

URBANBOX - Review after one year: Successful further development and now presentation at international photovoltaic conference EU PVSEC in Lisbon

Bendern, September 22, 2023 - About a year ago, the URBANBOX demonstration plant was opened at ARA in Bendern. Today, we look back on a year of intensive testing and exciting progress.

The **URBANBOX** demonstration system has now completed one year of successful test operations with more than 400 extension and retraction cycles of the photovoltaic roof. With the novel technology for PV module retraction and especially also the fully integrated photovoltaic module cleaning, **URBANBOX** attracts the attention of the industry and opens up new potentials for the economic dual use of built-up areas for power generation.

Parallel to the test phases, the ZHAW, Winterthur together with Iworks AG carried out an INNO-SUISSE project validation of the system, the findings of which are now being incorporated into the design of commercial systems. Thus, the commercial availability of the **URBANBOX** is within reach and photovoltaics will have a highly innovative new solution at its disposal in the near future.

Particularly gratifying is the international recognition that **URBANBOX** has received. Prof. Dr. Franz Baumgartner was invited by the European PV Conference Committee to present the **URBANBOX** to an international audience in plenary session on September 21, 2023 in Lisbon. This is an excellent opportunity to bring the innovation and excellence of the technology to the global stage. But it is not only internationally that the **URBANBOX** is earning recognition. Arthur Büchel, Managing Director of Iworks AG, also had the opportunity to present the **URBANBOX** at the National Swiss PV Conference 2023 in Bern as well as at another symposium, the feedback from the audience was very positive. This underlines the potential of **URBANBOX** in the fast growing solar energy market.

While **URBANBOX** can look back on a successful year, our team is aware that there is still a lot of work ahead. Local reference projects, further investors and partners are crucial steps on the way to a successful market launch. However, the team has good reason to approach the next steps with confidence and is looking forward to another exciting year.

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