



AUROVILLE, INDIA

Locally manufactured solar modules in Auroville are easily compatible with the Grundfos SQFlex.

SQFlex guarantees independence in Auroville

In the late 60's a group of people dreamed of creating a place "that no nation can claim as its sole property, where all human beings can live freely as citizens of the world." Only a few years later the Utopian dream became Auroville Universal Township in the South Indian State of Tamil Nadu, which today counts a population of 1800 representing more than 30 nationalities. Arising from Auroville's adherence to principles of collective and harmonious living, renewable energy development and implementation has come to feature strongly in the community. As a result there are several local enterprises with impressive renewable energy expertise, which they apply within the community and "export" beyond. Among those is AURORE (Auroville Renewable Energy), which has developed a special expertise in solar water pumping systems, installing more than 1000 of these systems throughout India.

Grundfos provided

- Low maintenance
- Unmatched compatibility
- Excellent service



The situation

Electricity is cheap in India. In fact it is so cheap that energy savings are not a major concern at all. However, the majority of the clients in Auroville do not have grid-connection, leaving no alternative to a renewable energy solution for a supply of drinking water as well as water for irrigation.

What's more, Auroville is an international role model of future energy savings and the community serves as a vast demonstration site for the application of renewable energy technologies. Therefore, most of the customers were already equipped with solar modules, but required reliable and low maintenance pump systems.

The Grundfos solution

In accordance with Auroville's aspiration to utilise renewable energy, AURORE has so far installed 6 Grundfos SQFlex Solar systems. The solutions were exactly the reliable alternative to an outside electricity supply that the inhabitants of Auroville required.

Not only was independency of outside electricity an important factor, compatibility with locally manufactured solar modules and track racks was also an essential asset when choosing the Grundfos SQFlex.

The outcome

The main benefit for the people of Auroville and Tiruvannamali is that they are independent of any outside electricity supply. The Grundfos SQFlex solutions have proven to be very reliable with low maintenance input and the compatibility of the SQFlex has furthermore enabled them to reuse their existing solar panels and thus save money.

"You have a really fantastic product" says Jos van den Akker a solar engineer for AURORE. He is very pleased with the reliable SQFlex solutions and service provided by the Grundfos service centre in Chennai. AURORE is promoting the Grundfos SQFlex throughout India, because of its unique possibility to pump on both solar, wind and grid-electricity, which is unmatched by anything else so far.



Grundfos products used

- 6 SQFlex 2.5-2 pumps
- 50 SP 5A-7 and SP 3A-10 submersible pumps