

40 years of SMA – powerful perspectives



SMA has sights firmly set on the future

So far, SMA inverters with a total output of over 100 gigawatts have been installed worldwide – this is equivalent to 80 nuclear power plants. They generate savings of 56 million tonnes of CO₂ a year. For the future, SMA has vowed to transform further into an energy transition company that offers suitable solutions for all relevant industries.

1982

/ Success on Kythnos

Just one year after founding their company, the SMA founders prove that their vision of a decentralized renewable energy supply works. The first wind-diesel hybrid system in Europe featuring a central control unit built by SMA goes into operation on the Greek island of Kythnos.



1987

/ A niche product with a bright future

Six years after founding the company, development of SMA's first photovoltaic product is complete. At first, the PV-WR 1500 transistor inverter is a truly niche product without major market appeal. It goes into series production in 1991.



1991

/ 1,000 Roofs

The "1,000 Roofs" program comes into force in the same year. Federal and state governments in Germany assume 70% of the total system and installation costs for private PV rooftop systems generating up to 5 kilowatts of power. The first PV system operators pay around DM 60,000 for systems generating 2.2 kilowatts of peak power.



1999

/ Good prospects for off-grid areas

SMA introduces the Sunny Island, a system for reliably supplying energy in locations far away from main transmission lines. This is where the founders' vision of a decentralized, secure and clean global energy supply begins to take shape.



2001

/ Promising market launch in the U.S.

Excellent prospects for the U.S. market launch: SMA is the first inverter manufacturer to obtain UL certification, the all-important seal of approval for use on the U.S. market, for the Sunny Boy.

/ Clean energy also on the company premises

The first company-owned PV system on the SMA premises is connected to the grid – and is still reliably doing its duty 20 years later. In the years that follow, it is joined by further systems on buildings and in open spaces. In 2020, these systems collectively produce enough clean electricity to cover 42% of SMA's energy demand.



2005

/ First monitoring portal for PV systems

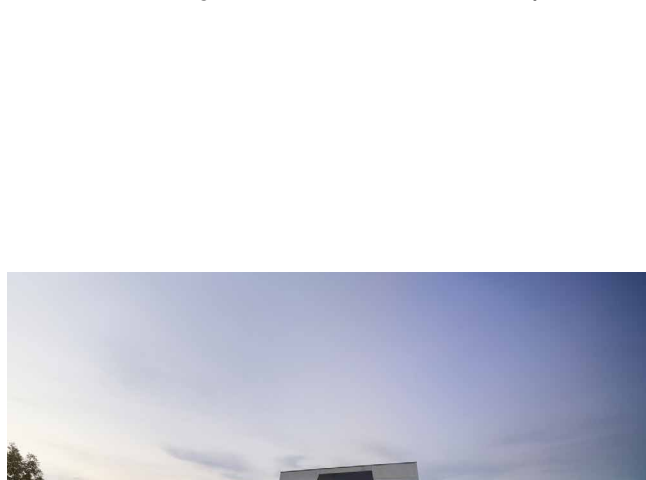
Sunny Portal is the first online monitoring portal for PV systems, and is first launched in Germany. 15 years later and over 700,000 PV systems all over the world are registered in Sunny Portal – the world's biggest online monitoring portal for PV systems.



2009

/ A statement in terms of sustainability

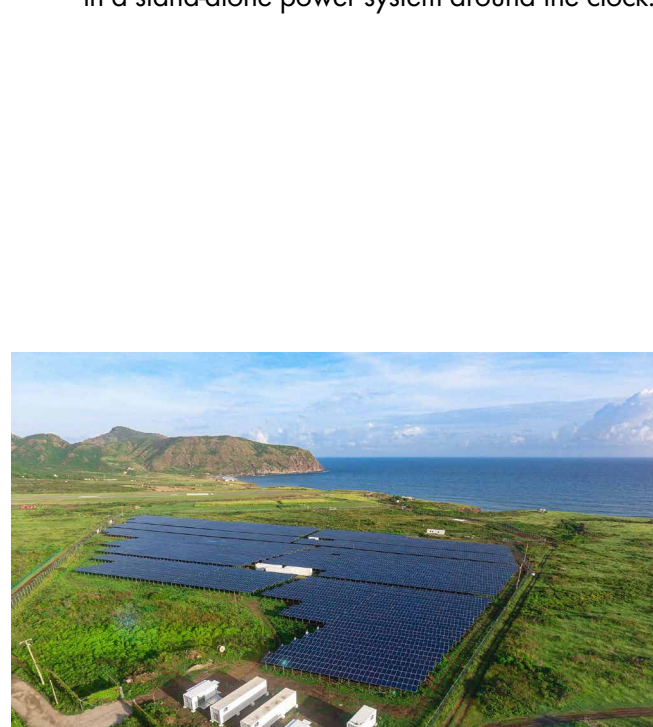
The inauguration of the world's biggest CO₂-neutral factory for PV inverters not only allows SMA to satisfy the strongly growing global demand, but also sends a clear signal in terms of sustainability.



