

Can synthetic quartz trap solar energy?

The proof-of-concept study uses synthetic quartz to trap solar energy at temperatures over 1,000°C (1,832°F), demonstrating the method's potential role in providing clean energy for carbon-intensive industries. A paper on the research was published on May 15 in the journal *Device*.

How does quartz work?

Quartz is a semi-transparent material that allows light energy to pass through it but blocks thermal energy. This means that as the silicon carbide heats up from the concentrated sunlight, the quartz prevents thermal energy leaking back out, trapping the heat and reducing energy loss in the system.

Can a quartz shield save energy?

Their initial experiments found that the absorber easily reached 1050°C. According to heat transfer models, the quartz shield could enable receivers to get to temperatures of up to 1200°C while keeping 70 per cent of the energy input in the system. Without the quartz shield, the energy efficiency drops to just 40 per cent for the same temperature.

Can solar energy be used to produce cement?

Instead of burning coal or oil to produce cement or steel, in the future solar energy could be used for this purpose. Researchers at ETH Zurich have developed a thermal trap that can absorb concentrated sunlight and deliver heat at over thousand degrees Celsius. The main component of the thermal trap is a cylinder made of quartz.

Could solar energy be a green alternative to fossil fuels?

Engineers have developed a device that can generate temperatures of over 1000°C (1832°F) by efficiently capturing energy from the sun. It could one day be used as a green alternative to burning fossil fuels in the production of materials such as steel, glass and cement.

Could solar energy replace fossil fuels?

Credit: ETH Zurich /Emiliano Casati Swiss researchers have developed a solar energy method using synthetic quartz to achieve temperatures above 1,000°C for industrial processes, potentially replacing fossil fuels in the production of materials like steel and cement.

It consists of a quartz rod coupled to a ceramic absorber which, thanks to its optical properties, can efficiently absorb sunlight and convert it into heat. In their lab-scale experiments, the team used a quartz rod measuring 7.5 ...

According to the study, the researchers attached a quartz rod to an opaque silicon carbide disk, which served as the solar absorber. When exposed to concentrated solar radiation equivalent to 135 suns, the absorber ...

Industrial processes requiring high temperatures might in the future be powered by concentrated solar energy rather than fossil fuels, so say researchers in Switzerland (Device, doi: 10.1016/j.vice.2024.100399).The ...

It consists of a quartz rod (inside) and a ceramic absorber (outside). Solar radiation enters at the front, heat is generated in the rear area. Credit: Casati E et al. Device 2024, edited ... Large-scale solar concentrating ...

Large-scale space manufacturing is a highly desirable goal for supporting both space exploration and terrestrial markets, for example, in the provision of solar energy through solar power satellites (SPS). 5 Indeed, the ...

The intermittence of solar energy resource in concentrated solar power (CSP) generation and solar drying applications can be mitigated by employing thermal energy storage materials. ...

Tian Min, general manager of Nanjing Fangrun Materials, a recycling company in Jiangsu province that collects retired solar panels, said the solar power industry was a ticking time bomb."It will ...

Heat lost to outside air reduces efficiency, so researchers are looking for ways to better "trap" the heat inside the solar receiver. Now, an ETH team has, for the first time, demonstrated that solar heat can be effectively ...

Before we check out the calculator, solved examples, and the table, let's have a look at all 3 key factors that help us to accurately estimate the solar panel output: 1. Power Rating (Wattage Of ...

The proof-of-concept study, published May 15 in the journal Device, uses synthetic quartz to trap solar energy at temperatures over 1,000°C (1,832°F), demonstrating ...

When exposed to concentrated solar radiation equivalent to 135 suns, the absorber plate reached 1,050°C, while the quartz rod's front face remained at a relatively cool 450°C. What makes this new research ...

