Report on Solar Combisystems Modelled in Task 26

Appendix 4: Generic System #8: Space Heating Store with Double Load-Side Heat Exchanger for DHW

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Solar Heating & Cooling Programme

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Appendix 4: Generic System #8: Space Heating Store with Double Load-Side Heat Exchanger for DHW

by

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1 General description of System #8 Space Heating Store With Double Load-Side Heat Exchanger For DHW



Main features

This system is a compact unit for space heating and DHW, with an integrated gas or oil burner. The storage tank is fitted out with two immersed horizontal finned-coil heat exchangers (one in the upper and one in the lower part) for DHW preparation and a third one in the bottom for the collector loop

Heat management philosophy

The speed of the collector loop pump varied is in accordance with the temperature in the middle of the tank and the temperature difference between the collector outlet and the bottom of the storage tank. The storage tank set-point temperature. which controls the auxiliary burner.



is automatically adjusted to the space

heating needs. The controller is able to anticipate when solar heat is available from the collector and switch off the burner. Space heating is managed by the controller, taking into account solar passive gains detected by a second room temperature sensor. In the case of heating floors, a storage tank discharge can be forced in order to store heat in the building structure. In such a case, the room temperature may deviate from its set-point value by as much as 5°C. The control strategy is designed to adjust the start time to improve thermal comfort.

Specific aspects

One single controller is in charge of the whole system (collector loop, DHW, space heating and auxiliary burner), with a display that indicates proper operation. Overheating is prevented by cooling the lower part of the storage tank after the sun has set by using the collector as a heat sink. There is no legionella risk because DHW doesn't stagnate in the storage tank.

Influence of auxiliary energy source on system design and dimensioning

This system can be used with a gas or oil auxiliary burner. Alternately, a wood boiler can be connected directly to the lower part of the storage tank. In such a case, the boiler should be used cautiously to avoid competition between solar and auxiliary energies in the commonly used, lower section of the storage tank.

Cost (range)

The total cost of the whole system with a gas or oil burner is about 20 000 to 23 000 EUR, for a collector area of 8 to 16 m^2 . Installation costs and a heating floor are included in these figures. A similar reference system without solar heating costs about 11 000 EUR.

Market distribution

This system is rather new in Switzerland (1998). At the end of 1999, 25 systems have been installed with a total collector area of about 300 m^2 . Two companies are marketing this system.

This system is presented thanks to the Swiss Federal Office of Energy

2 Modelling of the system

2.1 TRNSYS model



Figure 1: Modelling of System #8 in TRNSYS

2.2 Definition of the components included in the system and standard input data

2.2.1 Collector

Collector	η0, a1, a2, inc. angle modifier (50°)	0.8, 3.5, 0.015, 0.9
	Area	
	Specific mass flow	10 to 30 l/m ² h
Data defined in [1]		

Data defined in [1]

2.2.2 Pipes between collector and storage

Model :	One type for cold side		
Pipes:	Inner diameter: 15 mm	Total Length	: 30 m
Insulation:	Thickness : 20 mm (4.85	W/m²K)	Thermal Conductivity :
	0.042 W/m.K	-	-

Data defined by Heimrath (in agreement with tests and measurements)

2.2.3 Storage

Type :	60	Last update: 01. July 1999	
Storage tank		Total volume	0.830 m³
		Height	1.818 m
		Store volume for auxiliary	0 m³
		Number of nodes	36
		Medium	Water
		Insulation thickness, thermal	10 cm, 0.024 W/mK
		conductivity	
		Heat input system collector	
		Relative position of collector loop	0.25
		temperature sensor	
	-	Start $\Delta \vartheta$, hysteresis, Collector loop	6 K, 4 K

- Heat Exchanger N°1: Medium: Water / Water Type of heat exchanger: serpentine Heat Transfer Coefficient: 13.5 W/K
- Heat Exchanger N°2: Medium: Water / Water Type of heat exchanger: serpentine Heat Transfer Coefficient: 13.5 W/K
- Heat Exchanger N°3: Medium: Glycol (40%) / Water Type of heat exchanger: serpentine Heat Transfer Coefficient: 401 W/K

