



Joint press release from SMA Solar Technology AG & Smart Power GmbH

Eisenach large-scale storage system promotes integration of renewable energies into the utility grid

Niestetal/Aschheim, September 26, 2022 – One of the largest battery-storage systems in Europe – the Wartburg battery-storage system – is currently being built in Eisenach, Germany. Once completed, it will contribute to the integration of renewable energies into the utility grid by balancing the fluctuating feed-in of renewable energy and ensuring grid stability. Built and operated by Smart Power GmbH, the large-scale storage system with a battery voltage of 1,500 V has a connected load of 60 MW and a capacity of 67 MWh. SMA is supplying 20 turnkey system solutions with battery inverters and coordinated medium-voltage technology to the project. With their grid-forming properties, they also play a significant role in securing the power supply in the event of a power outage.

"We are pleased that SMA Medium Voltage Power Stations with Sunny Central Storage battery inverters and medium voltage system technology are being used in the Wartburg battery-storage system," said Andreas König, Global Key Account Manager at SMA. "They optimally integrate the battery-storage system – with lithium-ion batteries from Samsung – into the utility grid and ensure that balancing energy from the batteries can be made available for stabilization within seconds in the event of a frequency drop in the grid or volatile amounts of solar or wind energy."

"For this project, we are relying on SMA's tried-and-tested technology, which is already in use in numerous large-scale battery storage systems both in Germany and around the world," said Thorsten Klöpper, Managing Director of Smart Power GmbH. "The Wartburg battery-storage system is an integral part of a reliable and climate-friendly energy supply. The goal of the Wartburg battery-storage system is to stabilize the frequency in the utility grid, an integral part of a reliable and climate-friendly energy supply."

Space-saving system design

One of the challenges in building the large-scale storage system was to ensure that it takes up as little space as possible. To this end, the system was built in concrete and additional space was created on the 3.5-meter-high roof for the battery inverters, which weigh a total of around 350 tons. Although the solid concrete construction method is more time-consuming and cost-intensive compared with a container concept, it offers numerous advantages in terms of the service life of the building. Following its scheduled completion in Q3 2022, the battery-storage system will be used to provide frequency containment reserve, avoided grid charges and intraday trading.

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The SMA Sunny Central Storage UP battery inverters with grid-forming capability enable more efficient and flexible planning in storage power plants with a capacity of up to 3,960 kVA at system voltages of up to 1,500 V DC. The broad DC voltage ranges make them compatible with most battery technologies.

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 inverters with a total output of more than 110 gigawatts have been installed in more than 190 countries worldwide. SMA's multi-award-winning technology is protected by more than 1,700 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 TecDAX index and SDAX index.

About Smart Power GmbH

Smart Power GmbH is a developer, project planner and operator of energy management and battery-storage systems and offers almost unlimited scalable storage solutions from 1 MWh. The entire chain from project planning to economically optimized operation and marketing of their power is covered from a single source.

Thanks to efficient, digitalized processes, the self-developed intelligent energy management system (iEMS) and the smart power operational services make it possible to cap peak loads, reduce energy costs, use renewable energies efficiently and generate external revenues through energy marketing.

Users come from the renewable energy environment, the energy sector and industry, or are investors who want to promote the energy transition as a sustainable investment as a business case.

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