

Photovoltaic systems technology

High-performance photovoltaic modules, plug-and-play solar charge regulators that interface with CBE control panels and solutions integrated into the motorhomes' original wiring harness. CBE is an ideal partner for OEMs, even for solar energy.

Words Andrea Cattaneo



With nearly forty years of experience in the industry, CBE is already recognized as a leader in Europe in the field of electrical and electronic components applied to recreational vehicles. This recognition also includes the increasing attention paid to solar energy: indeed, it should be noted that the Trento based manufacturer has for some time now developed a range of solar modules for both OEMs and for the after-market, with a rich and well-structured catalogue for the 2016 season.

As a matter of fact, the caravanning and environment pairing is as timely as ever, and people who choose to vacation in a motorhome have always been highly motivated to go green. While not neglecting this environmentalist spirit, the third millennium caravanner nonetheless can't forgo a certain degree of superior comfort, which the latest generation of vehicles can offer, provided they're equipped with systems designed to replenish expended energy. We must not

forget that energy needs are getting constantly higher, due to sophisticated lighting systems, powerful heating systems, and the inexorable combination of an LCD screen and satellite antenna, not to mention a myriad of accessories, like security alarm systems, which steadily consume energy - even when the vehicle is idle. Reintegrating expended energy is therefore crucial, and photovoltaic modules are the best way to fulfil this task, also because they currently offer the best interpretation of the concept of environmental sustainability: no fuel con-

truly timeless.

This is why for many years now CBE has also been providing photovoltaic modules, produced in partnership with manufacturers whose quality standards conform to the rest of CBE's range of products. CBE then directly produces the equipment designed to ensure the system's correct and efficient operation.

In the field of photovoltaic modules, as for control panels, 12/220 Volt systems for recreational vehicles and wiring harnesses, CBE stands out for its high quality products. In the after-market sector, the Italian manufacturer has assumed a leadership position in the mid-high segment of the market, where the focus is not on the lowest price, but rather on the best quality, which translates into reliability and efficiency. However, CBE also has a strong foothold as an original equipment supplier, having strengthened its role as an OEM supplier of increasingly structured systems. Indeed, CBE relies on its extensive experience in the photovoltaic sector, combined with a truly excellent knowledge of all electric components on motorhomes. It's no wonder CBE is a direct supplier of photovoltaic modules to manufacturers operating in the premium bracket of the market, such as Carthago and Niesmann+Bischoff.

For the 2015/2016 season, CBE's product

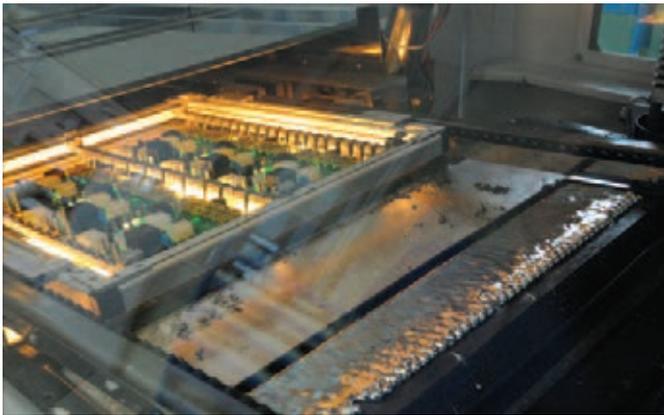


sumption, no exhaust fumes, no noise. Their long lifecycle also means that initial installation costs are quickly absorbed, and operating expenses are virtually nil. Photovoltaic modules are

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catalogue includes new monocrystalline and polycrystalline photovoltaic modules with a variety of power ratings, developed specifically for optimum integration with electrical systems on recreational vehicles. And CBE is also at the cutting edge of the photovoltaic sector, where it would appear that there isn't much else to invent. In fact, CBE has recently launched a photovoltaic module of reduced dimensions working with a booster solar charge regulator: a winning combination that allows a small 21 cell 90W module to provide a power output that is comparable to that of a 120W module.

In addition to photovoltaic modules, the catalogue also features newly designed smart solar charge regulators, which optimize the modules' performance and also allow for a plug-and-play connection with the CBE system. This can, for instance, allow the charge current coming from the photovoltaic module to be displayed directly on the CBE control panel originally installed on the motorhome. Obviously OEMs have access to a wide array of accessories designed for the correct installation of all equipment, including roof ducts

and fixing kits, accessories that have been appreciated for years now by installers across Europe. OEMs can also choose from new wiring harness solutions, integrated into the motorhome's original wiring supplied by CBE, which allow for optimized installation times and costs when photovoltaic modules are offered as an optional equipment.

With a high level of expertise developed over the years, and thanks to specific agreements with raw material suppliers, CBE is able to offer recreational vehicle manufacturers some critical advantages: not only quality and reliability consistent over time for all its products, but also stable prices for the entire season, which as we all know isn't easy to come by in the current market for photovoltaic modules. CBE's extensive experience and wide ranging commitment to all areas of electrical and electronic components applied to recreational vehicles allows it to serve manufacturers not merely as an equipment supplier, but as a reliable partner and systems supplier capable of assisting OEMs in developing new solutions, in the photovoltaic sector as well.

Company Profile

With a history of almost 40 years, CBE is a leading company in Europe in the field of electrical and electronic systems for recreational vehicles and boats. Headquartered in Trento, Italy, CBE is a project partner of motorhome and caravan manufacturers around the world. CBE develops customised solutions for all aspects of on-board electrical systems, from control panels to distribution boards, from chargers to sensors, sockets, switches and even complete vehicle wirings. Quality, reliability and safety are constant features of CBE's operational dynamics. CBE has obtained UNI EN ISO 9001:2008 certification.

