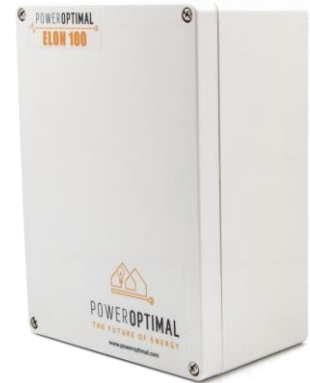


INTRODUCING THE  
*PowerOptimal Elon® 100*

*The innovative PowerOptimal Elon® 100 incorporates proprietary solar PV (photovoltaic) power management technology to allow for direct connection of solar PV arrays to electric geysers (water heaters) with optimised solar power use in a single compact unit. The system can be connected to the grid (AC mains) as well, and intelligently switches between AC and solar power supply. The system requires no inverter and no battery. It can be connected to standard AC geyser heating elements and AC thermostats, which translates into the most cost-effective solar water heating option today.*

Document Version: 2.08



**SPECIFICATIONS**

<b>Rated input voltage</b>	<b>250V AC, 250V DC</b>
<b>Rated input current</b>	25A AC, 20A DC
<b>Mains (AC) voltage range</b>	-50% to +100% (but will disconnect all loads when breach is greater than +/- 15%)
<b>System power supply</b>	Solar or 230V AC mains
<b>Power consumption</b>	<3W on mains power; <0.5W on solar power
<b>Shutdown</b>	Sufficient power supply capacity to manage processor, switching and data storage if both mains and solar supply fail
<b>Solar voltage (V<sub>oc</sub> at STC)</b>	20 – 250 V DC
<b>Solar power availability sensing</b>	Automatically determines availability of sufficient solar power before supplying load from solar PV array
<b>Controller settings</b>	Can be adjusted to run from “solar only” (100% solar energy use) to “mains only” (no solar energy use)
<b>Thermostat</b>	Uses the standard normally open thermostat switch associated with the geyser element as a sensor only, with less than 10mA sense current, to control power to the element
<b>Reverse polarity protection</b>	Protected against reverse connection of solar array
<b>Switching timing</b>	Built-in random numbers generation staggers switching times where more than one Elon 100 is deployed
<b>Enclosure ingress protection rating</b>	IP65
<b>Max. distance Elon unit to controller</b>	10 m
<b>Annual energy production compared to inverter-based system</b>	> 90% when solar array and geyser element are matched correctly
<b>Standards conformance</b>	IEC / SANS 60669, CISPR 11 & IEC 61000-6-1
<b>Dimensions &amp; weight</b>	Elon 100 main unit: 200 x 150 x 90 mm (LxWxH), 1.75 kg. Controller: 50 x 72 x 41 mm (LxWxH)
<b>Patents</b>	ZA 2019/02129


























It is important to match the solar PV array and heating elements for maximum power transfer efficiency. See **Table 6** for the recommended AC heating element power rating for different solar panel specifications and configurations.

Contact PowerOptimal for advice on module-element matching if module properties are significantly different to the values provided in the table.



**TABLE 1. ELON KIT EASY SELECTION GUIDE**

The below table provides an easy selection guide based on number of people in the household and/or hot water use (showers/day). More detailed information and selection guidelines are provided in Tables 2-7.

Number of solar PV modules	Showers per day*	50%+ of daily hot water use provided for how many people?	How many people off-grid for hot water?	Solar PV array size (kW <sub>p</sub> )	Matching geyser element size (kW)	Geyser (water tank) size (litres)
<b>3 modules</b>				1 – 1.2 	<b>4 or 3</b>	100 - 200 
<b>4 modules</b>				1.2 – 1.6 	<b>3 or 2</b>	100 - 200 
<b>5 modules</b>				1.5 – 2 	<b>2</b>	150 – 300 
<b>8 modules</b>				2.4 – 3.2 	<b>4</b>	150 – 300 
<b>10 modules</b>				3 – 4 	<b>4</b>	200+ 

\* 6-minute showers at 40 °C with 8 litre/min (low-flow) showerheads



**TABLE 2. ANNUAL AVERAGE LITRES OF WATER HEATED PER DAY**

The below example table indicates the average number of litres of water per day that the system will heat from 15 to 60 °C over a year period for different solar array peak power ratings. (The amount of water heated will vary with weather conditions, by geographic location and by season. Water heated per day will be significantly lower in winter and significantly higher in summer. These numbers indicate heating capacity – i.e. if no hot water is used on a given day, there will be less water heated on that day. This is only an approximate guide.)

