

# Off-grid Inverter SUNNY ISLAND 8.0H/6.0H SUNNY REMOTE CONTROL

**Operating Manual** 



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# 1 Information on this Document

### Validity

This document is valid for the following Sunny Island device types:

- SI8.0H-10
- SI8.0H-11
- SI6.0H-10
- SI6.0H-11

This document is valid for the following Sunny Remote Control device type:

• SRC-20

### **Target Group**

This document is intended for operators and skilled persons. Only skilled persons are allowed to perform the tasks set forth in this document (see Section 2.2 "Target Group Qualifications", page 10).

### Symbols

Symbol	Explanation
A DANGER	Indicates a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury
	Indicates a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury
	Indicates a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in minor or moderate injury
NOTICE	Indicates a situation which, if not avoided, could result in property damage
i	Information that is important for a specific topic or goal, but is not safety- relevant
	Indicates an essential requirement for achieving a specific goal
N	Desired result
×	A problem that might occur

### **Typographies**

Typography	Usage	Example	
bold	<ul> <li>Display messages</li> </ul>	Connect PE to AC2Gen/Grid.	
	<ul> <li>Parameters</li> </ul>	Select parameter	
	Connections	235.01 GnAutoEna and set to	
	• Slots	Off.	
	• Elements to be selected		
	• Elements to be entered		
>	<ul> <li>Several elements that are to be selected</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Select 600# Direct Access &gt; Select Number.</li> </ul>	
[Button/Key]	<ul> <li>Button on the inverter to be selected or pressed</li> </ul>	Press [ENTER]	

### Nomenclature

This document refers to the Sunny Island as an off-grid inverter.

Menus are presented as follows: menu number, hash, menu name (e.g. 150# Compact Meters).

Parameters are presented as follows: menu number, dot, parameter number, and parameter name (e.g. 150.01 GdRmgTm). Parameters include both configurable parameters and parameters for displaying values.

### **Abbreviations**

Abbreviation	Designation	Explanation
AC	Alternating Current	-
DC	Direct Current	-
LED	Light-Emitting Diode	-
QCG	Quick Configuration Guide	-

# 2 Safety

# 2.1 Intended Use

### Sunny Island

The Sunny Island is a bidirectional off-grid inverter and forms a stand-alone grid.



Figure 1: Principle of an off-grid system with a Sunny Island and a Sunny Remote Control

Only use the Sunny Island in accordance with the information provided in the enclosed documentation. Any other use may result in personal injury or property damage.

Life-threatening voltages occur in the Sunny Island.

- Never operate the Sunny Island without the enclosure lid in place.
- Only skilled persons may open the Sunny Island.

The Sunny Island uses batteries for energy storage. The rated voltage of the battery must correspond to the DC input voltage. A fuse-switch-disconnector, e.g. a BatFuse must be installed between the battery and the Sunny Island.

DC loads and DC sources can be integrated in the off-grid system. The Sunny Island is not suitable for establishing a DC distribution network.

The Sunny Island is not suitable for supplying life-sustaining medical devices.

• Never use the Sunny Island in systems in which a power outage might result in personal injury.

The Sunny Island can control various components in an off-grid system via two multi-function relays, e.g. a load-shedding contactor. The multi-function relays are not suitable for controlling components which may place people at risk if the multi-function relays malfunction, e.g. if the battery chamber ventilation is not sufficiently redundant.

The enclosed documentation is an integral part of this product.

- Read and adhere to the documentation.
- Keep the documentation in a convenient place at all times for future reference.

### Sunny Remote Control

You can configure and control the off-grid system centrally with the Sunny Remote Control display. The Sunny Remote Control is only suitable for indoor use.

## 2.2 Target Group Qualifications

### Operators

Operators must be instructed in the following areas by skilled persons:

- Dangers involved in handling electrical equipment
- Operating an off-grid system
- Safe handling of batteries
- · Safely switching off and disconnecting the off-grid system in case of an error
- · How to prevent unintentional restarting of an off-grid system
- Maintaining and cleaning the off-grid inverter
- Knowledge of and adherence to this manual and all the specified safety precautions

### **Skilled Persons**

Skilled persons must have the following qualifications:

- Training in off-grid systems from SMA Solar Technology AG
- Training in how to deal with the dangers and risks associated with installing and using electrical devices and batteries
- Training in the installation and commissioning of electrical devices
- Knowledge and observance of the local standards and directives
- Knowledge of and adherence to this document and all safety precautions

