SMA Solar Technology AG Press Release

SMA achieves first certification under Germany's new framework for the inertia market

Niestetal, Germany, 28 September 2026 - SMA Solar Technology AG (SMA), has achieved the first certification under Germany's VDE FNN guideline, technical requirements for grid-forming capabilities including provision of inertia. The certification marks a significant milestone in the commercialization of grid-forming technologies for utility-scale battery energy storage systems and further strengthens SMA's leadership in advanced grid stability solutions.

As the use of renewable energy continues to expand worldwide, the demands for ensuring grid stability and inertia are increasing. To maintain system stability in increasingly inverter-based grids, transmission system operators are introducing new market-based mechanisms for stability services. Germany's new regulatory framework for inertia services is one example of how power systems are addressing these challenges.

"The energy transition is entering a new phase in which battery storage systems are increasingly taking on roles related to grid stability. Systems equipped with grid-forming inverters can provide precisely these stability services. With this certification, we are establishing an important prerequisite for the broader deployment of these technologies in the future and for actively supporting the transformation of the electricity supply," said Olaf Heyden, COO of SMA.

The certification applies to SMA's Sunny Central Storage UP-S battery inverter platform and confirms compliance with the requirements of the VDE FNN Guideline Version 2.1. The guideline defines technical and verification requirements for grid-forming units and plants participating in Germany's emerging inertia market and, together with the associated certification framework, establishes a standardized pathway for testing, verification and certification of grid-forming technologies.

The milestone builds on SMA's pioneering work in grid-forming technology. Following the industry's first unit certificate for grid-forming battery inverters under Germany's VDE-AR-N requirements in 2025, SMA's technology has demonstrated its capabilities in landmark battery storage projects including Blackhillock and Kilmarnock in the United Kingdom, as well as the Föhren Battery Energy Storage System in Germany. Together, these achievements demonstrate the progression of grid-forming capabilities from pioneering deployments to certified stability assets for emerging inertia and stability service markets.

For project developers and independent power producers, certified grid-forming battery storage opens access to emerging revenue streams associated with inertia and other stability services. Utilities can future-proof battery storage investments while supporting renewable generation portfolios. Investors gain confidence through a recognized

certification framework and evolving market opportunities. Transmission and distribution system operators benefit from a scalable technology pathway to maintain stability in low-inertia grids.

"Power systems worldwide are facing the challenge of maintaining stability as conventional synchronous generation is progressively replaced by inverter-based resources," said Daniel Duckwitz, Specialist Grid Stability at SMA. "Projects such as Blackhillock and Föhren have already demonstrated the real-world value of stability services from BESS. With this certification, we are taking the next step towards establishing inertia services in Germany. This gives developers, utilities and system operators greater confidence to invest in the next generation of stability assets - for resilient power systems."

By combining proven field experience, certified technology and readiness for emerging inertia markets, SMA is helping customers prepare for the next generation of grid stability services and renewable-based power systems worldwide.

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 round off SMA's range. The SMA PV inverters sold around the world since 2006, with a total output of approximately 156 GW, have helped to avoid greenhouse gas emissions of more than 69 million metric tons of CO_2e. This corresponds to avoided environmental costs of approximately €21 billion. SMA's multi-award-winning technology is protected by more than 1,600 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 on the SDAX and TecDAX indices.

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