

Understanding Solar Power in Engineering

Solar power is a renewable energy source that uses the Sun's energy to power machines and vehicles. Engineers use solar panels to collect sunlight and turn it into electricity. This electricity can be used to run things like lights, cars, and even small vehicles. Solar-powered vehicles are a great example of how solar energy can be used in engineering.

In engineering, designing a solar-powered vehicle requires understanding how sunlight can be captured and converted into energy. Solar panels are connected to motors, and when the Sun's light hits the panel, it creates energy that powers the vehicle. This process is called "solar energy conversion." By using solar energy, engineers are helping to reduce pollution and make the world more sustainable.

Building solar-powered vehicles also teaches us about the importance of renewable energy. Unlike fossil fuels, which can run out and harm the environment, solar energy is clean and can be used over and over again. Engineers around the world are working on ways to make solar energy even more efficient so we can use it for bigger projects, like cars or even airplanes.

Reference:

- U.S. Department of Energy. (n.d.). "Solar Energy Basics." Retrieved from <https://www.energy.gov/eere/solar/solar-energy-basics>