



Renewable Energy Solutions from theEnergyCrowd.com

Press Release

Conservatory Energy System Could Provide Boost for the Secondary Glazing Industry

Cambridge, UK February 10th, 2010 theEnergyCrowd.com: While energy efficient double glazing prevents heat loss through windows it also causes temperatures to rise to unacceptable levels in conservatories and other highly glazed rooms. However, this is a problem that Cambridge UK renewable energy specialists, theEnergyCrowd, are turning into an opportunity.

By fitting a solar chimney to the side of the house, theEnergyCrowd has been able to extract warm air from the conservatory and feed it via the loft space into the rest of the house. As it is also glazed, the solar chimney collects additional solar energy and the top of the chimney can reach temperatures of up to 40 degrees C during winter months. As the chimney is mounted upright it has a greater angle of incidence with the winter sun than conventional roof-mounted solar panels.

The fan that circulates the air throughout the house is thermostatically controlled to ensure that the system only attempts to draw warm air into the house when the sun is shining.

Peter Kruger, the engineer who founded theEnergyCrowd.com, explained: "It has been good to see this system cutting energy use at a time when the recent 'Big Freeze' in the UK was doubling household fuel consumption."

theEnergyCrowd sees the passive solar energy technology as a potential business opportunity for the secondary glazing industry, which has seen sales of conservatories fall from a high of over 230,000 units to under 100,000 per annum. Kruger goes on to explain: "With 39% of non-transport energy in the UK currently being used for domestic space heating, and the marginal cost of adding theEnergyCrowd's technology to a conventional conservatory being low, this is an ideal way to add value to installations and for installers to gain a toehold in the green energy market."

In addition to using the conservatory to help heat the house in the winter, theEnergyCrowd are developing technology that will cool the conservatory during the summer. "We have already tested a simple heat exchanger system during the summer of 2009 and plan to install a fully working model during 2010," Kruger reveals. During the summer, the excess heat collected will be used to warm the ground around the house and in so doing increase the efficiency of the ground-sourced heat pump system used to provide additional heating for the house during the late autumn.

For further details on theEnergyCrowd's conservatory-based solar energy system visit: <http://www.theenergycrowd.com>

About theEnergyCrowd

theEnergyCrowd develops innovative alternative energy systems and turns them into new business concepts. It also partners with companies seeking to position their products and construction expertise in the rapidly expanding green energy and emissions reduction industries

<http://www.theenergycrowd.com>

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