

## Product Installation Quantum Series 285

### Photovoltaic (PV) Modules

#### Quantum Series

STU-285 PERC, STU-300 HJT

#### EPIQ Series

PERCB - C - (275W – 325W)

HJTb - C - (275W – 325W)

**Please read carefully the following product documentation and safety instructions.**

**Non-compliance with these instructions could cause serious injury or death and void the module warranty.**

### 1. Purpose of this documentation

This guide contains basic information regarding SolarTech Universal (SolarTech) photovoltaic modules, their installation and safe handling. All instructions should be read and understood before attempting installation. If there are any questions, please contact your dealer or SolarTech for further information.

This documentation refers to the PV-modules themselves and is not meant to be a complete installation manual for personnel not specifically trained to PV-modules. It serves as a general reference.

Generally, the installer must conform to all safety precautions in this documentation, as well as the applicable national codes and standards when installing SolarTech PV-modules. Before installing a solar photovoltaic system, the installer should become familiar with the mechanical and electrical requirements for photovoltaic systems. Keep this documentation in a safe place for future reference.

### 2. System components

(modules and mounting system; standard scope of delivery)

- SolarTech photovoltaic modules, IEC 61215ed. 2, IEC 61730 and UL 1703 certified framed glass/foil laminates with crystalline solar cells, permanently attached junction box, and double insulated 4mm<sup>2</sup> wires terminated in touch safe specific PV DC-connectors.
- The mounting system does not form part of SolarTech's supply.
- The modules were tested by being screwed through the mounting holes in the frame.
- Any module without a frame shall not be considered to comply with the requirements of UL 1703 unless the module is mounted with hardware that has been tested and evaluated with the module under this standard or by a field inspection certifying that the installed module complies with the requirements of UL 1703.

### 3. General safety relevant aspects

**Do not attempt to disassemble the module, and do not remove any attached nameplates or components. Doing so will void the warranty.**

- The modules are qualified for application class A: Hazardous voltage (IEC 61730: higher than 50V DC; EN 61730: higher than 120V), hazardous power applications (higher than 240W) where general contact access is anticipated.
- The module is considered to be in compliance with UL 1703 only when the module is mounted in the manner specified in this module documentation.
- Installing solar photovoltaic systems requires specialized skills and knowledge. It should be performed only by qualified and specially instructed personnel. The installer assumes all risk of injury, including risk of electric shock.

- Use only equipment, connectors, wiring and mounting hardware specifically designed for use in a photovoltaic system.

#### 3.1. Precautions for mechanical installation

- Quantum Series modules are designed for installation with specific photovoltaic mounting systems. Other use lies within the full responsibility of the installer.
- The mounting system must be capable of securely fixing Quantum Series modules exposed to uplift or load pressures of more than 3,800 N/m<sup>2</sup>.
- The mounting structure and hardware must be made of durable, corrosion- and UV-resistant material.
- Observe all instructions and safety precautions included with the mounting system to be used with the module.
- If modules are installed on roofs (non-building-integrated modules or panels), a fireproof underlay is needed. If modules are installed in roofs, all applicable local, regional and national codes and regulations have to be observed.

#### 3.2. Precautions for electrical installation

- Before any manipulation at an installed PV plant, switch it off first on AC-side after on DC-side of the inverter or the charge controller.
- When disconnecting wires connected to a photovoltaic module that is exposed to light, an electric arc may occur. Arcs can cause burns, start fires or otherwise create safety problems (up to lethal electric shock).
- Check for remaining voltage before starting, and observe the local safety relevant regulations for such working conditions.
- Under normal conditions, a photovoltaic module can produce more current and/or voltage than reported at standard test conditions.
- Contact with a DC voltage of 30V or more is potentially hazardous. Exercise caution when wiring or handling modules exposed to sunlight.
- With a serial interconnection of the modules, the sum of the open circuit voltage (Voc) at the lowest anticipated temperature must not pass over the maximum system voltage as indicated on the power label.
- Accordingly, the values of ISC and VOC marked on this module should be multiplied by a factor of 1.25 when determining component voltage ratings, conductor current ratings, overcurrent device sizes, and size of controls connected to the PV output. In the USA, refer to Section 690-8 of the National Electrical Code (NEC) for an additional multiplying factor of 125 percent (80 percent de-rating) which may be applicable.
- Only connect modules with the same rated output current in series. If modules are connected in series, the total voltage is equal to the sum of the individual module voltages. Add maximum series overcurrent protective device, where required.
- Only connect modules or series combinations of modules with the same voltage in parallel. If modules are connected in parallel, the total current is equal to the sum of individual module or series combination currents.
- Never connect modules in parallel without string diodes or adequate devices to avoid reverse current from one string to the other.
- Always use the same type of module within a particular photovoltaic system.
- If the sum of short circuit currents of the parallel connected modules passes over the reverse current (indicated on module power label and in the module data sheet), string diodes or fuses have to be used in each string of modules connected in parallel. These string diodes or fuses have to be qualified for the maximum expected current and voltage.
- Observe the instructions and safety precautions for all other components used in the system, including wiring and cables, connectors, DC-breakers, inverters, etc.

