

IT'S SOLAR SEASON



PHOENIX SUNS GO SOLAR Frequently Asked Questions & Answers

What is being announced?

The Phoenix Suns organization, the City of Phoenix and APS are partnering to install solar panels on the fifth level of US Airways Center parking garage. The installation will generate electricity to help offset the traditional energy usage of the arena. The organizations will also work together to promote renewable energy.

What will the installation look like?

The panels will be installed on top of covered parking structures along the entire fifth floor of the US Airways Center parking garage.

How many solar panels will there be?

There will be 1,125 Suntech solar panels covering approximately 18,000 square feet.

How does photovoltaic solar work?

The solar panels use sunlight to generate electricity. Sunlight hits the panel, which creates direct current (DC) electricity that's then passed through a device called an inverter to create alternating current (AC) electricity for the arena's consumption. AC electricity is the kind we all use in our homes and businesses.

How much energy will the system generate?

The Suns are installing a 194 kilowatt AC solar photovoltaic system which is about the equivalent amount to power 40 homes. The solar system will power a portion of the Casino Arizona Pavilion's electrical needs. The Casino Arizona Pavilion is the 50 foot high glass enclosed grand entrance on the northwest corner of US Airways Center, which encompasses the ticket windows, main escalators, Starbucks and the entrances to the main concourse. The system is expected to produce about 331,000 kilowatt-hours per year.

When will the system be installed?

In 2009.

How much Carbon Dioxide will be offset?

The new solar power system will eliminate the generation of more than 440,000 pounds of carbon dioxide (CO₂) per year from the environment. These emission offsets equal the CO₂ absorbing power of 46 acres of pine trees, more than 440,000 car-miles avoided, or 26 Suns home games.

Who will install and operate the system?

EI Solutions will be installing the system. The company has completed large solar projects for a wide variety of customers, including a 1.6 megawatt system at Google's California headquarters. Tioga Energy will operate the system.

How can I get renewable energy at my business or home?

Working with the Arizona Corporation Commission, APS offers a number of options and incentives for customer renewable energy systems for homes and businesses. More information is available at: www.aps.com/gosolar.