

SMA Solar Technology AG - Press Release

SMA Solar Technology AG Plans Inverter Factory in South Africa

Niestetal/Centurion, May 29, 2013 – SMA Solar Technology AG (SMA) will expand its presence in South Africa. In addition to strengthening the existing sales and service structures, SMA will set up a Sunny Central inverter production in the growing market and, by doing so, will be able to meet the local content requirements and be able to provide the necessary capacities for the expected market growth quickly.

"South Africa has strategic importance for SMA. The country has good economic growth with a corresponding increase in energy demand. Here, photovoltaics is already a financially attractive alternative to other forms of power generation. With the opening of our sales and service office in Centurion last year, we have successfully launched in the rapidly growing South African market. The planned production for central inverters enables us to meet the local content requirements and thus to profit from the expected future growth of the South African market," explains SMA Chief Executive Officer Pierre-Pascal Urbon.

Preparations for setting up the inverter production in South Africa have already begun. The production will be just as flexible as existing SMA inverter productions in Germany and North America. In this way, the company can react quickly to changes in demand.

## **About SMA**

The SMA Group generated sales of €1.5 billion in 2012 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 5,000 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 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 and fourth place in 2013.



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