2010

/ The vision turns into reality

The new building of the SMA Solar Academy that trains up to 15,000 installers a year is another flagship for sustainable architecture. It features PV systems integrated within the building, a combined heat and power plant that is powered by biogas and battery-storage systems that deliver clean energy in a stand-alone power system around the clock.



2018

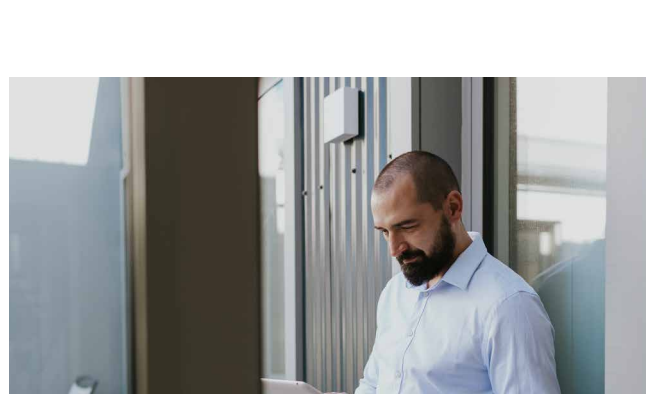
/ A platform for energy management

SMA launches ennexOS IoT platform for energy management. ennexOS effectively reduces energy costs across all sectors (power generators, electrical appliances, storage systems, heating, ventilation and air-conditioning, e-mobility). It can be adjusted to the user's individual requirements at any time, from monitoring energy flows and automatically optimizing total energy costs to involving households and companies in the energy market.

/ Focus on digital energy services

SMA establishes the subsidiary company coneva to specifically take advantage of the opportunities brought about by digitalization of the energy supply.

It develops digital energy services for the energy industry, for companies, and for private prosumers and consumers.



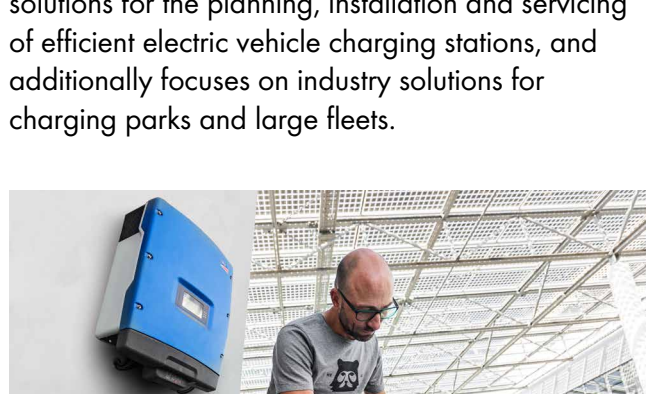
2019

/ Storage technology: more than 1 GW of solar capacity

SMA sells battery inverters with a total power capacity of over 1 gigawatt for the first time, making it the world's leading supplier of battery system technology. No other supplier has such long-standing experience and expertise in integrating battery-storage systems into the overall system.

/ Joint venture for e-mobility

The company's mission is to promote the expansion of charging infrastructure for electric vehicles throughout Europe. SMA establishes the joint venture elaxon together with AixControl GmbH and aixACCT charging solutions GmbH. elaxon is a single-source supplier offering its customers turnkey solutions for the planning, installation and servicing of efficient electric vehicle charging stations, and additionally focuses on industry solutions for charging parks and large fleets.



2020

/ Successful market launch of charging solutions

The company successfully branches out into the business field of electric vehicle charging solutions with the SMA EV Charger for optimized charging with as much solar power as possible. Demand far outstrips original expectations.

