

NABCEP CERTIFICANT PROFILE

Bruce Padgett



Bruce Padgett obtained the NABCEP Solar Thermal Installer Certification in 2008 and is the founder and president of Capitol Solar Energy LLC located in Denver, Colorado. Capitol Solar Energy designs, installs, and services solar thermal systems. He earned a BA degree from the University of Colorado in 1978 in Environmental Studies and Solar Energy Physics.

“In 1982, I was broke, unemployed, and had just moved to the Denver area. I responded to a ‘help wanted’ ad for a solar thermal company that was booming due to government incentives. One month later, they went broke. So I and one of my coworkers started our own solar thermal company. We survived with a commitment to installing systems that worked well and to excellence in workmanship and service.”

“I was asked by the Colorado Solar Energy Industries Association (CoSEIA) to become a NABCEP certificant in order to sit on the CoSEIA committee to advise the Governor’s Energy Office on solar thermal matters.”

“I believe that my passing of the Solar Thermal Installer Certification examination was due to the fact that it tested for the expertise that one learned through hands-on experience and knowledge gained from being in the solar industry. There were few questions about vague and obscure concepts.”

“Even though I have not advertised my NABCEP certification on my website, I have noticed that I got some telephone calls from potential customers who had seen my name on the NABCEP website.”

“I feel that the NABCEP certification has provided me with enough value that I am planning to recertify.”

“In the future, I would like to see NABCEP convince building departments that the NABCEP certification is the most relevant qualification for knowledge of solar thermal design. I wish they would use the NABCEP certification as a requirement to pull solar permits, because of its specific focus on solar technology, rather than less applicable licenses.”