Location	Solar + Elon kWh/kW <sub>p</sub> /yr	Annual average litres of water heated per day for X kW <sub>p</sub> installed solar capacity									
		0.8 kW <sub>p</sub>	1 kW <sub>p</sub>	1.2 kW <sub>p</sub>	1.4 kW <sub>p</sub>	1.6 kW <sub>p</sub>	1.8 kW <sub>p</sub>	2 kW <sub>p</sub>	2.5 kW <sub>p</sub>	3 kW <sub>p</sub>	3.5 kW <sub>p</sub>
Bloemfontein	1894	80	99	119	139	159	179	199	249	298	348
Cape Town	1624	68	85	102	119	136	154	171	213	256	299
Durban	1447	61	76	91	106	122	137	152	190	228	266
Jhb/Pretoria	1724	72	91	109	127	145	163	181	226	272	317
Mbombela	1627	68	85	103	120	137	154	171	214	256	299
Port Elizabeth	1565	66	82	99	115	132	148	164	205	247	288
Upington	1912	80	100	121	141	161	181	201	251	301	352
Saldanha	1623	68	85	102	119	136	153	170	213	256	298

**Example:**

For a solar PV array of **1.2 kW<sub>p</sub>**, an installation in Johannesburg would yield about 1724 kWh/kW<sub>p</sub>/yr, or 1724 x 1.2 kW<sub>p</sub> = **2069 kWh/yr**. This would be sufficient to **heat on average 109 litres of water per day**. For a family of 2 each using 80 litres of hot water per day, this would provide about 109 ÷ (80 x 2) or **68% of the annual hot water requirement**.



**TABLE 3. ANNUAL AVERAGE NUMBER OF SHOWERS PER DAY**

The below table indicates the average number of showers per day for which the system will supply hot water over a year period for different solar array peak power ratings. (The amount of water heated will vary with weather conditions, by geographic location and by season. Water heated per day will be significantly lower in winter and significantly higher in summer. These numbers indicate heating capacity – i.e. if no hot water is used on a given day, there will be less water heated on that day. This is only an approximate guide.)

Location	Solar + Elon kWh/kW <sub>p</sub> /yr	Number of showers per day (based on annual average) for X kW <sub>p</sub> installed solar capacity									
		0.8 kW <sub>p</sub>	1 kW <sub>p</sub>	1.2 kW <sub>p</sub>	1.4 kW <sub>p</sub>	1.6 kW <sub>p</sub>	1.8 kW <sub>p</sub>	2 kW <sub>p</sub>	2.5 kW <sub>p</sub>	3 kW <sub>p</sub>	3.5 kW <sub>p</sub>
Bloemfontein	1894	2.4	3.0	3.6	4.2	4.8	5.4	6.0	7.5	9.0	10.4
Cape Town	1624	2.0	2.6	3.1	3.6	4.1	4.6	5.1	6.4	7.7	9.0
Durban	1447	1.8	2.3	2.7	3.2	3.6	4.1	4.6	5.7	6.8	8.0
Jhb/Pretoria	1724	2.2	2.7	3.3	3.8	4.3	4.9	5.4	6.8	8.2	9.5
Mbombela	1627	2.1	2.6	3.1	3.6	4.1	4.6	5.1	6.4	7.7	9.0
Port Elizabeth	1565	2.0	2.5	3.0	3.5	3.9	4.4	4.9	6.2	7.4	8.6
Upington	1912	2.4	3.0	3.6	4.2	4.8	5.4	6.0	7.5	9.0	10.5
Saldanha	1623	2.0	2.6	3.1	3.6	4.1	4.6	5.1	6.4	7.7	9.0

The table is based on 6-minute showers at 40 °C and 8 litres/min low flow showerheads. Old showerheads can use up to 15 litres/min and would substantially reduce the number of showers.

