

Trans-theft of solar photovoltaic panels

Could a rise in solar panel theft be a repercussion of energy crisis?

One unexpected repercussion of the energy crisis is a rise in solar panel theft. Police in Germany have warned of a surge in module and inverter theft, and solar farms in the UK face similar risks, writes Rachael Oakley, Head of Crime Intelligence at DeterTech, a security provider.

Is solar theft a problem in the UK?

Rural theft has long been an issue in the UK. It is a sinister practice, with repercussions that are as much emotional as they are commercial. After all, for a small farm, solar panels are a huge investment. Not only that, but if solar theft is not brought under control, it will delay the country from reaching its net zero goals.

Are solar panels causing a rise in solar crime?

A rise in solar crime means eco-conscious homeowners and farmers who have diversified into renewables should check their security and insurance. The warning comes after police figures revealed a 48 per cent rise in solar panel and cabling theft from 2021 to 2022.

Are solar panels stolen?

By way of example, in August, solar panels worth approximately £10,500 were stolen from an energy farm in Northamptonshire. Solar panel theft is not limited to large scale and commercial solar farms either - homes in remote areas are also vulnerable, with thieves reportedly swiping panels from people's roofs. Why?

How much does a solar theft cost?

Strecke says European solar thefts typically cause EUR60,000 (\$63,900) of damage, when repairs and loss of business are factored in. "Solar crime is on the increase," says Rachael Oakley, director of crime intelligence at Telford-based DeterTech, formally known as SmartWater Group thanks to its product-marking technology.

What if solar theft is not brought under control?

Not only that, but if solar theft is not brought under control, it will delay the country from reaching its net zero goals. With nights growing darker earlier from October, the risk of theft increases, so action must be taken around this issue, and fast.

Calculating solar panel output is crucial for anyone considering a switch to solar energy, but it's not as straightforward as you might think. While solar panels come with a rated power (e.g., 300W or 400W), this doesn't ...

This approach can be a cost-effective way to protect solar panel systems and deter criminal activity. 2. Physical barriers Like other valuable assets, solar panels must be protected from theft and vandalism as much as possible. ...

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Keep Panels Clean. Regular maintenance and cleaning of solar panels are essential to ensure optimal performance and longevity, reducing the risk of damage and degradation of renewable ...

RCG009 - Photovoltaic Panels - v5 7. Install by-pass diodes (optimiser) to isolate PV panels on fault and to continue operation of PV panels in series with it. This prevents hot spots whilst ...

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The addition of anti-theft solar mounting PV panel clips to solar panel installations is a game-changer for peace of mind for property owners and solar project managers. The assurance ...

Solar panel theft is the primary issue, although some landowners report that it isn't just the panels themselves that are stolen. Thieves also target cables and wiring and either use quad bikes or other all-terrain vehicles to access the site ...

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The rising issue of solar panel theft. In recent years, there has been a significant rise in the theft of solar panels. This concerning trend has caught the attention of solar panel ...

The test results show that the average electric power generated by solar cells with dual axis solar tracking is around 1.3 times greater than that of non-solar tracking solar cells.

Monocrystalline solar panels are the most cost-effective option. Perovskite panels are more efficient and will be on the market soon . Thin film panels are the cheapest, most versatile choice. It's confusing enough trying to ...

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