



# Office of Research Services & Innovation

## Two-Axis Solar Tracking System

**INDUSTRY PARTNER: GREEN WORKS SOLAR POWER**

Start date: July 15, 2010  
End date: TBD  
Project team: Brent Brooks, principal investigator  
Steve Knihnisky, co-investigator  
Kelly Brooks, research assistant  
Brad Davies, research assistant  
Steven Kayser, industry partner

The Office of Research Services & Innovation at Durham College and Green Works Solar Power have signed a research agreement to collaborate in developing a new ground-mounted solar tracking system.

The project team is currently working on refining the mechanics of the system, to ensure a solid structural design for the solar tracking. The next step of the project includes designing and testing the solar tracking's electrical and programmable controls. This program will be designed to rotate the solar panels, which are mounted on a 90-foot cylinder, to track the sun based on the angles of its position for each day of the year.

A small scale prototype of the two-axis solar tracking system has been built in the Integrated Manufacturing Centre at Durham College. This system is 20-feet long and 12-feet wide. The student research assistants will begin testing the prototype's electrical system in early November 2010.

The Two-Axis Solar Tracking System received funding from the Colleges Ontario Network for Industry Innovation.