



The Path Towards Zero Energy District Cooling Plant in Qatar

Salah Nezar, LEED AP, OSAS GCP, Sustainability Director, OPM



Disclaimer:

this is an unscientific presentation, with scientific overtones

Table of Content





- 1. Net Zero Concept & Boundary Limits
- 2. Why a Net-Zero Cooling Solution
- 3. Natural Resources State of Affairs in the GCC
- 4. Challenges to Achieve Net-Zero
- 5. Solar Assisted Refrigeration Solution
- 6. Solar Cooling Types & Alternatives
- 7. Leading Experiences
- 8. Delivering Promises
- 9. Conclusion

Net-Zero Concept & Boundary Limits





- Net Zero Energy Solution, in the simplest terms, produce as much energy as it consumes.
- Net-Zero Site Energy Use: Export an equal amount of received energy measured over the course of one year.
- Net-Zero Source Energy Use: One energy unit produced on-site could offset three imported units produced off-site.
- Net-Zero Energy Emissions: Offset equal amount of produced carbon emissions through the energy source powering the building.

The present is for zero g the future is for positive

Natural Resources State of Affairs in the GCC





- GCC countries will emerge as world leaders in electricity consumption per capita expected to increase at annual rates of 2.5%.
- Power requirements in Qatar to rise to 10 GW in 2020, compared to 7.6 GW today.
- Water demand in Qatar to double from 1.1 Million m3/day in 2011 to 2.1 Million m3/day in 2020.
- A large part of this increase is attributed to the needs of a growing population and a significant 47% of energy consumption diverted into residential use.
- GCC countries put only 10.5% of their electricity to use in industry, as opposed to 37.7% globally.

Water Consumption in the GCC 2010





Total Water Production in Qatar





Average annual growth from 2006 to 2010 is 13.2%.

Seawater Desalination Limitation





Top 10 Challenges in Achieving Net-Zero



- 1. Climatic conditions
- 2. Water scarcity
- 3. An open air experience
- 4. Evening matches in summer
- 5. Safety of athletes
- 6. Comfort of spectators
- 7. State of technology
- 8. Integration & flexibility
- 9. Infrastructure



Solar Assisted Refrigeration Solution





- Source of the Solution
- Systems of the Solution
- Current System Solution
- Alternative at a larger Scale
- Alternative at a Smaller Scale
- Alternative at the Air Side





Tested Data: Solar radiation in Al-Khor (kW/m²), Jun. 22-29, 2008

the source of the solution









MEAN DAILY GLOBAL RADIATION for Doha, Ummsaid, Al-Khor 1988 and Al-Otoriya 2008 (kWh/m²)



MAADI INTRODUCES SOLAR ENERGY TO THE WORLD IN 1913

Amazing but true, in August 1913 Maadi was the site of history-making innovation when American inventor-engineer Frank Shuman (1862-1918) chose this still-nascent nileside suburb to launch his amazing contraption--a solar panel power plant.

Here's how the Egyptian Gazette described this groundbreaking event in its 12 July 1913 issue.







ig. 1.9 Detail from the north of the long parabolic-cylinder mirror collectors used in the human-Boys system. Note the hoops on which the mirror was tilted to follow the sun.







The Utilization of the Sun's Energy

Years Ago Man Endeavored to Make Practical Use of the Energy Contained in the Sun's Rays-Even Tesla, the Electrical Wizard, Has Patented a Sur. Motor, While the Shuman-Boy's Engine and Sun Boiler Has Developed 100 H. P. There is Great Promise Held Forth to Future Engineers Who May Work on This Problem.

 \boldsymbol{I}_{n}^{T} has been given to astrophysicists to measure the heat generated by the sun and calculate the force emanating from it. We know that the surface of our luminary gives out a heat estimated to be about 0,000° centigrade, and that its Light equals that of 27,000,000,000 candlepower a quarter of a mile away. The heat which the

were lacking, our planet, with all its dousandfold life its thick forests and fruitila of rock, for the average annual temperature, which is now one of 13° centiorade of warmth for Europe, would, without the heat of the sum, sink to 73° centigrade of frost, it is calculated.

the untaught son of nature brightens his hut, the twigs with which he stokes his free, what are they but pieces of trees that grew in the sunlight? The gas of the city dweller, the coals with which he heats his house and from which the gas has been sucked, what are they but transformed sunbeams? The coal in the grate is the



A Successful 100 H.P. Sun Power Plant Located at Meadi, on the Nile, Egypt.

earth receives from the sun in the course of a year would suffice to melt a belt of ice about 55 yards in thickness extending clear around the earth. Only the 2,735millionth part of the total energy given off by the sun reaches, our earth and, if this Every sort of light with which we illuminate our home when the greater light has such heneath the horizon, every fire that warms us when the solar rays can no longer do so, is a product originating in the sun. The chip of wood with which

petrified wood of perished forests that covered the carth's surface millions of years ago, and flourished in the rays of the same sun that ripens our corn to-day. Petroleum, that mysterious earth-oil, comea from the bodies of millions of dead and









