

Smart energy inverter

The SMA Sunny Boy Smart Energy inverter is designed for straightforward installation and setup. With its smaller and lighter form factor, mounting is easier than ever. The inverter features a built-in SunSpec Certified RSD transmitter for rapid commissioning, and the SMA 360° app streamlines the entire installation process, allowing installers to quickly set up and connect multiple devices from a mobile device or tablet.

The Sunny Boy Smart Energy combines a PV inverter and a lithium-ion battery and is the heart of the SMA Integrated Storage System solution for simple, intelligent energy management. In an interview, Product Manager Thomas Thierschmidt describes to me this innovative combination solution, its use and benefits--and some of the challenges the engineers had to overcome with this project.

Martin Rothert, Department Head of Product Management for Battery Inverter Technology, and Volker Wachenfeld, Senior Vice President for Hybrid and Storage, came up with the idea while they sat in a meeting with an automaker and watched a presentation illustrating the costs for lithium-ion batteries in hybrid vehicles. That's when we came up with the idea of combining inverter and battery technology. As described in the very intriguing article From the idea to the implementation, it was an unexpectedly rocky path to get from the idea to the actual starting line.

Simply put: Generating PV energy is critical for the energy transition. However, we need a decentralized power storage system to take the next step in the energy transition. The goal has to be to optimize the local supply, compensate the fluctuating power supply in the utility grid and support utility grid control. In order to quickly achieve storage capacity that is relevant to the system, the market needs an easy-to-install and affordable product. This is the only way to ensure success in the mass market--and as a result--a successful energy transition.

In principle, users can retrofit it. The challenge in this, however, is that an inverter is already installed in the existing PV system, which, as a rule, should not be replaced. Logically, this is therefore not a standard case. For such situations, we offer our SMA Flexible Storage System, a variable storage solution for new and retrofit PV systems. It is coupled on the AC side, which provides flexibility when selecting the location, battery capacity and inverter.

The customer has the prospect of becoming more independent from rising energy prices by using an energy management system designed for optimal battery use. Furthermore, they can benefit from upcoming developments, for example, those resulting from our cooperation with companies such as Miele, Stiebel Eltron and Vaillant. Over the next few years, the installer can offer a successful, affordable storage solution, which, in turn, also results in easier installation and lower costs. After all, the Sunny Boy Smart Energy did not win the Intersolar Award 2013 for nothing.



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Hi Eduard, many thanks for your interest in Sunny Boy Smart Energy: The First PV Inverter With an Integrated Battery – unfortunately not – we supply only to United Kingdom, Italy and Germany at the moment. Please contact our subsidiary in the US for further information and update on this.

Contact us for free full report

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