Data defined by Bony (in agreement with tests and measurements)

2.2.4 Boiler

Included in the type 60 - electrical heating element

Aux. Boiler		20 kW
	Mean annual efficiency	98 %
	Energy	20 kW
	Minimum running time	0 min
	Minimum stand still time	0 min
	Start $\Delta \vartheta$, hysteresis, auxiliary	DHW: 6 K; SH: 10K
Data dationad bu	Dense //w energy and with to sta and we	

Data defined by Bony (in agreement with tests and measurements)

2.2.5 Building

Type56 – Load File [2]

2.2.6 Heat distribution

Radiators

Radiator	Radiator area (SFH)	11.67 m²
	Heat capacity (SFH)	5 x 1263 kJ/kgK
	Set flow- and return temperatures (SFH)	40 / 35 °C
	Set flow rate	0,236 kg/s

(Data defined [1])

2.2.7 Control strategy

See appendix 1 (No availability)

2.3 Validation of the system model

The TRNSYS system model has been validated by test and simulation on the real combisystem that the manufacturer lend to our laboratory.

3 Simulations for testing the library and the accuracy

3.1 Result of the TRNLIB.DLL check

Run SCS1a.trd (send by Richard) and note your results in the boxes below:

	F _{sav,therm}	F _{sav,ext}	FSI	E _{boiler}	Qpenalty, SH,Low	Qpenalty, SH,Up	Q _{penalty, DHW}
Richard's Result	0.7900	0.7406	0.3006	9443	30	26480	
Your Results	0.9881	0.9242	-1347	534	38600	26490	62850000
Difference	-0.1981	-0.1836	1347.3006	8909	-38570	-10	-62850000

3.2 Results of the accuracy and the timestep check

Conv tolerance	Int tolerance	Timestep [h]	F _{sav,therm}	Epsilon
0.1	0.1	1/32	34.34	
0.01	0.01	1/32	33.79	-1.60
0.005	0.005	1/32	34.08	0.86
0.001	0.001	1/32	34.23	0.44
0.1	0.1	1/64	34.01	-0.64
0.01	0.01	1/64	34.19	0.53

4 Sensitivity Analysis and Optimisation

4.1 Presentation of results



#8 Space Heating Store With Double Load-Side Heat Exchanger For DHW (Switzerland)

Main parameters (optimised Base Case) :				
Building :	SFH 60	Storage Volume :	0.830 m³	
Climate :	Zurich	Storage height	1.818 m	
Collectors area :	12 m²	POSITION OF HEAT EXCHANGERS: DHW: Solar:	Whole height Bottom	
Collector type :	Standard Flat Plate	Relative position of in/outlets: SH 0.41 / 0		
Specific flow rate (Collector)	10 to 30 kg/m²h	Thermal insulation	10 cm	
Collector azimuth/tilt angle	0 / 45°	nominal auxiliary heating rate	20 kW	
Collector upper dead band	6 K	HEAT EXCHANGER: DHW: SOLAR:	13.5 W/K 401 W/K	
Simulation parameter:		Storage nodes	23 I/Node Max. 36	
Time step 1/64 h		Tolerances Integration Convergence	0.01 0.01	

