

AWARD

Solar Developer of the Year | IKEA Canada

NOMINEE

Ryan Monteath | IKEA Canada

Summary:

Set out a brief synopsis of the initiative (i.e. project, technology, service). This summary may be used during the event promotion.

IKEA Canada has a dream: to power its operations with 100% renewable energy by 2020. Lofty and inspiring, this goal sets out to improve the way we disseminate solar across the country; challenging how we look at, build, and support solar in Canada. The concept of solar as a national corporate strategy is one that few companies adopt. IKEA is unique and should be applauded. IKEA's impact on the solar in Canada is enormous; enabling our industry to become more dynamic with the growing understanding of different jurisdictions and geographical landscapes. IKEA's national commitment to solar has and continues to involve the collaborative efforts of many parties throughout the industry, as well as sharing solar industry best practices with the local utilities across Canada. The creditability and leadership of a brand name like IKEA not only grabs the attention of the general public, but also inspires the leaders of other brands to adopt a similar vision. With its retail exposure of millions of patrons per year in Canada, coupled with its solar-specific media releases, IKEA has given the solar industry in Canada the jolt it needs from coast to coast.

Description:

Please provide as much detail as you can to describe the initiative. Simply provide a description of the project, technology, service, etc. being considered. Do not address here how it was done or what it achieved.

The initiative here is simple: install as much renewable energy as it takes to power its stores across Canada. This initiative started in 2011 with the release of the Ontario Feed-In Tarrif (FIT) Program and has spanned into other provinces across Canada since that time. Projects connections include line-side (FIT), load-side (net-metered) and load displacement.

1. Innovative Approach:

25/100 points

Please describe which kind of innovation and creative approach that was used to achieve outstanding results. In what way has the initiative pushed the envelope of current norms, traditional results and standard approaches?

Being a leader in the development of commercial rooftop solar means learning, sharing best practices, and adapting to change along the way. It's important that IKEA has a trusted design-builder to mitigate challenges as they emerge throughout the project. RESCO has played an integral

role in the development of IKEA's Canadian solar portfolio. With over twelve years of experience in the commercial rooftop solar space, RESCo has been able to work with Authorities Having Jurisdiction throughout the county to enable solar to be adopted in those regions.

2. Economic Benefit:

25/100 points

Highlight the benefits, with a sense of financial benefit, cost savings, emission reductions or other directly attributable benefits of the initiative. Did this initiative deliver or exceed anticipated value, results and returns? If you include confidential and commercially sensitive information, it will be treated as such. Please ensure you note the following - do not publicize.

With its eight solar projects spanning across the country, IKEA produces nearly 5GWh of solar electricity per year; enough to power 560 homes.

3. Engagement:

25/100 points

In what way(s) did the nominee undergo meaningful stakeholder/customer engagement and how has it been incorporated into the design and execution of the initiative? Highlight the manner in which the initiative was communicated to promote the importance and benefits of solar energy while achieving business and stakeholder/client objectives. Demonstrate how the proponent listened to its audience and acted on the advice.

Prior to any deployment of a solar project on any store, IKEA (with the help of RESCo) ensures that each store manager (and other employees/stakeholders) understand all aspects of the initiative. This is an important step in the process as allows for questions to be answered and increases positive employee engagement and participation with the project. As an example, the store manager may have suggestions or requests that may influence the project. These suggestions are taken very seriously as their knowledge of the intricate workings of the store are invaluable. IKEA and RESCo ensure that requests made by the store manager are implemented into the design and/or development phase of the project wherever possible.

4. Corporate and Sustainable Responsibility:

25/100 points

Describe the environmentally conscientious approach during the design and execution of the initiative. Give concrete examples of how your initiative has benefited the environment (ex: saved X amount of CO2 emissions, reduced X amount of GHG, etc.) Explain the ways and manners by which this initiative was undertaken with the intent of demonstrating true corporate responsibility.

With over seven years of solar exposure, IKEA looks at its existing and new infrastructure with solar sights in mind. Despite the enormous impact it has had in Canada already, IKEA is always seeking out more opportunities to build on its solar portfolio and inch closer to its RE100 goals; a commitment made to produce as much renewable energy as it consumes by 2020. As a result of its effort to date, IKEA produces nearly 5GWh of solar electricity per year; enough to power 560 homes.

PHOTOS



Continued on the next page.





