

Manufacturer Case Study



Project Profile

The 103.4 kW solar electric system at M.A. Silva Corks, USA headquarters in Santa Rosa, CA provides 100% of their annual electric needs. The premier cork production facility is now fully powered by clean, renewable energy.

The system's photovoltaic panels convert sunlight directly into electricity and will generate approximately 151,762 kilowatt hours of energy annually, providing all of their electric needs with solar power. The solar energy produced each day is enough to power 45 average homes. It spares the air nearly 80 tons of harmful greenhouse gases annually. Over the next 30 years, the air pollution saved will be equivalent to eliminating over 5.4 million miles of driving.

Going solar is only part of M.A. Silva Cork, USA's commitment to environmentally conscious business practices. With Sonoma Green Business Program and ClimateSmart™ certified facilities, they're committed to sustainability and eco-friendly operations.

The 103.4 kW photovoltaic system consists of three separate systems, powering the warehouse, production facility and offices. The combined, roof-mounted system utilizes (376) SunTech 275 watt panels and spans 8,475 square feet, helping to insulate and shade the building. Additional energy was saved by added insulation, reducing the building's heating and cooling load. A ProSolar Tilt racking system was utilized to position the panels at an angle to maximize energy capture from the sun.



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License # 497797

Specifications

System Size	103.4 kW DC 89.9 kW AC
Location	Santa Rosa, CA
Solar Panel	(376) SunTech 275 W
Inverter	(1) Satcon PVS-75 (4) SMA SB6000US
Mounting System	ProSolar w/ FastJack
Estimated Annual kWh	151,762
Cumulative Cash Positive	5-6 Years

Customer Profile

For 40 years, M.A. Silva Corks, USA and its production facilities M.A. Silva Cortiças in Portugal have been delivering the finest premium wine corks in the world. Based in Sonoma County California, M.A. Silva Corks, USA is a leading provider of premium natural wine corks, glass and packaging to North American markets. Its certified quality-assurance program ensures that products provide unmatched visual, mechanical, and sensory characteristics along with impeccable customer service to winemakers seeking to produce the finest wine, sparkling wine, and spirits.

About SolarCraft

SolarCraft is one of the most experienced solar energy contractors in California. For more than 26 years this certified Green Business has been providing Solar Electric, Solar Pool Heating and Solar Hot Water services including consulting, design, installation, financing, monitoring and maintenance. **SolarCraft** is a full-service solar contractor, employing licensed and certified solar installers who are experts in their field. Since 1984 **SolarCraft** has installed more than 4,500 solar energy systems in California with over 1.3 million square feet of solar collector surface area, saving customers more than \$7 million annually and preventing production of more than 28,000 tons of greenhouse gases every year.

"Using solar power to provide 100% of the energy needs for our facility further demonstrates our commitment to sustainability both in our business operation and our products."

Neil Foster
President and Owner of
M.A. Silva Corks, USA.