

Ashland Solar Pioneer Program paves the way for solar power in Oregon.

The Challenge

In 1999, the City of Ashland, Oregon received a matching grant from the Bonneville Environmental Foundation to help fund a fledging solar power program. A year later, more than 250 citizens *voluntarily* added a \$4/month surcharge to their electric bill to support Ashland’s innovative Solar Pioneer Program.

After careful research, Ashland decided that SCHOTT solar was the right company to tackle the task of designing, supplying, and installing four grid-connected Solar Pioneer Program photovoltaic systems.

The Solution

SCHOTT solar provided Ashland with unique project designs, including 3 different mounting approaches. Three of the systems are 5.5kW and one is 16.6kW. All installations were made in highly visible sites: the Shakespeare Festival Administration Building, Southern Oregon University Library, Ashland City Council Chamber, and Ashland Police Department. At the Council Chamber and University Library, SCHOTT solar also designed and installed interactive kiosks that display real-time performance information about the systems, along with additional solar educational information.

The Results

SCHOTT solar completed all the projects in a narrow, two-month schedule—in time for a public dedication ceremony highlighting the program. SCHOTT solar made it easier for Ashland to meet its deadline by being a turnkey supplier; able to design, supply, and install the power systems as well as the educational kiosks.

Technical Specifications

SS System: SunRoof™ SR

Size: (1) 16.6 kW AC PTC

(3) 5.5 kW AC PTC

Modules: 136 ASE 300W DGF/50

Inverters: Xantrex PV Series:

(1) PV-15208, (3) PV-10208

Support Structure: SS Roofjacks & UniRac mounting hardware

Monitoring Equipment: SunTrack™ & Kiosk

