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[SunTrac Announces 10-foot Tracking Thermal Panel](#)

Golden, CO August 11, 2011 – SunTrac Solar today announced a new 10-foot version of its tracking parabolic concentrator in a flat-plate enclosure. The addition of SunTrac's second panel version (the original 'TC-27' panel is 8 feet in length) represents a big step forward for the Golden, Colorado start-up. SunTrac CEO and founder Bill Lowstuter is enthusiastic at the prospects for the new TC-40 model. "This panel will allow us to improve overall effectiveness in terms of cost per btu for industrial applications." said Lowstuter.

25% more panel surface area translates to a total of about 36 feet of parabolic surface. The result is about 25% higher btu output, with less racking, lower installation costs, and less roof or ground-mounted space required for comparable solar thermal systems. SunTrac rates the btu output for the TC-40 panel in a range from 30 to 45 thousand btus (kbtu) per panel per day. Actual btu output is a function of a variety of factors, including process temperature, solar 'insolation', and outside air temperature.

The biggest danger to any solar thermal panel is 'stagnation', which is caused by the panel getting too hot ('over-temperature condition'). As a tracking concentrator, SunTrac can stop tracking at a pre-set temperature level and avoid over-temperature. There is no way to turn a flat-plate or evacuated tube panel off. The typical way for a flat plate system to deal with over temperature is to drain the fluid back into a tank when the temperature gets too high. Evacuated tube collectors use a 'heat dump'. This means the system fluid must be circulated through a heat radiator to prevent overheating. SunTrac's intelligent panels eliminate this concern – significantly reducing costs for installation, 'balance of systems', and operation and maintenance costs.

SunTrac panels are highly efficient at process temperatures, from 140 to 250 degrees Fahrenheit. SunTrac Solar hot water panels are manufactured in Golden, Colorado. All parts are sourced in the USA.