



Press release

SMA Solar Technology AG

Maximum Efficiency and Substantially Reduced System Costs: SMA Sunny Central 800CP Distinguished with the Intersolar Award 2010

Kassel/Munich, June 9, 2010 – SMA Solar Technology AG received the Intersolar Award in the photovoltaics category at this year's Intersolar in Munich. The prize was awarded for the entirely redesigned Sunny Central 800CP. "CP" stands for compact power: the new SMA central inverter offers both superior output and performance in a small space, and is the first PV inverter with 800 kVA of nominal power in combination with 98.6% efficiency as a single device. Its compact and weatherproof housing also makes it easy to load, offers simple transportation, and can be set up nearly anywhere. An additional reason for the distinction was the enormous cost-minimizing potential that the central inverter offers for the realization of large-scale plants.

SMA has received the Intersolar Award for the second time, once again demonstrating the company's innovative strength in various market segments. The company received the award for Sunny Boy 5000TL in 2008, ideal for the private rooftop plant segment. This time the award was given to Sunny Central 800CP. The SMA central inverter is specially designed for use in solar power plants, and impressed the jury with its high level of efficiency and its contribution to system cost reduction.

Maximum efficiency and integrated monitoring functions ensure highly reduced system costs

"The SC 800CP redefines system technology for large-scale plants and makes them economical in the long run by consistently following SMA's development strategy: integrating top performance and the latest technologies into an exceedingly compact inverter. That has allowed SMA to dramatically lower system costs and simultaneously increase inverter efficiency," says Jürgen Reekers, who received the award and heads the Central Inverter Development Division at SMA. The background situation: central inverters in this performance category have traditionally been housed in concrete stations, which not only meant substantial material and transport costs, but also respectively high levels of CO₂ emissions. Even plant monitoring – previously distributed across the field – is associated with significant planning and installation expenditure. With the new Sunny Central 800CP, SMA is now able to increase performance by over 25% as compared to comparable devices and simultaneously reduce system costs by up to 35%, thus considerably increasing the large-scale plant operating efficiency.

Simple installation through compact construction and intelligent technology

Eliminating the concrete station, integrating string monitoring into the inverter, and compact construction also make installation significantly easier. Moreover, it considerably reduces CO₂ emissions, and makes setting up



large solar power plants no problem – even in areas that are difficult to access. Intelligent power management is another new feature: together with the OptiCool cooling concept, the device provides 880 kVA in continuous operation at an ambient temperature of up to 25 °C – 10% more than the listed nominal power. Sunny Central 800CP is the first outdoor-ready PV inverter with more than 500 kVA output and a compact housing. With its comprehensive grid-management features, it also meets all existing and future standards. And yet another outstanding feature: the world's only Optiprotect function monitors up to 1,600 individual strings for potential failure in combination with intelligent fault management, while an integrated, self-learning approach eliminates time-intensive calibrations.

The overall result is a dramatic reduction in system costs and maximum inverter efficiency. "The EPIA has set the ambitious goal of 12% photovoltaic power generation in Europe by 2020. The use of large-scale PV power plants and their comparably lower system costs is imperative to achieving that objective. The market for large-scale PV plants is growing at a fast pace worldwide, including in North America, India, and China. Thanks to its one-of-a-kind flexibility and affordable price, Sunny Central 800CP can be present in all of these markets," remarked SMA Chief Technology Officer Roland Grebe following the awards ceremony.

Sunny Central 800CP has been produced in series since May 2010.

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Sunny Central 800CP advantages at a glance:

- Substantial cost reduction with an innovative outdoor concept
- Higher yields with intelligent power management
- Efficiency and longevity with the active OptiCool® cooling concept
- Cost-optimized operation monitoring with Optiprotect
- Security for the future with integrated grid support technologies

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