**Example:**

For a solar PV array of 2.5 kW<sub>p</sub>, an installation in Johannesburg would yield about 1724 kWh/kW<sub>p</sub>/yr, or 1724 x 2.5 kW<sub>p</sub> = **4 310 kWh/yr**. This would be sufficient for about **6 to 7 showers per day**.



**TABLE 4. PERCENTAGE OF ANNUAL HOT WATER REQUIREMENT**

The below example table indicates what % of the annual hot water requirement will on average be supplied by the system for **2 people each using 80 litres of hot (60 °C) water per day**. (The amount of water heated will vary with weather conditions, by geographic location and by season. Water heated per day will be significantly lower in winter and significantly higher in summer. These numbers indicate heating capacity – i.e. if no hot water is used on a given day, there will be less water heated on that day. This is only an approximate guide.)

Location	Solar + Elon kWh/kW <sub>p</sub> /yr	Annual average % of hot water requirement supplied for 2 people each using 80 litres of hot water per day for X kW <sub>p</sub> installed solar capacity									
		0.8 kW <sub>p</sub>	1 kW <sub>p</sub>	1.2 kW <sub>p</sub>	1.4 kW <sub>p</sub>	1.6 kW <sub>p</sub>	1.8 kW <sub>p</sub>	2 kW <sub>p</sub>	2.5 kW <sub>p</sub>	3 kW <sub>p</sub>	3.5 kW <sub>p</sub>
Bloemfontein	1894	50%	62%	75%	87%	99%	112%	124%	155%	187%	218%
Cape Town	1624	43%	53%	64%	75%	85%	96%	107%	133%	160%	187%
Durban	1447	38%	47%	57%	66%	76%	85%	95%	119%	142%	166%
Jhb/Pretoria	1724	45%	57%	68%	79%	91%	102%	113%	142%	170%	198%
Nelspruit	1627	43%	53%	64%	75%	85%	96%	107%	134%	160%	187%
Port Elizabeth	1565	41%	51%	62%	72%	82%	92%	103%	128%	154%	180%
Upington	1912	50%	63%	75%	88%	100%	113%	126%	157%	188%	220%
Saldanha	1623	43%	53%	64%	75%	85%	96%	107%	133%	160%	186%

**Examples:**

An array of **1.2 kW<sub>p</sub>** will provide approximately **64%** of the annual hot water requirement for a family of two people in Cape Town.

An array of **2 kW<sub>p</sub>** will provide approximately  $124\% \times (4 / 2) = 62\%$  of the annual hot water requirement for a family of four people in Bloemfontein.



**TABLE 5. PEAK POWER OUTPUT FOR VARIOUS SOLAR MODULES AND ARRAY SIZES**

The peak power production ( $W_p$ ) of the modules at STC (Standard Test Conditions: irradiance 1000 W/m<sup>2</sup>, spectrum AM 1.5, module temperature 25 °C) and at NOCT (Nominal Operating Cell Temperature, irradiance 800 W/m<sup>2</sup>, spectrum AM 1.5, module temperature ~43 – 45 °C) are provided by the solar PV module manufacturer. The below table indicates the peak power at STC for a range of solar module power ratings and array sizes.