Summary of Sensitivity Parameters			
Parameter	Variation	¹ Variation in $f_{sav,therm}$	
Base Case	-	34.19%	
Collector size [m ²] (fixed store size (0.83 m ³)	4 – 20 m ²	23. – 38.93 %	
Collector Size [m ²] (fixed store spec. vol. 0.069 m ³ /m ²)	8.7 – 21.7 m ²	31.43 – 40.00 %	
Store Size [m ³] (fixed collector area of 12 m ²)	$0.5 - 1.5 \text{ m}^3$	32.82 – 34.24 %	
Collector Azimuth [°] (fixed tilt of 45°)	-90° - 90°	28.17 – 34.19 %	
Collector Tilt [°] (fixed azimuth of 0°)	0° - 90°	28.46 – 34.19 %	
Climate (60 kWh SFH)	Carp. / Zur. / Stock.	60.0 % / 34.2 % / 28.8 %	
Heating System Inlet Relative Height [-]	0.15 – 0.41	33.6 – 34.19 %	
Heating System Outlet Relative Height [-]	0.68 - 1	33.24 – 34.19 %	
Burner Internal Relative Height [-]	0.48 – 0.70	34.19 – 36.74 %	
Store Insulation: whole store [cm]	5 – 20 cm	29.87 – 36.12 %	
Collector Controller dT _{start} [K] (constant dT _{stop})	4 – 12	33.86 – 34.19 %	
Store Charge Flow Rate Solar Loop [l/h·m ²]	20 - 40	33.72 – 34.19 %	
Solar Heat Exchanger Area [m ²]	2 – 4	33.92 – 34.29 %	
Collector Controller Sensor Relative Height [-]	0.11 - 0.3	34.04 – 34.28 %	
DHW Storage charging temperature [°C]	55 - 80	28.44 – 34.79 %	
DHW Storage Volume [m ³]	0.03 - 0.09	33.54 – 34.67 %	
DHW Controller Sensor Relative height [-]	0.82 – 0.97	33.31 – 34.19 %	

¹ The variation if fractional savings indicated in the table does not represent the values for the extremes of the range, rather the minimum and maximum values for the range indicated.



Figure 2: Variation of fractional energy savings with collector size with fixed store volume of 0.830 m^3 .

Description of Results

As expected the increase of collector area increases the $\ensuremath{\mathsf{f}_{\mathsf{save}}}$.

Comments

The variation of the electrical consumption of the solar loop pump is very low between 4 to 20 m² collector area. For the simulations this value is fixed. That is why the F_{si} follows the $F_{sav,ext}$.



Figure 3: Variation of fractional energy savings with collector size with fixed specific store volume of 0.069 m^3/m^2 .

The inlets of the lower DHW heat exchanger, the electrical heater and burner outlet were all at the same height so that:

- The volume heated by the auxiliary change proportionally with the volume of the tank.
- The sensors for the thermostats controlling the store charging were always at the same height, at the outlet of heater.
- The height of the store is always the same (1.818 m).
- The thickness of the insulation is the same in each case (10 cm).

Description of Results

The increase of the tank volume and the collector area increases the f_{save} value. The decrease of the tank volume and the collector area decreases the f_{save} value with an increase of the penalty function due to a small buffer volume.

Comments

Heat exchanger area is constant for each case.



Figure 4: Variation of fractional energy savings with store volume with fixed collector area of 12 [m²].

- The volume heated by the auxiliary change proportionally with the volume of the tank.
- The sensors for the thermostats controlling the store charging were always on the same height, at the outlet of heater.
- The height of the store is always the same (1.818 m).
- The increase of the tank volume increases the f_{save} value. The decrease of the tank volume decreases the f_{save} value with an increase of the penalty function due to a small buffer volume.

Description of Results

Here the savings show an optimum near the base case. If we would like to perform the F_{si} curve for the small volume, we will decrease the F_{save} .

Comments

Heat exchanger area is constant for each case.



Figure 5: Variation of fractional energy savings with collector azimuth with fixed tilt angle of 45°.

None

Description of Results

Here the savings show an optimum with a small shift to the west.

Comments

The value for -90° and $+90^{\circ}$ are very high



Figure 6: Variation of fractional energy savings with collector tilt, with fixed azimuth angle of 0°.

None

Description of Results

Here the savings show an optimum at a bit less than 45° tilt.

Comments

We can notice that value at 0° tilt is quite similar that value at 90° tilt.



Figure 7: Variation of fractional energy savings with climate.

Description of Results None.

Comments

None.

[%]



Figure 8: Variation of fractional energy savings with the fractional solar consumption (FSC).

Description of Results

The results for the 27 simulations, combinations of climate, collector area and load are shown above. The correlation is significantly for fractional savings against FSC.



Figure 9: Variation of fractional energy savings with the position of the heating system inlet (return). Heights are relative heights

None

Description of Results

Here the savings are nearly constant.

