



SMA Solar Technology AG – Press Release

SMA Solar Technology AG Receives IP Management Award 2013 for Successful Patent Management

Niestetal/Munich, March 6, 2013 – The Fraunhofer Institute of Labor Economics and Organization (IAO) has recognised SMA Solar Technology AG with first prize in the IP Management Award for sustained and targeted patent management. The prize ceremony took place yesterday as part of the convention for patent experts "Patente 2013" in Munich.

"The development of innovative technologies for a decentralised energy supply has been an essential cornerstone of our corporate strategy since SMA was founded. With more than 400 global patent applications so far, SMA is the world development champion in system technology in the photovoltaics sector. Protecting this intellectual property in an international environment is particularly important for the success of our company. Being presented with the IP Management Award is proof that we are also doing a first-class job in this area," explains SMA Speaker of the Managing Board Pierre-Pascal Urbon.

The Fraunhofer IAO presented the IP Management Award for the sixth time. In this year's competition, SMA prevailed against 27 other participants. In addition to other criteria, the jury analysed and evaluated the activity, quality, and organisation of intellectual property management in the participating companies. The jury was particularly impressed by the highly professional IP management system that was implemented in a very short time at SMA.

About SMA

The SMA Group generated sales of €1.7 billion in 2011 and is the global market leader for solar inverters, a key component of all PV plants and, as an energy management group, offers innovative key technologies for future power supply structures. It is headquartered in Niestetal, near Kassel, Germany, and is represented internationally in 21 countries. The Group employs more than 5,500 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 photovoltaic plants connected to the grid as well as inverters for off-grid systems. SMA is therefore able to provide ideal technical inverter solutions for all plant sizes and types. 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. In recent years, SMA has received numerous awards for excellence as an employer and achieved first place in the nationwide "Great Place to Work®" competition in 2011 and 2012.



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