No. of cells per module	Module STC power rating ( $W_p$ )	Total peak power at STC in kW <sub>p</sub> for an array of X modules						
		3 modules	4 modules	5 modules	6 modules	8 (2 x 4) modules	10 (2 x 5) modules	12 (2 x 6) modules
60 or 120	265	0.795	1.06	1.325	1.59	2.12	2.65	3.18
60 or 120	270	0.81	1.08	1.35	1.62	2.16	2.70	3.24
60 or 120	275	0.825	1.10	1.375	1.65	2.20	2.75	3.30
60 or 120	280	0.84	1.12	1.40	1.68	2.24	2.80	3.36
60 or 120	285	0.855	1.14	1.425	1.71	2.28	2.85	3.42
60 or 120	290	0.87	1.16	1.45	1.74	2.32	2.90	3.48
60 or 120	295	0.885	1.18	1.475	1.77	2.36	2.95	3.54
60 or 120	300	0.90	1.20	1.50	1.80	2.40	3.00	3.60
60 or 120	305	0.915	1.22	1.525	1.83	2.44	3.05	3.66
60 or 120	310	0.93	1.24	1.55	1.86	2.48	3.1	3.72
60 or 120	315	0.945	1.26	1.575	1.89	2.52	3.15	3.78
60 or 120	320	0.96	1.28	1.6	1.92	2.56	3.2	3.84
60 or 120	325	0.975	1.3	1.625	1.95	2.6	3.25	3.9
60 or 120	330	0.99	1.32	1.65	1.98	2.64	3.3	3.96
72 or 144	310	0.93	1.24	1.55	1.86	2.48	3.10	3.72
72 or 144	315	0.945	1.26	1.575	1.89	2.52	3.15	3.78
72 or 144	320	0.96	1.28	1.60	1.92	2.56	3.20	3.84
72 or 144	325	0.975	1.30	1.625	1.95	2.60	3.25	3.9
72 or 144	330	0.99	1.32	1.65	1.98	2.64	3.30	3.96
72 or 144	335	1.005	1.34	1.675	2.01	2.68	3.35	4.02
72 or 144	340	1.02	1.36	1.70	2.04	2.72	3.40	4.08
72 or 144	345	1.035	1.38	1.725	2.07	2.76	3.45	4.14
72 or 144	350	1.05	1.40	1.75	2.10	2.80	3.50	4.2
72 or 144	355	1.065	1.42	1.775	2.13	2.84	3.55	4.26
72 or 144	360	1.08	1.44	1.8	2.16	2.88	3.6	4.32
72 or 144	365	1.095	1.46	1.825	2.19	2.92	3.65	4.38
72 or 144	370	1.11	1.48	1.85	2.22	2.96	3.7	4.44
72 or 144	375	1.125	1.5	1.875	2.25	3	3.75	4.5
72 or 144	380	1.14	1.52	1.9	2.28	3.04	3.8	4.56
72 or 144	385	1.155	1.54	1.925	2.31	3.08	3.85	4.62
72 or 144	390	1.17	1.56	1.95	2.34	3.12	3.9	4.68



No. of cells per module	Module STC power rating (W <sub>p</sub> )	Total peak power at STC in kW <sub>p</sub> for an array of X modules						
		3 modules	4 modules	5 modules	6 modules	8 (2 x 4) modules	10 (2 x 5) modules	12 (2 x 6) modules
72 or 144	395	1.185	1.58	1.975	2.37	3.16	3.95	4.74
72 or 144	400	1.2	1.6	2	2.4	3.2	4	4.8
72 or 144	405	1.215	1.62	2.025	2.43	3.24	4.05	4.86
72 or 144	410	1.23	1.64	2.05	2.46	3.28	4.1	4.92
72 or 144	415	1.245	1.66	2.075	2.49	3.32	4.15	4.98
72 or 144	420	1.26	1.68	2.1	2.52	3.36	4.2	5.04
72 or 144	425	1.275	1.7	2.125	2.55	3.4	4.25	5.1
72 or 144	430	1.29	1.72	2.15	2.58	3.44	4.3	5.16
72 or 144	435	1.305	1.74	2.175	2.61	3.48	4.35	5.22
72 or 144	440	1.32	1.76	2.2	2.64	3.52	4.4	5.28
72 or 144	445	1.335	1.78	2.225	2.67	3.56	4.45	5.34
72 or 144	450	1.35	1.8	2.25	2.7	3.6	4.5	5.4
72 or 144	455	1.365	1.82	2.275	2.73	3.64	4.55	5.46

**Examples:**

An array of **4 x 325 W<sub>p</sub> modules** in series will have a total peak power (at STC) of **1.3 kW<sub>p</sub>**.

An array of **2 parallel strings of 5 modules of 280 Wp each** (10 modules of 280 Wp in total) will have a total peak power (at STC) of **2.8 kWp**.



**TABLE 6. SOLAR PV MODULE AND AC HEATING ELEMENT MATCHING GUIDE**

Contact PowerOptimal for advice on module-element matching if module properties are significantly different to the values provided in the table below or for advice on bifacial & high voltage modules.