Comments

The building has got a big influence on the space heating return temperature. Then the result will be different.



Figure 10: Variation of fractional energy savings with the position of the heating system outlet (flow). Heights are relative heights

None

Description of Results

Here the savings are nearly constant.

Comments

We are at the optimum with the base case, and we can not choose a lower value for the relative height because of the position of the gas burner (see next figure).



Figure 11: Variation of the relative position of the internal gas burner.

Value of the relative position between outlet/inlet and burner stay constant.

Description of Results

None.

Comments

When the position of burner is higher, the penalty function increases because the DHW volume becomes smaller.



Figure 12: Variation of fractional energy savings with the thickness of insulation around the whole store.

None

Description of Results

Here the increase of insulation thickness from base case is not very significant for the ${\rm f}_{\rm save}$ value.

Comments

The main thermal losses come from the thermal bridges (burner, pipe connexions, ...) so, it is not necessary to increase the base case insulation thickness.



Figure 13: Variation of fractional energy savings with the collector controller settings.

Dt_{stop} unchanged.

Description of Results

Here there is slight decrease in performance with increasing dT_{start} , however the difference between the values for 4 and 12 K is very small.

Comments

None



Figure 14: Variation of fractional energy savings with the store charge flow rate.

In the base case, the store charge flow rate is variable from $10 - 30 \text{ l/h} \cdot \text{m}^2$.

Description of Results

The store charge flow affects the annual savings slightly.

Comments

Warning, the value of the base case is not 10 l/h·m² but between 10 to 30 l/h·m².





Figure 15: Variation of fractional energy savings with the solar heat exchanger area.

None.

Description of Results

No difference from base case.

Comments

The solar heat exchanger is oversized for 12 m^2 collector area.



Figure 16: Variation of fractional energy savings with the relative position of the collector controller sensor.

None.

Description of Results

None.

Comments

Without stratification (our case) the influence of the position of the collector sensor in the tank is not significant.



Figure 17: Variation of fractional energy savings with the DHW storage charging temperature [°C].

None.

Description of Results

When the temperature is very low, the penalty function increases.

Comments

The base case is the optimum.



Figure 18: Variation of fractional energy savings with the DHW heat exchanger area.

None

Description of Results

The DHW heat exchanger area affects the annual savings slightly. The penalty function is lower for a big heat exchanger area.

Comments

None.





Figure 19: Variation of fractional energy savings with the store charge controller's sensor position.

None

Description of Results

The position sensor affect the annual savings slightly. The penalty function is lower for lower position.

Comments

The position of the store charge sensor influences the volume of the DHW buffer.

4.2 Definition of the optimised system

The optimised System #8 is the one who is commercialised by the manufacturer. But we know that a good stratification in the tank will increase the f_{save} . Next step for System #8 is to test a new concept of regulator with predictive meteorological data and of course to find some variation to improve the system for a low additional cost.

5 Analysis using FSC

For the optimised system the analysis based on FSC [3] should be carried out.



Figure 20: FSC for 3 climates (Carpentras, Zurich, Stockholm) and 3 loads (30, 60, 100 *kWh/m*²·a single family buildings).

- Additionally a range of collector areas and storage volumes can be compared
- Also FSC analysis can be used for the optimisation

6 Lessons learned

- It's important to consider the difference between simulation runs on different computers.
 For the same deck simulation the results are sometimes different because of different .dlls created by compilers on different computers.
- Optimisation is not the variation of one parameter but the variation of a few parameters together. The difficulties are to change one parameter without forgetting the influence on the other to always keep a realistic system.

7 References

- [1] Weiss, W. (ed.), Solar heated houses A design handbook for solar combisystems, IEA SHC Task 26, Solar Combisystems, James & James Science Publishers, 2003.
- [2] Streicher, W., Structure of reference buildings, Technical Report of Subtask C, IEA Task 26 Solar Combisystems, 2003.
- [3] Letz, T., Validation and background information on the FSC procedure, Technical Report of Subtask A, IEA Task 26 Solar Combisystems, 2002.

