

B. Architectural Integration

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Building-integrated photovoltaic (BIPV) systems not only produce electricity, they also form part of the building. A BIPV system is an integral component of the building envelope as well as a solar electric energy system that generates electricity for the building. The components of a solar system are thus



the benefits of BIPV system use.

Residential building in Gello Pisa

The main purpose of this brochure is to provide architects and designers with useful information on BIPV systems. Case studies are used to illustrate how BIPV products can be successfully integrated into various structures. Each case study description provides specific technical data about the BIPV system used, including the system's size, weight, and efficiency as well as the required number of inverters.

This data is followed by photographs and drawings of the systems along with general system descriptions, specific design considerations, and details of mountings and fixings.

As an ever increasing number of architects and designers gain experience in integrating photovoltaic systems into the built environment, this relatively new technology will blend into the nation's urban and rural landscapes. BIPV will continue to demonstrate itself as a economically preferable, environmentally benign and aesthetically pleasing way of generating electricity for commercial, institutional, and many other kinds of buildings.

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