



SMA Solar Technology AG – Press Release

## **SMA Wins Prestigious Manufacturing Excellence Award in Two Categories**

**Niestetal, November 13, 2017 – SMA Solar Technology AG (SMA) has won this year’s Manufacturing Excellence Award (MX Award) in the Process Innovation and Product Innovation categories. Every year, the MX Award honors top companies for ground-breaking best practice solutions. It is a benchmarking competition for the industry in German-speaking countries. SMA is receiving the award for the successful implementation of highly-efficient processes for sustainable cost reduction and innovative methods in developing new products. According to the jury, SMA has impressively succeeded in guaranteeing its future in a challenging market and setting the course for continuing to operate successfully in an increasingly digital energy world.**

“We are delighted that the experts on the jury have recognized our commitment with two awards,” said Dr. Jürgen Reinert, SMA CTO and COO. “In particular, this is owing to our dedicated employees, efficient production processes, innovative product development processes and clear focus on productivity, the reduction of fixed costs and stringent change management. SMA thus reinforces its leading position in the solar industry and shows that, two years after a company transformation with profound changes, it is ideally equipped to survive in a challenging market and pave the way for its customers to an increasingly digitized energy world.”

Every year, the MX Award competition awards prizes to production companies for their ground-breaking solutions. In addition to partners from the industry, the MX Award is supported by the Logistics department at the Technical University of Berlin and the Chair of Production Engineering at RWTH Aachen. The participating companies receive valuable suggestions for the further development of their own processes and methods in the form of structured and thorough feedback from these experts. The judging for the MX Award competition takes place in two stages. First, the companies’ submissions are evaluated and the best companies in the Quality Management, Management Culture and Employee Integration, Information Technology, Logistics and Network Management, Process Innovation, Product Innovation, Customer Focus, Best SME and Overall Winner categories are nominated. An in-depth on-site analysis is then carried out by independent industry experts.

Learn more about the MX Award here: <http://manufacturing-excellence.de/>



## **About SMA**

The SMA Group with sales of around €1 billion in 2016 is the global market leader for solar inverters, a key component of all PV plants. SMA offers a wide range of products and solutions that allow for high energy yields for residential and commercial PV systems and large-scale PV power plants. To increase PV self-consumption efficiently, SMA system technology can easily be combined with different battery technologies. Intelligent energy management solutions, comprehensive services and operational management of PV power plants round off SMA's range. The company is headquartered in Niestetal, near Kassel, Germany, is represented in 20 countries and has more than 3,000 employees worldwide, including 500 working in Development. SMA's multi-award-winning technology is protected by more than 1,000 patents and utility models. Since 2008, the Group's parent company, SMA Solar Technology AG, has been listed on the Prime Standard of the Frankfurt Stock Exchange (S92) and is currently the only company in the solar industry that is listed in the TecDAX index.

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