اننى على مقين من شيئ وأحد . أن البشرية لأبدأن تحول لإستخلام الطاقة الشمسية أو ترتد الحب البريرية " فرانك شومان ١٩١٤

[...] One thing I feel sure of, and that is that the human race must finally utilize direct sun power or revert to barbarism. Frank Shuman 1914

Absorption Refrigeration Cycle





Absorption Chillers Advantages

- Reliable, durable and mature technology
- Significant reduction of electrical comsumption,
- Reduced operating costs
- Reduced CO2 emissions
- Non-flammable & non-toxic
- Ecologically benign
- ozone-friendly working medium LiBr
- Vacuum and LiBr solutions charged in factory ("plug & play")
- Water as refrigerant
- Available for outdoor installations







Absorption Chillers Challenges:



- High sensitivity towards high condenser water temperature
- High make-up water rates (evaporation, blow down & drift loss)
- Relatively high chilled water temperature (7 to 8 C)
- Temperature level of the heat medium, provokes aggressive corrosion
- Large area for solar collectors
- Overall system's efficiency
- Assisting rather than driving



Absorption Machines Comparison



| | Double effect | Triple effect | Single effect |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | H ₂ O/LiBr | H ₂ O/LiBr | NH ₃ /H ₂ O |
| Temperature lift (max) | 25 K | 25 K | 55 K |
| Temperature of Cold | 5-20 ℃ | 5-20 ℃ | -20°-20°C |
| Driving temperature | 140-180°C | 230-270 <i>°</i> C | 160-180 ℃ |
| Max. COP | 1,1-1,4 | 1,6-1,8 | 0,6-0,7 |
| | | | |



Condenser Water Temperature & Efficiency



Steam Driven Vs Absorption Chillers



- Applicable to large tonnage from 100 to 5000 TR with free source of steam
- Machine COP = 1.8.
- Steam driven centrifugal chiller at capacities more than 1000 TR are most cost effective than two-stage absorption chiller.



Steam Driven Centrifugal vs Absorption Chillers







Figure 2: Coefficient of performance comparison.

IPLV^a Capital Cost ∆^b **Chiller Type** (COP Basis) Electric, Constant-Speed Centrifugal 7.0 Base Electric, Variable-Speed Centrifugal 9.9 +25**Electric Screw** 7.5 +0Steam/Hot-Water. 0.8 +35Single-Stage Absorption Steam, Two-Stage Absorption 1.3 +2201.8 +210Steam-Turbine Centrifugal a. IPLV values are calculated according to Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration Institute Standards 560-2000 and 550/590-1998. b. Capital Cost ∆ includes the chiller, pumps and tower, but not the boiler. Table 1: Typical water-cooled chiller efficiencies and costs.



Efficiency Absorption Chiller = (Efficiency @ Full Load)* $(0.1356 + 0.3944x + 4.0933x^2 - 4.4598x^3 + 1.6248x^4)$ + $[1-0.00949*(85-ECWT)+0.00014*(85-ECWT)^2]$

Adsorption Refrigeration Machines





Adsorption Refrigeration Machines



Leading small capacity adsorption chillers in Europe













SK SonnenKlima GmbH

Open Cycle Adsorption System



Air System



Water System



Leading Solar Cooling Experiences



Infrastructure, Competition & Non Competition Venues



- 1. 2022- bid Showcase Stadium, Doha,
- 2. Masdar City, Abu Dhabi, UAE
- 3. ESAB Head Office, UAE
- 4. UEFA HQ, Nyan, Switzerland



2022-Bid Show Case Stadium, Doha

- 500-seats model stadium with retractable roof.
- A Mirroxx linear Fresnel collector with uniaxial tracking and a total mirror aperture area of 1040m² heats the pressurized water directly.
- Thermal storage PV arrays for electricity generation with a monitoring system and not connected to the local electrical grid.
- Double-Effect 150 TR Thermax absorption chiller with dual fuel source and underground chilled water storage thank.
- Displacement ventilation for air delivery System for the pitch coupled with UFAD for Spectator stands.
- Water consumption= ?







Masdar City Solar Cooling Plant Solution Pilot

- A Sopogy micro-parabolic trough collector with uniaxial tracking and a total mirror aperture area of 334 sq m. Synthetic oil as thermal media.
- Heat is transferred to the system's pressurized water circuit through a heat exchanger.
- A Mirroxx linear Fresnel collector with uniaxial tracking and a total mirror aperture area of 132 m² heats the pressurized water directly.
- The two solar thermal collector systems have been in successful test operation already for more than three months.