No. of cells	Module STC power rating ( $W_p$ )	Module NOCT mpp* voltage (V)	Module NOCT mpp* current (A)	Best element size match (rated power in kW @ 230V AC) for an array of X modules									
				No. of Modules:									
				2	3	4	5	6	6 (2x3)	8 (2x4)	10 (2x5)	12 (2x6)	
60 or 120	<b>250 – 330</b>	28 – 32	6.5 – 8.8	NR	4 kW	3 kW	2 kW	2 kW	2 kW	NR	4 kW	4 kW	4 kW
72 or 144	<b>295 – 455</b>	33 – 38.5	6.5 – 8.8	4 kW	3 kW	2 kW	2 kW	NA	4 kW	4 kW	4 kW	NA	

- \* mpp = maximum power point
- STC = Standard Test Conditions (irradiance 1000 W/m<sup>2</sup>, spectrum AM 1.5, cell temperature 25 °C)
- NOCT = Nominal Operating Cell Temperature (800 W/m<sup>2</sup>, spectrum AM 1.5, cell temperature ~ 43 – 45 °C)
- NA = Not Allowed (exceeds maximum rated Elon 100 voltage)
- NR = Not Recommended (poor array-heating element matching efficiency)

**Example:**

For 4 x 325 W<sub>p</sub> (1.3 kW<sub>p</sub>) 72-cell solar modules, the best heating element match is a 2 kW AC element (as rated at 230V).

Contact PowerOptimal for advice on array-element matching if module properties ( $V_{mpp}$  and  $I_{mpp}$  at NOCT) are significantly different to the values provided in the table.

**DO NOT DEVIATE FROM THE RECOMMENDED MODULE-ELEMENT MATCHING CONFIGURATIONS WITHOUT CONSULTING POWEROPTIMAL.**

**Maximum allowed solar PV array specifications at Standard Test Conditions (STC):**  
 $I_{sc} < 20A$        $V_{oc} < 250V$       Power < 4 kW<sub>p</sub>





**TABLE 7. ALTERNATIVE MATCHING (ABOUT 5 – 10% EFFICIENCY LOSS COMPARED TO TABLE 6)**

No. of cells	Module STC power rating (W <sub>p</sub> )	Module NOCT mpp* voltage (V)	Module NOCT mpp* current (A)	Best element size match (rated power in kW @ 230V AC) for an array of X modules								
				No. of Modules:								
				2	3	4	5	6	6 (2x3)	8 (2x4)	10 (2x5)	12 (2x6)
60 or 120	<b>250 – 330</b>	28 – 32	6.5 – 8.8	NR	3 kW	2 or 4 kW	3 kW	NR	4 kW	NR	3 kW	3 kW
72 or 144	<b>295 – 455</b>	33 – 38.5	6.5 – 8.8	NR	4 kW	3 kW	3** kW	NA	NR	NR	NR	NA

- \* mpp = maximum power point
- STC = Standard Test Conditions (irradiance 1000 W/m<sup>2</sup>, spectrum AM 1.5, cell temperature 25 °C)
- NOCT = Nominal Operating Cell Temperature (800 W/m<sup>2</sup>, spectrum AM 1.5, cell temperature ~ 43 – 45 °C)
- NA = Not Allowed (exceeds maximum rated Elon 100 voltage)
- NR = Not Recommended (poor array-heating element matching efficiency)
- \*\* Marginal (10%+ loss)

**Example:**

For 4 x 325 W<sub>p</sub> (1.3 kW<sub>p</sub>) 72-cell solar modules, the best heating element match is a 2 kW AC element (as rated at 230V), but a 3 kW element can also be used. It will have about 5 - 10% efficiency loss compared to a 2 kW element.

Contact PowerOptimal for advice on array-element matching if module properties (V<sub>mpp</sub> and I<sub>mpp</sub> at NOCT) are significantly different to the values provided in the table.

**DO NOT DEVIATE FROM THE RECOMMENDED MODULE-ELEMENT MATCHING CONFIGURATIONS WITHOUT CONSULTING POWEROPTIMAL.**

**Maximum allowed solar PV array specifications at Standard Test Conditions (STC):**  
 I<sub>sc</sub> < 20A                      V<sub>oc</sub> < 250V                      Power < 4 kW<sub>p</sub>

