

SF Solar-Powered Business Leaders jumpSLIDE networks

JumpSLIDE Networks (www.jumpslide.com) is a computer consultancy business based in San Francisco's Mission District. Jon Voss, JumpSLIDE's founder, runs his business from home. In 2004, he installed a solar system on his rooftop to power both his business and his house. "It was right after the Iraq War started. We were trying to do our part and thought that moving away from the dependency on oil was the best thing we could do," says Voss.



Jon Voss, founder of jumpSLIDE Networks.

After speaking with three solar installers, Voss settled on Occidental Power (www.oxypower.com) to install his 2.4-kW solar system. "We were essentially looking for the best price, professionalism and experience and found all that in Occidental." Occidental Power helped Voss secure rebates. Now Occidental visits to maintain the system if there are any problems. "All I actually have to do is hose the panels down every now and again," said Voss.

The system cost Voss \$18,000 after rebates and produces about 4,400 kWh/year – enough to power almost 100% of his household and business. Before going solar Voss paid roughly \$120/month in electricity bills. "I'm expecting to pay some electricity this year because I installed new servers and they suck up a lot of energy, but it's going to be just a fraction of what I would have to pay without the system."

Voss made a number of energy efficiency upgrades, too. He insulated his roof and replaced old windows to minimize his energy use and maximize the benefit of his solar system. "It has definitely been a great investment so far and it will pay for itself in another eight years or so...One day we want to add solar water heating next to our solar PV system."



Voss next to his inverter

"I've been getting a lot of questions in the last six months about my system. People will stop me in street to ask about my system." Voss blogs about his solar system on JumpSLIDE.com. "In the technology field, there is just starting to be a lot of great progress toward reducing power consumption in computers. It's a bonus for us to be able to go one step further and run our servers off of solar power."



For more information please visit sf.solarmap.org or call (415) 355-3715.

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