- Use appropriate safety equipment (insulated tools, insulating gloves, etc) approved for use on electrical installations.

### 3.3. General prescriptions for installation

- Do not apply paint or adhesive to the modules.
- Do not use mirrors or other hardware to artificially concentrate sunlight on the module.
- When installing modules, observe all applicable local, regional and national codes and regulations. Obtain a building and/or electrical permit where required.
- Keep children well away from the system while transporting and installing mechanical and electrical components.
- Do not wear metallic rings, watchbands, ear, nose, or lip rings or other metallic devices while installing or troubleshooting photovoltaic systems.
- Do not drill holes in the glass surface of the module. Doing so will destroy the module and void the warranty.
- Do not drill additional mounting holes in the module frame. Doing so will void the warranty.
- Do not lift the module by grasping the module's junction box or electrical leads.
- Do not stand or step on module. Danger of breaking the glass or slipping off with possibility of severe injury or death! Additionally the solar cells inside the module might crack.
- Do not drop the module or allow objects to fall on the module.
- Do not place any heavy objects on the module.
- Inappropriate transport and installation may damage the module glass or the solar cells inside the module.

## 4. Mechanical Installation

### 4.1. Robustness of modules and mounting system

Quantum Series modules have been tested to withstand snow loads of up to 5,400 N/m<sup>2</sup> and a wind pull of up to 3,800 N/m<sup>2</sup>. The tests were conducted with a static load for one hour.

The modules must not be mounted in regions, where higher wind and snow loads are expected.

The whole support structure needs to be strong enough to cope with above loads.

Load calculations to check for the applicability for the actual installation are within the responsibility of the system planner or installer.

### 4.2. Selecting the location

- Select only suitable locations for installation of the modules.
- In most cases, optimum performance is achieved if the modules face true south in northern latitudes and true north in southern latitudes.
- For detailed information on optimal module orientation, refer to standard solar photovoltaic installation guides or a reputable solar installer or systems integrator.
- The module should not be shaded at any time of the day.
- Do not install the module near equipment or in locations where flammable gases can be generated or collected.

### 4.3. Mounting methods

#### 4.3.1. Mounting with bolts

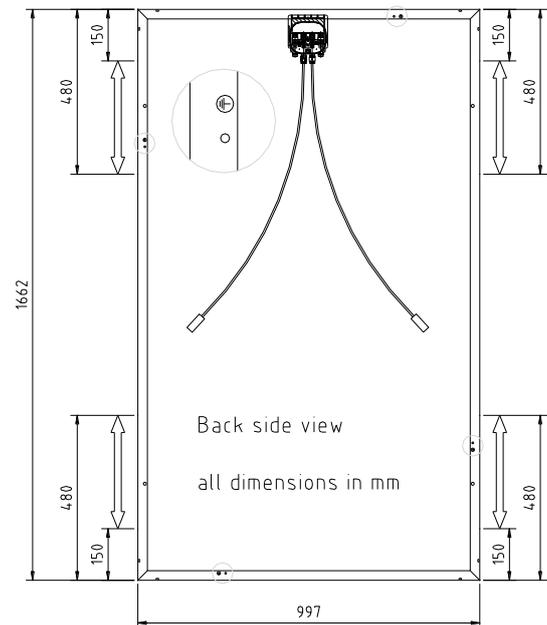
- The module must be attached and supported by at least four bolts M6 or M8 (depending on the situation) through the indicated mounting holes in chapter 4.3.3
- Most installations will use the four inner mounting holes on the module frame.
- Depending on the local wind and snow loads, additional mounting points may be required.

#### 4.3.2. Mounting with clamping hardware

- If module clamps are used to secure the module, the torque on the clamp bolt should be around 8–10 Nm.
- A minimum of four module clamps should be used, two on each long frame side, in the general clamping areas denoted by the wide arrows on the drawing in chapter 4.3.3
- Depending on the local wind and snow loads, additional module clamps may be required.

#### 4.3.3. Other

- Other specific photovoltaic mounting methods are acceptable as long as the minimum requirements as described in chapter 4, 4.3.1 and 4.3.2 are met.



