameters must be established considering the application(s) of the product, the requirements of society (regulations), customers (needs) and vendor claims
Procedure	Detailed description of the use of a standard or a method within one body	The procedure specifies implementing a standard or a method in terms of e.g.: equipment used
Producer	The party producing the product	None
Standard	Generic document established by consensus and approved by a recognized standardization body that provides rules, guidelines or characteristics for tests or analysis	None
Target	The property that is affected by the product	Targets could be temperature [° C], energy [kWh] etc.
Test center, test sub-body	Sub-body of the test center that plans and performs test	None
Test center, verification sub- body	Sub-body of the test center that plans and performs the verification	None
Test/testing	Determination of the performance of a product for parameters defined	None





Word	DANETV	Comments on the DANETV approach
	for the application	
Vendor	The party delivering the product to the customer	Can be the producer
Verification	Evaluation of product performance parameters for a specified application under defined conditions and adequate quality assurance	None





Appendix 3 Application and performance parameter definitions

This appendix defines the application and the relevant performance parameters application as input for verification and test of an environmental technology following the DANETV method.

A3.1 Applications

- A3.1.1 Matrix/matrices
 - Food and drinks
- A3.1.2 Target(s)

The target of the product is:

- Adequate cooling of refrigerated products using solar power only with no battery storage

A3.1.3 Effects

The effect of this application is primarily:

- Refrigeration of products without external power supply or batteries.

Secondarily the application will:

- Improve food safety and food hygiene in developing countries.
- Provide refrigeration technology to people with a need or wish to refrigerate food or drinks in parts of the world with no or unreliable electricity supply.
- Provide a more reliable, safer and cleaner form of refrigeration than kerosene refrigerators.
- Provide a refrigeration technology that is environmentally friendly as it does not use any ozone depleting or potent global warming substances.
- Improve on existing solar powered cooling technologies by bypassing the use of conventional lead batteries which have proven to be a major obstacle to the uptake of solar technology in developing countries.