End-of-Life (EOL) Planning for SRU Horizon Smart Solar Water Heater

EOL Planning Category	
Product	 Goal: Effectively retire the SRUSC 2236 solar collector.
Identification	 Replaced by: The new, more efficient, and lower-priced SRUSC 2454 solar collector.
Rationale	 The SRUSC 2236 is no longer supportable with advancing technology. The replacement SRUSC 2454 is more efficient, less expensive, requires less space, and is compatible with the new SRU Horizon app. The retirement process will begin upon the new commercial system launch and span a one-year period.
Retirement Strategy	 Position the SRUSC 2454 as a direct, high-value upgrade to the SRUSC 2236. Use the retirement as an opportunity to reinforce SRU's commitment to innovation and customer support, generating goodwill and potential upsell opportunities.
Proposed Mitigation Plan	 Announce the SRUSC 2236 retirement at the time of the new system launch. Contact all known current users and offer a replacement SRUSC 2454 at a 50% discount with free installation. Honor all existing warranties and contractual leases for the SRUSC 2236. Update the corporate website with a video and FAQ explaining the retirement and conversion plan.
Communications Planning	 Notify all current SRUSC 2236 customers via both direct mail and email. Have sales representatives personally call critical customers to discuss options. Schedule a series of Teams video teleconferencing calls for Q&A sessions. Equip all customer support and sales personnel with detailed retirement information.
Internal Impact	 Sales and Customer Support will manage all customer communications and inquiries regarding the EOL. Manufacturing and Operations will cease ordering new parts for the SRUSC 2236 and manage the remaining inventory for service needs. Installation teams must be prepared for the increased demand for conversion projects.
External Impact	 Existing SRUSC 2236 customer issues will continue to be managed by Customer Support as long as parts are available. The 50% discount incentive will be offered for a one-year period to encourage migration. Customers will be informed that failure to replace the system may eventually lead to an inability to service the unit as parts are depleted.
Cost Analysis	 The retirement program is designed to be a break-even initiative after the customer discount. The strategic value comes from generating customer goodwill and creating opportunities to sell upgraded full systems. The new SRUSC 2454 is less expensive for the customer to purchase and maintain, providing a strong financial benefit for them to convert.

Scheduling	 Milestone 1: Announce the SRUSC 2236 retirement in May 2026, coinciding with the new system launch. Milestone 2: Complete the conversion of all customer units within 18 months of the launch. Milestone 3: End all support for the SRUSC 2236 after the 18-month conversion period.
Risk Analysis	 Retirement communications may not reach all SRUSC 2236 users. Customers may be unwilling to fund the conversion, even with a 50% discount. SRUSC 2236 units may fail before customers can convert. Parts and inventory shortages for the SRUSC 2236 may occur before the retirement period ends. A lack of installation personnel may create a bottleneck in handling the conversion demand.
Critical Success Factors (CSF)	 Achieve 100% reach to inform all current SRUSC 2236 customers of the EOL plan. Successfully convert all SRUSC 2236 units to the new SRUSC 2454 within 18 months of the new system launch.