



# Photovoltaic panels can be installed next to the railway





## Overview

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The Swiss Federal Office of Transport approved the project in October 2024 after rigorous testing and permit acquisition, allowing passenger trains to begin using the tracks above the solar installation from April 28. Swiss startup Sun-Ways is looking to do just that by installing solar panels in between railway tracks. Despite many household and business rooftops rocking solar panels, and dedicated "farms" also soaking up the Sun's energy, there's still huge potential for harvesting much more. Solar panels are set to be rolled out "like carpet" on railway tracks in. Innovators are leveraging new technologies to install solar panels on sound barriers and other railroad infrastructure. Support CleanTechnica's work through a Substack subscription or on Stripe. The "revolutionary" technology is.



## Photovoltaic panels can be installed next to the railway



[What Are Photovoltaics? \(2026\) . ConsumerAffairs®](#)

Photovoltaic technology lets you generate electricity from a renewable source: the sun. Unlike traditional methods of electricity generation, which often rely on fossil fuels, photovoltaics

[Three New Ways To Install Solar Panels On Railway Infrastructure](#)

Last year, word dropped that a Swiss firm had developed a new rapid-fire system for installing solar panels between railroad ties. That's a clever way to maximize railroad infrastructure



[Solar PV Energy Factsheet . Center for Sustainable Systems](#)

Solar energy can be harnessed two primary ways: photovoltaics (PVs) are semiconductors that generate electricity directly from sunlight, while solar thermal technologies use sunlight to heat water for ...

[Switzerland Pilots First Solar Power Plant on Active Railway Tracks](#)

In Switzerland, a solar technology startup is making use of open spaces between railway tracks to place solar panels. The panels can collect solar power, even with trains using the railway ...



## Photovoltaics

Photovoltaics (PV) is the conversion of light into electricity using semiconducting materials that exhibit the photovoltaic effect, a phenomenon studied in physics, photochemistry, and electrochemistry. The ...



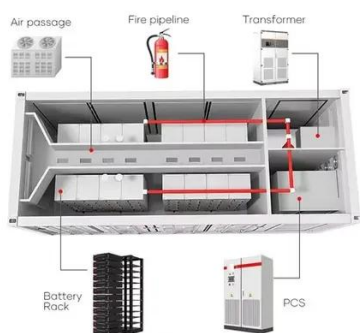
### [Solar power project hits the rails with between-track panel pilot](#)

Sun-ways is looking to tap into the estimated 1-TWh annual energy potential from the 5,000-km of railroad tracks in Switzerland by laying removable PV panels between them.



### [Photovoltaics \(PV\) - Definition & Detailed Explanation](#)

Photovoltaic systems work by utilizing solar cells to convert sunlight into electricity. These solar cells are made up of semiconductor materials, such as silicon, that absorb photons from ...



## Photovoltaics and electricity



A photovoltaic (PV) cell, commonly called a solar cell, is a nonmechanical device that converts sunlight directly into electricity. Some PV cells can convert artificial light into electricity. ...



### [Solar Panels to Be Put on Rail Tracks - But Will They Work?](#)

"This will be the first time that solar panels will be installed on a railway track with trains that pass over them," Sun-Ways CEO Joseph Scuderi said. The removable innovation is a crucial ...



### [World's First Removable Solar Power Plant on Rail Tracks](#)

An international analysis has suggested that deploying photovoltaic systems alongside railway tracks can be economically viable and technically feasible. Researchers addressed concerns ...



### **Swiss Startup Stuns the World by Powering Trains With the First-Ever PV**

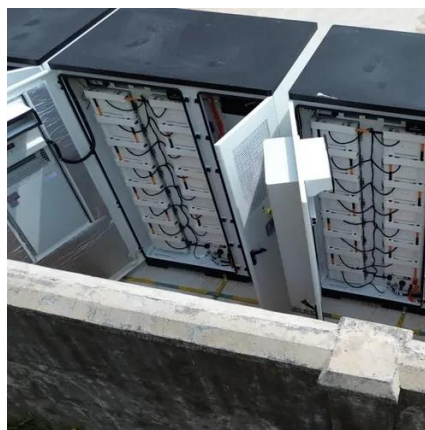
A Swiss startup has achieved a groundbreaking milestone by launching the world's first photovoltaic solar plant on railway tracks, promising to revolutionize renewable energy integration in ...



## **Photovoltaics , Department of Energy**



Photovoltaic (PV) technologies - more commonly known as solar panels - generate power using devices that absorb energy from sunlight and convert it into electrical energy through semiconducting ...



### [How Do Solar Cells Work? Photovoltaic Cells Explained](#)

The conversion of sunlight, made up of particles called photons, into electrical energy by a solar cell is called the "photovoltaic effect" - hence why we refer to solar cells as "photovoltaic", or PV ...

### [Solar panels will be rolled onto Swiss railway tracks 'like a carpet'](#)

After long delays, the removable PV system will finally be tested on a western track next spring. Solar panels are set to be rolled out "like carpet" on railway tracks in Switzerland in a



### [Switzerland Trials Railway Tracks With Solar Panels To Power Trains](#)

A solar technology startup in Switzerland is hoping to exploit the open space between railway tracks to produce sustainable energy by placing solar panels.



### [Switzerland turns train tracks into solar power plants](#)



Projects in Germany, Italy, France and Japan are testing solar panels between the rails. However, the Swiss start-up is the first to have designed a removable system that can be placed on



### **Swiss startup activates world's first PV solar plant on railway tracks**

An international research team recently carried out a technical and economic assessment to evaluate the viability of installing PV systems between or alongside railway tracks for rural



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