

Sustainable energy supplies for Eawag

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According to the Guidelines for Environmental Protection at Eawag issued in 1994, consumption of non-renewable energy was to be reduced to 20% of 1990 levels by 2025. The target of 1.3 TJ per year for non-renewable sources of heating energy will probably already be met in 2008 when the renovated office building in Dübendorf is occupied and the rented Chriesbach property is no longer used. Further efforts are required in the areas of transport and electricity consumption. A substantial reduction in the demand for power from the current level of more than 8 TJ per year (2.2 million kWh) to the target of 5 TJ has been shown to be unrealistic. The Eco-Team therefore asked the Directorate to set new energy goals, taking into account experience with the new building Forum Chriesbach and the requirements of the 2000-watt society. New goals were approved by the Directorate on 4 December:

E Eawag is to take all necessary measures to meet its entire electricity and heating requirements with re-

newables and in an environmentally sound manner as soon as possible, but by 2025 at the latest.

E Electricity purchasing is to be gradually switched over to naturemade star green power supplies from 2007, with this source to cover all requirements from 2010.

E Work-related travel undertaken by Eawag staff is to be carbon-neutral. In the process, the potential for savings is to be fully exploited when property and equipment is renewed and in the organization's operations. In addition, CO₂ emissions are to be offset through contributions and funding of appropriate projects not only in the case of air travel, as hitherto, but for all types of travel. In switching to renewables, the production of solar power on Eawag's own buildings is to be consistently expanded. Wherever possible and reasonable, co-generation is to be used. The remaining requirements are to be covered by green power with the naturemade star label, which was partly developed by Eawag (cf. page 37). This certification guarantees that hy-

dropower generation complies with ecological requirements and is in line with sustainable development. As naturemade star-labelled power cannot be purchased directly in Dübendorf, it will be obtained indirectly through the purchase of certificates. This means that green power will be supplied elsewhere at standard rates in the quantities financed by our procurement.

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The solar panel on the roof of Forum Chriesbach. A photovoltaic system is also to be installed on the roof of the old office building (back) when the refurbishment and upper storey addition is complete.