

Guardian Business

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\$AUD→USD <b>\$1.04</b> <small>USD</small>	\$AUD→EUR <b>€0.80</b> <small>EUR</small>	GOLD <b>\$1559</b> <small>Perth spot price \$AUD</small>	OIL <b>\$93.24</b> <small>\$USD/barrel light sweet</small>
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**Powering up:** Solar panel installer Ryan Daws completes his final check of the big array of solar panels that will drastically reduce DIAB's power bill.

Picture: Gary Warner

# DIAB solar so large

**■ Gary Warner**

One of the biggest sheds in Geraldton has the city's biggest array of rooftop solar panels.

DIAB Engineering uses large amounts of electricity in its steel fabrication business and, after investigating, proprietor David Payne

decided that solar generation could be a big saver.

An impressive 416 photovoltaic solar panels now cover most of the roof over the main workshop at DIAB, each producing up to 240 watts for a maximum output capability of 100kW, one third of DIAB's usual requirements.

Ryan Daws, of Perth-based specialist installer Ausdaws Electrical, said the panels were all imported from Germany.

"They're called Conergy Power Plus and are very efficient," said Mr Daws.

"Germany adopted solar energy in a big way long before Australia,

and these panels use tried and proven technology."

All that innovation is not cheap, and even with a subsidy from Aus Industry the cost to DIAB Engineering was \$166,000.

However, Mr Payne is confident the panels were a good investment and is planning to make room for

more. "It was a big outlay but I am confident that the solar array will pay for itself within three years," he said.

"We were already planning to extend our main shed by 85 metres, which will allow us to install more solar panels and save more money in the long term." ■

## Mid West ASX listed companies

Close of trade information retrieved from asx.com.au

Code	Last	\$+/-	Bid	Offer	Open	High	Low	Volume	Code	Last	\$+/-	Bid	Offer	Open	High	Low	Volume
↓ Atlas Iron	1.185	-0.01	1.185	1.19	1.205	1.22	1.18	17411177	↑ Iluka Res	9.32	0.12	9.31	9.32	9.21	9.38	9.135	3373778
↓ Alchemy Res	0.078	-0.004	0.079	0.081	0.083	0.083	0.075	340500	■ Murchison Mtls	0.04	-	0.04	0.042	0.04	0.042	0.04	91178
↓ Ausquest Ltd	0.03	-0.004	0.03	0.036	0.03	0.03	0.03	85000	↓ Mutiny Gold	0.08	-0.002	0.08	0.082	0.082	0.083	0.08	124831
↓ AWE Ltd	1.29	-0.005	1.285	1.29	1.32	1.32	1.275	2324117	↑ Reed Res	0.115	0.005	0.11	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.105	472217
↑ Carbon Cnsc	0.042	0.002	0.042	0.045	0.042	0.042	0.042	18762	■ Mt Gibson Iron	0.55	-	0.55	0.555	0.555	0.57	0.545	11827618
↓ Silver Lake Res	2.13	-0.06	2.13	2.14	2.19	2.2	2.1	2413872	↓ Sandfire Res	6.32	-0.06	6.3	6.32	6.38	6.49	6.27	982988
↓ Echo Res	0.175	-0.01	0.175	0.19	0.185	0.185	0.175	27027	↑ Padbury Min	0.005	0.001	0.004	0.005	0.004	0.005	0.004	1090000
↓ Enterprise Mtls	0.135	-0.01	0.14	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.135	130000	■ Silver Swan	0.026	-	0.022	0.026	0.026	0.026	0.026	175000
■ Dynasty Mtls	0.07	-	0.059	0.069	-	-	-	-	↓ Toro Energy	0.12	-	0.12	0.125	0.12	0.125	0.115	1704590
■ Gindalbie Mtls	0.2	-	0.2	0.205	0.2	0.21	0.197	7845085	↓ QR National	4.04	-0.01	4.04	4.05	4.06	4.06	4.03	21778188