## 2.3 Safety Precautions

### **Electric Shock**

High voltages are present in the off-grid system and in the off-grid inverter. The off-grid inverter can start automatically from standby mode. Work on electrical connections of the off-grid inverter must be performed by a skilled person. Observe the following safety instructions before working on the electrical connections:

- Turn off or disconnect the following components in the specified order:
  - Off-grid inverter
  - All loads, AC sources, external energy sources and DC sources
  - Miniature circuit-breakers and switch-disconnectors for AC sources and the external energy source in the sub-distributions
  - BatFuse switch-disconnector
- Ensure that the device cannot be reconnected.
- Open the enclosure lid and ensure that no voltage is present.
- Earth and short-circuit the AC conductors.
- Cover or safeguard any adjacent live components.

### Explosion

Explosive gases may escape from the battery.

- Do not allow open flames, embers, or sparks near the battery.
- Maintain and operate the battery according to the manufacturer's specifications.
- Do not throw batteries into fire.

### Acid Burns and Poisoning

If handled inappropriately, electrolyte from the battery can burn the skin or eyes and/or be toxic.

- Protect the battery enclosure against destruction.
- Do not open or deform the battery.
- Whenever working on the battery, wear rubber gloves, rubber boots and goggles.
- Rinse acid splashes with clear water and consult a doctor.
- Maintain and operate the battery according to the manufacturer's specifications.

### Crushing

Moving parts in the generator can crush or sever body parts. The generator can be started automatically by the off-grid inverter.

- Only operate the generator with the safety equipment.
- Maintain and operate the generator according to the manufacturer's specifications.

### **Burn Hazards**

Some parts of the off-grid inverter enclosure can become hot during operation.

• During operation, touch the off-grid inverter on the enclosure lid only.

Short-circuit currents in the battery can cause heat build-up and electric arcs. Observe the following safety instructions before working on the battery.

- Remove watches, rings and other metal objects.
- Use insulated tools.
- Do not place tools or metal parts on the battery.

# 3 Product Description

## 3.1 Sunny Island 8.0H / 6.0H

The Sunny Island is a bidirectional off-grid inverter and forms a stand-alone grid.



Figure 2: Design of the Sunny Island 8.0H / 6.0H

Position	Designation
А	Ventilation grid
В	Type label
С	Control panel
D	Enclosure lid

The Sunny Island supplies AC loads in the stand-alone grid from a battery or charges the battery with the energy provided by sources on the AC side. AC sources in the stand-alone grid (e.g. PV inverters) supply loads and are used by the off-grid inverter to recharge the battery. In order to increase the availability of the stand-alone grid and reduce the battery capacity, the Sunny Island can use and control external energy sources (e.g. a generator) as an energy reserve.

The Sunny Island supplies the loads with active power and reactive power. The loads may temporarily overload the Sunny Island. If there is a short circuit in the the stand-alone grid, the Sunny Island also briefly feeds in short-circuit currents to the stand-alone grid. As a result, the Sunny Island may trip miniature circuit-breakers. Miniature circuit-breakers only disconnect electric circuits that are affected by the fault.

The off-grid system must be a TN or TT system. The Sunny Island does not support IT systems.

# 3.2 Type Label

The type label identifies the off-grid inverter. The type label is located on the right-hand side of the enclosure.



Figure 3: Layout of the type label

Position	Designation	Explanation
А	Туре	Device type
В	Serial No.	Serial number of the off-grid inverter
С	Device-specific characteristics	-

The information on the type label is intended to help you use the inverter safely and receive better customer support from the SMA Service Line. The type label must remain permanently attached to the off-grid inverter.

### Symbols on the Type Label

Symbol	Designation	Explanation
	Danger to life due to high voltages	The off-grid inverter operates at high voltages. All work on the off-grid inverter must be carried out by skilled persons (see Section 2.2).

