# synl ght

**The World's Largest Solar Simulator Provides New Testing Opportunities** Conference PowerGen Europe 2017 Cologne, 28 June 2017

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# Knowledge for Tomorrow

# **German Aerospace Center (DLR)**

- Research Institution, Space Agency and Project Management Agency
- Research Areas: Aeronautics | Space Research and Technology | Transport | Energy | Defence and Security
- 8000 employees across 32 institutes and facilities at 16 sites in Germany
- Total income ~€1000 Mio/a



## **Institute of Solar Research**

- Global Leadership in Concentrating Solar Power (CSP) systems for power, heat and fuel generation
- Fundamental research up to services and consulting for industry clients
- 160 employees at the four sites Cologne, Jülich, Stuttgart, Almería (Spain)





## **Motivation for Use of Solar Energy**

#### Year-to-Date Global Temperatures

for 2017 and the other eight warmest years on record



Source: US Government, Dept. of Commerce (June 2017) https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/sotc/global/2017/05/supplemental/page-1

### **Global energy resources and consumption**



2015 estimated finite and renewable planetary energy reserves (TW-years). Total recoverable reserves are shown for the finite resources. Yearly potential is shown for the renewables.

Source: International Energy Agency (IEA, 2015) https://www.iea-shc.org/data/sites/1/publications/2015-11-A-Fundamental-Look-at-Supply-Side-Energy-Reserves-for-the-Planet.pdf



# **Solar Power Technologies**









## **Four CSP Technology Families**



Mobile Receiver:

Fixed Receiver: Easier transport of collected heat



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# State of the Art: Large Commercial Parabolic Trough Plants with Molten Salt Thermal Storage

## Solana Power Plant (Abengoa, 2013)

- 2.2 km<sup>2</sup> solar field on 12 km<sup>2</sup> area
- 6h storage
- 2 x 140MW<sub>el</sub>
- 980 GWh/a power production (3500 FOH/a)

## Solar Towers with Molten Salt Storage - The Future CSP Standard?



## **Jülich Solar Tower Demonstration Plant**





# **Synlight** Large-Scale Solar Simulator ("Artificial Sun")

### Purpose:

Generation of precisely adjustable and consistent sunlight in a new magnitude for research and industry

### Application: Testing and qualification of

- Thermochemical processes and reactors for solar fuels
- CSP components (receivers)
- Components exposed to high solar / UV radiation
- Applications for highest temperatures up to 3000°C



## Bridging solar laboratory scale with research platforms and demo plants for faster technology developments



# synlight Technical Implementation

- 149 identical modules, computerized adjustable in 3 axis
- 7kW<sub>el</sub>- (10kW<sub>el</sub>-) Xenon cinema lamps as light sources with a light nearly equal to the solar spectrum
- Light concentration up to 10.000 times / >3000°C
- Building with 3 test chambers, independent operation, specially equipped
- Radiation powers: 240kW / 300kW / 240kW (maximum with 10kW<sub>el</sub> bulbs: 320kW / 400kW / 320kW) (Note: 300kW light = 100.000 household lamps 60W<sub>el</sub>)

















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Die größte künstliche Sonne der Welt

