SMA Solar Technology AG Press Release

SMA wins the smarter E Award 2024 with its new platform solution for PV, battery and hydrogen applications

Niestetal/Munich, June 19, 2024 - The innovative SMA platform solution Sunny Central FLEX has won the smarter E Award 2024 at the start of Europe's largest solar trade fair in Munich. The modular and highly flexible system enables grid connections for large PV systems, batteries or electrolyzers. This simplifies the installation of large energy projects worldwide and promotes the use of renewable energies. The international jury of experts agreed that it has great potential for the future. Sunny Central FLEX will celebrate its European premiere at the smarter E Europe until 21 June 2024, where visitors can find out all about the new SMA solution in Hall B5.340.

"I am particularly pleased about this prestigious award, which once again demonstrates the great innovative strength of SMA, with which we have been promoting a sustainable and climate-friendly energy supply from Germany for more than 40 years," said Jürgen Reinert, CEO of SMA. After the great success of the US premiere of this impressive platform solution, I am convinced that Sunny Central FLEX will transform large-scale energy projects in Europe and beyond in the future."

"Many thanks to the great team responsible for the development and construction of Sunny Central FLEX," added Florian Bechthold, Executive Vice President Large Scale & Project Solutions at SMA. "We are proud to be honored with this valuable award and look forward to the start of production of the platform solution in the new SMA GIGAWATT FACTORY from mid-2025 and to numerous visitors at the trade fair."

Secure and stable grids thanks to comprehensive grid forming functions

Sunny Central FLEX has been designed as the most comprehensive and flexible solution for all power plant applications from solar energy generation and battery-assisted grid stabilization to hydrogen production. In particular it has been engineered to enhance the integration of renewable energy into the grid, with the capability to precisely control plant behavior at the point of interconnection.

Key innovative features of Sunny Central FLEX include:

- Modular concept including fully integrated AC/DC and DC/DC converter which can be combined to meet various use cases such as PV, DC-Coupled Storage, AC-Coupled Storage, Power to Gas
- Energy storage retrofit options: which allows an effortless addition of DC-coupled storage to safeguard future revenue upgrades.

- Comprehensive plant and data management system: offers seamless monitoring and control of power plant operations and insightful analytics.
- Grid Forming capabilities: enables stable and resilient grid operations, supporting both current and future energy demands. In addition, it easily integrates with DC-DC converters, enabling grid forming capabilities in PV + Storage hybrid systems.
- Pioneering use of Silicon Carbide in central inverters, boosting efficiency for DC/AC and DC/DC converters.

Further information about Sunny Central FLEX and the SMA range of innovative solutions for large-scale energy projects can be found at the SMA website.

About SMA

As a leading global specialist in photovoltaic and storage system technology, the SMA Group is setting the standards today for the decentralized and renewable energy supply of tomorrow. SMA's portfolio contains a wide range of efficient PV and battery inverters, holistic system solutions for PV and battery-storage systems of all power classes, intelligent energy management systems and charging solutions for electric vehicles and power-to-gas applications. Digital energy services as well as extensive services up to and including operation and maintenance services for PV power plants round off SMA's range. SMA solar inverters installed worldwide in the last 20 years, with a total output of around 132 GW, help avoid over 70 million tons of CO2 emissions annually. SMA's multi-award-winning technology is protected by more than 1,600 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 listed in the MDAX index and TecDAX index.

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