



SMA Solar Technology AG – Press Release

## **SMA Solar Technology AG Commissions Its Large-Scale PV Power Plant to Test New System Solutions**

**Niestetal, July 15, 2014—After just three months of construction, SMA Solar Technology AG (SMA) put into operation a ground-based PV power plant with a peak power of 3.2 MW in the Sandershäuser Berg industrial park in Niestetal, near Kassel, Germany. In the PV power plant, SMA will test new system solutions for use all over the world. Solar power generated there will be used in the plant's immediate vicinity at SMA Solar Factory 3 as well as in other company buildings at its headquarters in Niestetal.**

“The ground-based PV plant in the Sandershäuser Berg industrial park has been specially designed for our testing purposes,” said Jürgen Reinert, Managing Board Member for Technical Development. “By using it, we can test our new system solutions under real conditions, in close proximity to developers and demonstrate them to our customers as if in the field. This saves us time and money. We are currently testing the SMA Utility Power System with a Sunny Central inverter, a medium-voltage block and DC technology there, which we already presented to the public at Intersolar in Munich June 2014.”

In addition, the plant built on the land that the municipality of Niestetal leased to SMA, is another building block of SMA's sustainable energy supply concept. Solar power generated from the plant will be transported to the adjacent SMA Solar Factory 3 via an SMA medium-voltage cable and consumed there directly. Furthermore, the solution developed together with the Städtische Werke AG Kassel (the Municipal Utility of the City of Kassel) makes it possible then to use excess power at the remaining SMA sites in Niestetal. Thus, the share of decentralized energy SMA generates is considerably higher than the power consumed.

Along with testing inverters, Combiner technology, battery storage solutions and medium-voltage components for large-scale PV plants, SMA will also use the PV plant to gain experience in using the new 1,500 Volt-DC technology and the PV park control function.

### **About SMA**

The SMA Group generated sales of €932.5 million in 2013 and is the global market leader for solar inverters, a key component of all PV plants. SMA offers innovative key technologies for future power supply structures. It is headquartered in Niestetal, near Kassel, Germany, and is represented in 21 countries. The Group employs more than 5,000 people worldwide. SMA's broad product portfolio includes a compatible inverter for every type of module on



the market and for all plant sizes. The product range includes both inverters for grid-connected photovoltaic plants as well as off-grid and hybrid system technology. The product portfolio is supplemented by comprehensive services and operational management of utility-scale pv-plants. 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 also in the TecDAX index.

### **SMA Solar Technology AG**

Sonnenallee 1  
34266 Niestetal  
Germany

#### **Head of Corporate Communications:**

Anja Jasper  
Tel.: +49 561 9522-2805  
Presse@SMA.de

#### **Press contact:**

Susanne Henkel  
Manager Corporate Press  
Tel.: +49 561 9522-1124  
Fax +49 561 9522-421400  
Presse@SMA.de

#### **Investor Relations contact:**

Julia Damm  
Manager Investor Relations  
Tel. +49 561 9522-2222  
Fax +49 561 9522-2223  
IR@SMA.de



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