8 Appendix 1: Description of Components specific to this System

These are components that are not part of the TRNSYS standard library AND not part of the types used as "standard" by Task 26.

8.1 Type 11: Specific controller for System #8

Inputs:

HEATING LOOP Tm cuve TEMPERATURE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE TANK (°C) TEMPERATURE IN THE TOP OF THE TANK (°C) Thaut cuve ORDER TEMPERATURE FOR THE AMBIENT T° BUILDING (°C) Tcon amb Textn0 OUTSIDE TEMPERATURE (°C) RETURN TEMP. OF HEATING LOOP WITH ANOTHER CONTROLLER (°C) Tret ext Tamb AMBIENT TEMPERATURE $(^{\circ}C)$ Tcuve_ch Hencl_bru Tcuve ch OUTLET TEMPERATURE OF THE TANK FOR HEATING $(^{\circ}C)$ HOUR FOR ON/OFF OF THE BURNER (0 OR 1) (-) SOLAR LOOP Tbas cuve TEMPERATURE IN THE BOTTOM OF THE TANK $(^{\circ}C)$ Tcapt TEMPERATURE OF THE COLLECTOR $(^{\circ}C)$ mout sol MAXIMUM FLOW RATE FOR SOLAR LOOP $(^{\circ}C)$ DHW MIXING VALVE Tcuve e OUTLET TEMPERATURE OF THE TANK FOR DHW (°C) Cons ecs DHW DEMAND (kWh) m max e DHW MAXIMUM FLOW RATE (l/h) mtot el DHW MAXIMUM FLOW RATE AT THE NEXT TIME STEP (l/h) UAbuild UA VALUE OF BUILDING (W/K) **Outputs:** msol FLOW RATE OF THE SOLAR LOOP (l/h) Tch 2 TEMPERATURE OF HEATING LOOP $(^{\circ}C)$ DTcheff DIFFERENTIAL EFFECTIVE TEMPERATURE FOR SH $(^{\circ}C)$ mch tot2 FLOW RATE FOR HEATING LOOP (l/h)SWITCH ON OF THE BURNER Aux (-) On aux COUNT OF SWITCH ON OFF THE BURNER (-) Time_aux TIME OF SWITCH ON OF THE BURNER (h) HEATING FLOW RATE INTO THE TANK mret ch (l/h) m brass HEATING FLOW RATE INTO THE TANK FOR MIXING (l/h) m in e INLET FLOW RATE FOR DHW HX (l/h) Tmelange e MIXING DHW TEMPERATURE $(^{\circ}C)$ Tin e INLET TEMPERATURE DHW HX $(^{\circ}C)$ Qcalc e DHW LOAD A DAY (kWh) Tmin e MIN DHW HX TEMPERATURE $(^{\circ}C)$ MAX DHW HX TEMPERATURE $(^{\circ}C)$ Tmax e Surch_s OVER HEAT TO THE SOLAR LOOP (-) ONOFF S2 STATE OF THE SOLAR PUMP (-) FUNCTIONING TIME OF THE SOLAR PUMP Time_sol (h) FUNCTIONING TIME OF THE SH PUMP Time_ch (h) $(^{\circ}C)$ MIN COLLECTORS TEMPERATURE Tmin capt (°C) MAX COLLECTORS TEMPERATURE Tmax capt MIN AMBIENT TEMPERATURE $(^{\circ}C)$ Tmin amb $(^{\circ}C)$ Tmax amb MAX AMBIENT TEMPERATURE Och SH ENERGY A DAY (kWh) Oaux AUXILIARY ENERGY A DAY (kWh) Pen DHW DHW PENALTY ENERGY (kWh)

