

## Ask the **Expert**

How can solar panels really improve a property? There is an increasing number of architects and designers incorporating PV into their roof plans. When these systems are designed by engineers on the front end, or retrofitted to an existing structure, they can help to control the total cost of energy for the life of the home. When specified properly they can enhance the roof to make a more attractive package.

A homeowner with PV panels won't have to experience the inflation costs of energy the way everyone else does. They can also offset roof costs. Many of these PV panels, including our Q.PEAK DUO BLK-G6+, are very strong and durable and can act as a roofing material. Our Q.PEAK DUO BLK-G6+ panels are available in a design-friendly black and have a long life with an inclusive



Ralph Alvarado, **Product Manager for** PV Products, Q CELLS

The sun is a billion-year clean energy generator. That is why engineers at leading global solar company Q CELLS are constantly doing research and development and creating new solar products, and they are succeeding. In 2019 one out of four solar roofs in the US was a  ${\bf Q}$   ${\bf CELLS}$  system. But adding solar to your property can do more than help the environment. Product Manager for PV Products at Q CELLS Ralph Alvarado has been working in the solar industry for more than half a decade. Here he shares other ways solar panels can enhance a property.

25-year warranty.

To get the most out of solar panels you need proper planning, design, and installation. The property needs to be inspected to determine the sun's path and potential shade structures. The roof needs to be properly configured for optimal energy collection. If the PV system is being installed on an existing structure, inspectors must determine if the roof is strong enough to handle the weight of the panels. Then engineers

need to determine the proper system size to support the needs of users. This can be done on an existing structure by analyzing past utility bills or on a





**102** SUMMER 2020

in the Fall issue of gb&d,

how a homeowner can benefit from an **energy** 

storage system

new property based

Design software is then used to opti-

mize the system

and determine the best module for the

design. We consider our Q.PEAK DUO

the BMW of solar. It is highly efficient

yet cost-effective. I

like to say it has all

the driving of the

out the supercar

supercar with-

price. The final

step is deciding

install an energy

storage system,

ESS HYB-G1, for

cost-savings.

on projections.