



SMA Solar Technology AG – Press Release

## **PV Power Plant in South Africa With 84 Sunny Central Inverters Starts Operation Early**

**Niestetal/Pretoria, October 10, 2013 – Three months earlier than planned, one of the largest PV power plants in Africa equipped with central inverters from SMA Solar Technology AG (SMA) has started operation in Kalkbult, South Africa. Equipped with 84 SMA Sunny Central 800CP inverters, 42 Transformer Compact Stations and 840 Sunny String Monitors, Kalkbult is the first PV project in the South African REIPP program (Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Program) to have been connected to the utility grid and to be up and running.**

SMA fulfilled all requirements of local added value already for the first round of the REIPP program. This applies also to the increased requirements in rounds two and three; especially with the expansion of the production and with the ramp-up of the Sunny Central inverter production in Cape Town in the second quarter 2014.

“We are very pleased that with the launch of Sunny Central production in Cape Town we will also be able to supply all PV projects realized in South Africa with locally manufactured products,” says Dr. Jürgen Reinert, Executive Vice President Technology at SMA. “This will be particularly relevant for all of the PV projects that will be implemented as part of the third round of the REIPP program.”

In addition to the PV power plant in Kalkbult, SMA is also supplying central inverters and system technology to another two PV projects run by the Norwegian company Scatec Solar in South Africa. Work on the large-scale PV power plants in Dreunberg and Linde started in August 2013. A total of 125 Sunny Central inverters will be used in the two PV projects. Commissioning is planned for the first and/or second half of 2014.

### **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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