

Interview 11 - Dr. Daniel Trisant, Spain

Profile

Name: Daniel Trisant
Age: 47
Education: Geologist
Activity: Thermogeology
Lives in Barcelona
Experience in the thermogeology sector: 9 years
Geographical working area: SPAIN

Thermogeology in the Pyrenees, Spain

Mr. Trisant works by his own. He carries out in situ Thermal Response Test, then calculates installations to his customers and sometimes he also makes forensic works in poorly installed SGE.

What are the main geological and climatic differences between the Shallow Geothermal Energy development in the Pyrenees and the Alpine Space?

Thermogeological differences are clear: the Pyrenees have the same particularities as the Alpine region, but with rather less temperatures ratios, and a more or less similar geology, probably with minor scales of glacial structures.

We can see from our experience in the Pyrenees how important it is that we pay attention to the dynamic of the slope and hydrogeology.

As a Southern ridge mountains, sun oriented slopes are strongly influenced, because all side of mountain is fully exposed to the sun in a major angle than horizontal surface.

Similarly, hydrogeology is very important, we have a great water reservoir on winter, and water slides within erratic fissures through crystalline rocks, which gives us a strong variability on thermal conductivity.

And as an active tectonics ridge we can find some major thermalism outcrop, and thermogeology is directly affected, because we can find great T° differences within SGE installations.

Finally, the choice of a SGE system is influenced by social use of Pyrenees house that is dichotomic, with a second house residence use and a permanent, all-year round residence.

What are the most common geothermal installations?

The most common are little closed loop size installations, but we can see how medium size are growing since they are strongly supported by public investment. In general, now people is still a little skeptical about this technology, but I am confident that in a few of years SGE will gradually increase.

Is there a cadaster of SGE installations?

No, there isn't, as SGE is not a government competence. Every region has its own policy and they owe register for SGE installations with a lot of differences on it success.

Are they more diffused in urban or rural/isolated areas?

We can affirm that little SGE installations are very common in isolated areas or near urban areas, on the other hand we can see how medium size are very common in urban areas.

Do national and local regulations foster the NSGE development?

Yes and no, some regulations bring clarity and security to investors, and others bring mix water regulations and Closed SGE and tax excessively.

What are the main obstacles faced by thermogeology in the Pyrenees?

Specifically with thermogeology, the great obstacle is the poorly geological knowledge of society, due to the lack of thematic maps and of a SGE cadaster as well. Sometimes there is also confusion of terms between the geotechnical domain and the geothermal one. As a consequence, we lost a lot of information to implement SGE in the future with fully trust.



TRT in the Pyrenees.