Pen SH20	SH PENALTY ENERGY BELOW 19.5°C	(kWh)
Pen SH24	SH PENALTY ENERGY ABOVE 24°C	(kWh)
Wfan	ELEC. ENERGY (FAN OF THE AUXILIARY HEATER)	(kWh)
Wch	ELEC. ENERGY (SH LOOP PUMP)	(kWh)
Wsol	ELEC. ENERGY (SOLAR LOOP PUMP)	(kWh)
Tmax cuve	MAX TANK TEMPERATURE	(°C)
rend g	BURNER EFFICIENCY FOR GAS	(-)
rend_o	BURNER EFFICIENCY FOR OIL	(-)
Trend b	TEMPERATURE AT THE BURNER LEVEL	(°C)
t1H3	USING TIME FOR THIS PARAMETER	(h)
t1H4	USING TIME FOR THIS PARAMETER	(h)

Parameters:

HEATING	LOOP	
DT140	DIFFERENTIAL ON/OFF OF THE BURNER	(°C)
Text161	EXTERNAL REFERENCE MINIMUM TEMPERATURE	(°C)
Tch162	MAXIMUM REFERENCE TEMPERATURE START HEATING	(°C)
DT168	DIFFERENTIAL TEMPERATURE BOILER/HEATING T°	(°C)
I170	TYPE OF BUILDING (HEAVY=3/LIGHT=1	(-)
R171	HEATING SPEED (1 OR 0)	(-)
P182	INTERNAL AMBIENT SENSOR (1 OR 0)	(-)
Infl183	FRACTIONAL INFLUENCE OF INT. AMB. SENSOR	(-)
Tecs190	TEMPERATURE OF DHW	(°C)
DTecs191	DIFFERENTIAL TEMPERATURE FOR DHW	(°C)
TBOT_1H3	BOTTOM TANK TEMP. TO STOP BURNER FOR DHW MODE	(°C)
DT_1H4	DIFFERENTIAL TEMP. COLLECTOR/BOILER ORDER	(K)
DT_1H5	MAXIMUM DIFFERENTIAL TEMP. COLLECTOR/TANK	(K)
DTon_ch	DIFFERENTIAL TEMP. AMB./ORDER	(°C)
mrad	EXPONENT RADIATOR	(-)
mch_tot	MAX FLOW RATE OF THE HEATING LOOP	(l/h)
DTchnom	DIFFERENTIAL TEMP. COME IN/RETURN HEATING	(°C)
Textam	SMOOTH TEMPERATURE ON/OFF (1/0)	(-)
Paux	AUXILIARY POWER	(kW)
SOLAR LC	OOP	
Tmax 1A4	MAXIMUM SOLAR COLLECTOR TEMPERATURE	(°C)
DTon_1A1	DIFFERENTIAL TEMP. SWITCH ON SOLAR PUMP	(°C)
DToff 1A2	DIFFERENTIAL TEMP. SWITCH OFF SOLAR PUMP	(°C)
Tmax 1A6	MAX TEMPERATURE FOR COOLING	(°C)

D1011_1112		(\mathbf{C})
Tmax_1A6	MAX TEMPERATURE FOR COOLING	(°C)
DT_1A7	DIFFERENTIAL TEMPERATURE FOR COOLING	(°C)
m1AB	MAXIMUM FLOW RATE	(l/h)
Vmin_1B1	FRACTIONAL MINIMUM SPEED OF SOLAR PUMP	(-)
Vmax_1B2	FRACTIONAL MAXIMUM SPEED OF SOLAR PUMP	(-)
DT_1B4	DIFF. TEMP. BEGINNING INCREASE SOLAR SPEED	(°C)
DT_1B5	DIFF. TEMP. MAX SOLAR SPEED	(°C)

DHW MIXING VALVE

Tinecs_m	AVERAGE TEMPERATURE FOR DHW	(°C)
DTinecs	DIFF. SHIFT TEMP. FOR DHW	(°C)
OFFS_ecs	OFFSET FOR DHW TEMPERATURE	(°C)
IEADHW	ON/OFF LOAD SPECIFICATION FILE	(-)

OTHER

Pfan	POWER OF THE FAN OF THE AUXILIARY HEATER		(kW)
Pch	POWER OF SH PUMP		(kW)
Psol_max	POWER OF SOLAR LOOP PUMP	(MAX SPEED)	(kW)
Psol_min	POWER OF SOLAR LOOP PUMP	(MIN SPEED)	(kW)

Availability: NO