Masdar City Solar Cooling Plant Solution Pilot

- Schneider Electric provided the control system components for the pilot plant
- Fraunhofer Institute of Solar Energy to analyze the monitored data and assess system performance.
- Collector's thermal energy has been driving the Broad 50 refrigeration-ton double-effect absorption chiller cooling 1700 m² of office building.
- Air delivery system uses chilled beams coupled with fresh air energy recovery units.
- Water consumption : Not Available







ESAB Head Office, Jafza, UAE

- 6,500 m² built to achieve LEED Platinum.
- \$1million solar thermal cooling system, one of the large-scale applications in the region.
- Solar system use 1,500 solar vacuum tubes.
- 70% Energy Reduction compared to a As-Usual Building by using solar thermal and efficient lighting systems.
- Six Packaged Absorption Units (Climate Well) to serve roof mounted AHUs handling latent loads.
- Radiant Cooling System using Thermo-deck approach (hallow core ceiling slab) handling sensible loads.



UEFAHQ, Nyon, CH

- Design Intent: Must be a sustainable & energy efficient building operating in 2010.
- Building's Cooling Load: 100 TR.
- Renewable Energy Source: Geothermal, Thermal Solar & PV (200 m²).
- Thermal Array: 90 vacuum tubes over 110 m²
- area generating 55 KW used for heating and domestic water in winter and cooling in summer to cover 10% only of the loads.
- Water temperature: Hot at 88°C for generator and Chilled water at 7°C.
- Storage tank: 3,000 Liters.
- Refrigeration Machine: absorption chiller with cooling capacity of 10 TR.





Leading Experiences: Non Competition Venues <u>UEFA HQ, Nyon, CH</u>



FOR A RETTER FUTU

Delivering Promises





- Comparison
- Scalability
- Context Integration
- Infrastructure integration
- The bath towards net-zero
- Controls Integration Challenges
 Simulation outputs video

Context Integration

• Integration with other aspects:

Event, Accommodation, Medical, Mobility & Education

- District cooling plants locations
- Chilled water reticulation optimization
- Solar fields location
- Relationship with other utilities
- Use recycled water for heat rejection
- Used cooling tower blow down water for irrigation





Systems Selection Justification



| Systems Descriptions | Evacuated tube collector, single effect absorption chiller | | Parabolic trough, double effect absorption chiller | | Flat collectors & adsorption chiller | |
|---|--|-----|--|----|--------------------------------------|----|
| Solar Collector efficiency | 60 | % | 50 | % | 55 | % |
| Chiller efficiency (COP) | 0.75 | | 1.3 | | 0.45 | |
| Temperature © | 80 to 110 | | 144 (4 bar) | | 60 to 85 | |
| Solar Irradiation on collector surface | 1,000 | kW | 1,000 | kW | 1,000 | kW |
| Collector's efficiency | 60 | % | 50 | % | 55 | % |
| Heat absorbed by the captor supplied to the Chiller | 600 | kW | 500 | kW | 550 | kW |
| Absorption Chiller COP | 0.75 | | 1.3 | | 0.45 | |
| Heat absorbed by Chiller | 450 | kW | 650 | kW | 248 | kW |
| Overall system performance | 45% | | 65% | | 25% | |
| Increase in cooling yield | | 44% | | | -81.82% | |

Cost Effectiveness



- Thermal absorption solar refrigeration system cost almost 3 to 4 times the cost of a conventional vapor compression system.
- Double effect direct-fired/steam absorption chiller cost between 1.8 to 2 times the cost a vapor compression chiller.
- The cost of reduced scale cooling system using adsorption machine is almost 4 times compared to a non-solar assisted system.
- The cost of a direct-fired & steam absorption chiller is 35% higher than the direct-fired chiller.
- The cost of a direct-fired & hot water absorption chiller is 35% higher than the direct-fired chiller.
- The square meter of a thermal solar flat collector cost between 1700 to 3400 QR
- The square meter of solar evacuated tubes cost between 3400 to 3970 QR

QPM Approach





System's Integration



- At the present, most solar cooling systems are assemblies of single components and don't provide a fully integrated system, these components in many cases have their own control units.
- The performance of the solar cooling solution depends a lot on the availability of a single source centralized control.
- The industry will follow the market momentum in embracing a fully integrated solution for solar cooling system.





CFD Simulation Video





Conclusion



- 1. Major benefit of performing this study is to show the feasibility of a carbon neutral solution for a cooling plant at different scale
- 2. Cooling system efficiency is sensitive towards high condenser water temperature
- 3. Adverse impact of dust/ humidity on system's efficiency
- 4. High rates of water depletion and pollution (evaporation & bleed-off)
- 5. Higher cost
- 6. Needs a vast area for solar field (15 to 20 times the football pitch size)
- 7. Requires a single source control system for all system's components
- 8. Cooling plant reticulation needs be integrated in the city infrastructure
- 9. "Opportunity Document" needs to be developed for each venue



THANK YOU



