

Title: Solar Panels, Vepica Caracas

Date: 2011

Scope: Installation

Location: Caracas

About Vepica:

Venezolana de Proyectos Integrados C.A. (Vepica) is a multinational private equity, engineering firm that specializes in the energy industry. Vepica offers turnkey, engineering, inspection, operation and maintenance, and environmental services to the oil and gas industry, alternative energy, chemical, power generation, infrastructure, transportation, mining, and telecommunications industries.

Executive Summary:

Installation of 195 solar panels, 230 watts each, at the new Vepica Headquarters located in Caracas.

The panels add 45 kWh to the internal grid and account for energy savings of up to 10 %.

Challenges:

VEPICA has always had a strong commitment to the environment and the ecosystem that surrounds it.

Traditionally, efforts were limited to campaigns to save energy and the appropriate use of water in the workplace, along with paper and cardboard recycling programs. Moving to new corporate headquarters allowed us to take our commitment one step further, and in 2013, our Building Headquarters in Caracas obtained the LEED Silver Certification, becoming the first building in Venezuela to obtain this title.

This certification seeks to promote the construction of buildings with low environmental impact, both in the construction stage and once the building is operational.

As a banner to our commitment with the environment, and framed within the LEED Certification process, an installation of photovoltaic panels was designed and built on the roof of the building, with a capacity to generate a maximum 45 kWh, contributing almost 10% of the building's daily energy requirement. At this time, the small solar farm is the largest photovoltaic installation on a building in Venezuela.

Vepica Solutions:

Due to the fact that the space available on the roof was already occupied by the building's air conditioning system, a metal structure was built that serves as a roof to the dining area on the terrace level and currently supports the 195 solar panels, collecting a total of 330 m² of sunlight.