

PERFECTING SOLAR IN PRESCOTT

Customer:
Arizona Public Service (APS) Company
generates, sells and delivers electricity and serves more than one million customers in 11 of Arizona's 15 counties.

With over two feet of snowfall annually and average temperatures ranging from -10 °F to 103°F, Prescott's mile-high location in the Arizona desert offers rigorous real world conditions for field-testing solar systems. For Amonix and Arizona Public Service (APS) Company, Prescott presented an unparalleled opportunity to further their collective knowledge about utility-scale solar power generation. In 2002, they partnered to install the world's largest utility-scale concentrated photovoltaic (CPV) power plant there.

Today, the five Amonix systems in Prescott continue to provide clean, reliable energy for Arizona residents. They also have served as the design prototype for further advances in Amonix technology. Tried, tested and tweaked for six years in the harsh desert climate, the Prescott installation continues to shine brightly for APS and Amonix.

Built near Prescott Airport, each of the five Amonix CPV systems are more than 77' wide and 45' tall. They consist of seven modular MegaModule™ units with an output of 5 kW each, for a combined output of 35 kW per system, representing a 40% improvement over Amonix's previous CPV systems. The site also has a substantial installation of flat plate solar panels, which add to total installed capacity at the site, and function as a relative performance benchmark for the CPV systems.

Location:
Prescott Airport Solar Power Plant
(near Love Field Airport)
Prescott, Arizona



175 kW Amonix Installation at APS

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Compared to traditional solar panels, the Amonix proprietary CPV systems require less use of expensive solar cell material, allowing more electricity to be generated from smaller cells. The Amonix systems incorporate Fresnel lenses, which concentrate the sun's rays 500 times onto smaller, higher-efficiency multi-junction solar cells, enabling the systems to produce electricity more cost-effectively.

For maximum performance, the systems are also mounted on gearless pivoting hydraulic drives that track the sun's movement throughout the day. This maximizes energy production and better matches it to APS customers' peak midday demand.

According to Vahan Garboushian, founder and CTO of Amonix, "Our partnership with APS in Prescott has been invaluable in providing us with the opportunity to harden our CPV systems under real-world four-season environmental conditions. The know-how we've gained here is an instrumental step in evolving our design toward vastly improved performance and more cost-competitive utility-scale solar power."

About Amonix

Amonix designs and manufactures concentrated photovoltaic (CPV) solar power systems that require less water, use land more efficiently, and produce more energy per acre than any other solar technology. Designed for utility-scale installations starting at two megawatts, Amonix systems are deployed quickly and achieve optimal performance and reliability while delivering an industry-leading levelized cost of energy (LCOE). With the industry's longest track record of real-world CPV deployments, Amonix is proven and bankable – the best choice for solar power systems in sunny and dry climates.

Founded in 1989, Amonix is headquartered in Seal Beach, CA, and has design and manufacturing facilities in Torrance, CA and Seal Beach.

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