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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SMA America Introduces Central Inverter Engineered for
Optimum Medium Voltage Grid Connection**

High Efficiency Solar Inverter Ideal for Utility Scale Projects

ROCKLIN, Calif., Dec. 15, 2009—[SMA America LLC](#), the U.S.-based subsidiary of global solar technology leader [SMA Solar Technology AG](#), has expanded its U.S. line of commercial and utility products with the Sunny Central 500HE-US. The new 500 kilowatt solar inverter provides installers with a utility scale solution that features the industry's best efficiency in the medium voltage category.



SMA Sunny Central 500HEUS

Photo courtesy of SMA America

Leveraging more than 25 years of experience, the SMA Sunny Central 500HE-US is built on proven technology already in use in Europe but is specially configured to meet U.S. requirements such as the UL 1741/IEEE-1547 standard.

The new central inverter couples to an external medium voltage transformer to accommodate long distance power feeds to distribution substations, making it ideal for utility installations. Two units can also be combined in a packaged solution with only one double-winding transformer to provide a true megawatt station.

“By engineering the system to connect to an external transformer, SMA customers will benefit from best-in-class efficiency, resulting in the lowest possible installation costs and improved returns,” said Erik Bakke, senior sales manager for commercial projects at SMA America.

(More)

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Integrated grid management features such as grid operator-controlled power limitation and control of reactive power will be made available based on utility and project requirements, ensuring the Sunny Central 500HE-US provides unrivaled grid support.

An updated user interface features a large graphic display that provides a view of daily plant production as well as the status of the inverter and utility grid. With a Modbus® Gateway, the high efficiency inverter is compatible with both custom SMA monitoring solutions and third party applications.

The new central inverter also features world-class reliability, in part due to its variable speed, forced-air cooling system and NEMA 3R, outdoor rated shell. The Sunny Central 500HE-US includes a standard five year warranty, with options to extend up to 20 years.

"The Sunny Central 500HE-US represents the next step in SMA central inverter technology and has significantly bolstered our utility offerings," said Jurgen Krehnke, president of SMA America. "By expanding this product range, SMA is supporting the integrators and installers of our largest projects."

About SMA America, LLC

SMA America, LLC is the U.S. subsidiary of [SMA Solar Technology AG](#), based in Germany. SMA is the world leader in solar inverter technology and manufacturing with divisions in 13 countries on four continents. SMA is committed to its leadership role, offering exceptional value with the most efficient and reliable solar inverters in the industry. SMA takes special pride in promoting renewable energy solutions at all levels through education, information and support for the general public and solar installers, as well as for small and large businesses worldwide. For more information, call 916 625 0870 or visit www.SMA-America.com.

Photo Caption: SMA Sunny Central 500HE-US

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