## 5. Electrical Installation

### 5.1. Grounding

- All module frames must be properly grounded in countries, where grounding of modules is mandatory. Observe all local electric codes and regulations.
- A module with exposed conductive parts is considered to be in compliance with UL 1703 only when it is electrically grounded in accordance with the instructions and the requirements of the National Electrical Code.
- A bolted or screwed connection is required. It incorporates:
  - a screw size of M4 at least
  - a star washer under the screw head or a serrated screw must penetrate nonconductive coatings like anodized frame
  - screw and star washer in stainless steel
- Devices listed and identified for grounding metallic frames of PV modules are permitted to ground the exposed metallic frames of the module to grounded mounting structures.
- When using lay-in lugs, the grounding conductor should be inserted into the opening, and secured using the set screw.
- Functional grounding is not foreseen for the Quantum Series modules. If it is performed, local electric codes and regulations have to be observed, and used grounding means have to be isolated from live parts by reinforced insulation.

- In any case the grounding screws, bolts or other parts have to be used separately from mounting parts of the module.
- Where common grounding hardware (nuts, bolts, star washers, splicing lock washers, flat washers and the like) is used to attach a listed grounding/bonding device, the attachment must be made in conformance with the grounding device manufacturer's instructions.
- Common hardware items such as nuts, bolts, star washers, lock washers and the like have not been evaluated for electrical conductivity or for use as a grounding devices and should be used only for maintaining mechanical connections and holding electrical grounding devices in the proper position for electrical conductivity. Such devices, where supplied with the module and evaluated through the requirement in UL 1703, may be used for grounding connections in accordance with the instructions provided with the module.

## 5.2. General electrical installation

**WARNING!** Electrical shock hazard! Do not touch bare conductors or other potentially energized parts.

- Photovoltaic modules convert light energy to direct-current electrical energy. They are designed for outdoor use.
- Do not use modules of different configurations in the same system.
- Quantum Series modules are supplied with IEC and UL certified cables and connectors for serial electrical connections.
- For field connections, use only additional cables insulated for a minimum of 90°C, rated for wet conditions and resistant to ultra violet radiation (where exposed). They shall be qualified for the expected maximum current, maximum voltage and environmental conditions. Minimum cross section for serial connection: 4mm<sup>2</sup> (#12 AWG).
- The PV-DC-connectors must never be disconnected under load! Stick to the first rule of chapter 3.2.
- Refer to the relevant standards in your country to determine over current, conductor ampacity and size requirements.
- For best performance, ensure that positive and negative DC wires run closely together avoiding loops, which will also reduce the strength of inductive impacts of nearby lightning strikes.
- Following the installation of a module string, its performance is checked to ensure proper functioning. At least, ISC and VOC need to be checked with appropriate equipment and circuit breakers.

## 6. Maintenance

SolarTech recommends the following maintenance items to ensure optimum performance of the module:

- Clean the glass surface of the modules as necessary. Use water and a soft sponge or cloth for cleaning. A mild, non-abrasive cleaning agent can be used if necessary. Do not use dishwasher detergent.
- Do not use high pressure cleaning systems or a pressure cleaner.
- Electrical and mechanical connections and the general condition of an installed PV-system should be checked periodically by qualified personnel to verify that they are clean, secure and undamaged.
- Any occurring problems must only be investigated by qualified personnel.
- Observe also the maintenance instructions for all other components used in the system.
- Be aware that the cells are protected from hot spot only with functioning bypass diodes. If bypass diodes need to be replaced see the instructions of the junction box supplier and use the same type of diode as installed originally.

## 7. Shutting down the system

- Disconnect system from all power sources in accordance with instructions for all other components used in the system.

- The PV-DC-connectors must never be disconnected under load! Use switches designed for being disconnected under the prevailing DC-load or stick to the first rule of chapter 3.2.
- The system should now be out of operation and can be dismantled. In doing so, observe all safety instructions as applicable to installation.

## 8. Module Fire Performance

The fire rating of this module is valid only when mounted in the manner specified in the mechanical mounting instructions. It depends on the used backsheet type and is declared in the module datasheet.

## 9. Module specification

For electrical and mechanical ratings of the concerned modules please refer to the current module data sheet.

## 10. Disclaimer of liability

Because the use of this documentation and the conditions or methods of installation, operation, use and maintenance of photovoltaic products are beyond SolarTech's control, SolarTech does not accept responsibility and expressly disclaims liability for loss, damage, or expense arising out of or in any way connected with such installation, operation, use or maintenance. No responsibility is assumed by SolarTech for any infringement of patents or other rights of third parties, which may result from use of the PV product. No license is granted by implication or otherwise under any patent or patent rights.

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Please consult your dealer or the manufacturer concerning the warranty of your modules. If you have any further questions, your dealer will gladly assist you.

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