Symbol	Designation	Explanation
	Risk of burns from hot surfaces	The off-grid inverter can become hot during operation. Avoid contact during operation. Allow the off-grid inverter to cool down sufficiently before carrying out any work. Wear personal protective equipment such as safety gloves.
Ĩ	Observe the documentation.	Observe all documentation that is delivered with the off-grid inverter.
	DC	Direct current
$\Theta$	Transformer	The off-grid inverter has a transformer.
$\sim$	AC	Alternating current
*	IP54	The off-grid inverter is protected against dust deposits in the interior and against splashes of water from all angles.
	Protection class I	All enclosure parts are earthed.
DE	Certified safety	The off-grid inverter is VDE-tested (Association for Electrical, Electronic and Information Technologies) and complies with the requirements of the German Equipment and Product Safety Act.
CE	CE marking	The off-grid inverter complies with the requirements of the applicable EC directives.
<b>C</b> N23114	Australian mark of conformity	The off-grid inverter complies with the requirements of the applicable Australian directives.
X	Proper disposal	Do not dispose of the off-grid inverter together with the household waste.

# 3.3 Off-Grid Inverter Control Panel



Figure 4: Structure of the control panel

Position	Symbol	Designation	Status	Explanation
A		Start-stop button TSS	-	Press the start-stop button to start or stop the off-grid system. In display messages on the Sunny Remote Control, the start-stop button is referred to as <b>TSS</b> .
В	Ι	Activation button	_	Pressing the activation button will switch the off-grid inverter on. After switching the off-grid inverter on, it will enter the standby mode.
С	0	Deactivation button	-	Pressing the deactivation button will switch off the off-grid inverter.
D		Inverter LED	Off	The off-grid inverter is switched off.
	~		Glowing green	The off-grid inverter is in operation.
			Glowing orange	The off-grid inverter is in standby mode.
			Glowing red	The off-grid inverter has switched off due to an error.
			Flashing quickly*	The off-grid inverter is not configured.
			Flashing slowly**	The off-grid inverter is in sleep mode.

Position	Symbol	Designation	Status	Explanation
E	ħ	Grid LED	Off	No voltage is present at the connection of the external energy source.
			Glowing green	External energy source is connected.
			Glowing orange	The off-grid inverter synchronises the stand-alone grid to the external energy source.
			Glowing red	Error at the external energy source connection.
F		Battery LED	Glowing green	The battery charge level is over 50%.
			Glowing orange	The battery charge level is between 50% and 20%.
			Glowing red	The battery charge level is below 20%.
G		Standby	-	Switching on and off
Н	$\sim$	AC operation	-	Start and stop the inverter operation

\* flashing at intervals of 0.5 s to 1 s

\*\* flashing at intervals of 1.5 s to 2 s

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## 3.4 Sunny Remote Control

You can configure and control the off-grid system centrally with the Sunny Remote Control display.



Figure 5: Design of the Sunny Remote Control

Position	Designation	Explanation		
A	Display	Four-line display shows operating data (e.g. operating state or display values) and events, warnings or errors of the off-grid inverter.		
		The display's backlight is automatically deactivated after a short time of inactivity.		
В	Button	Pressing the button will turn on the backlight, confirm parameters or switch the level within a menu. The return icon "4 <sup>i</sup> " in the display tells you when you can perform an action by pressing the button.		
		Turning the button will switch on the backlight, change parameters or navigate within a menu level.		
С	Slot for SD card	-		

# 3.5 Service Interface SD Card

The SD card in the Sunny Remote Control stores data for the plant control and facilitates service work. The SD card is also used to update the firmware of the off-grid inverter. The following data is stored on the SD card:

- Parameter settings
- At one-minute intervals, measurement data of the last 100 days from the areas:
  - Battery
  - Off-grid inverter
  - External energy source
  - Stand-alone grid
- Events and faults of the last 100 days
- Statistical values of the battery

SD cards can have storage capacities from 32 MB to 2 GB. The SD card must be formatted as FAT-16.

# 3.6 Time-Controlled Operation

The off-grid inverter can be operated with timer control. The following setting options are available:

• Time-controlled inverter operation

In time-controlled inverter operation, the off-grid inverter starts and stops automatically at the times set (see Section 5.6 "Setting Time-Controlled Inverter Operation", page 40).

• Time-controlled generator request

In time-controlled generator requests, the off-grid inverter requests the generator at the set intervals (see the installation manual of the off-grid inverter).

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# 4 Operating the Off-Grid Inverter with Sunny Remote Control

### 4.1 Display Modes

The Sunny Remote Control has four display modes. During operation, the Sunny Remote Control will switch to standard mode if the button has not been used for over five minutes.

Mode	Page contents			
Standard mode	Indicates operating states			
<home></home>	Displays energy flows			
	Displays key parameters			
User mode	<ul> <li>Display of and access to key operating parameters</li> </ul>			
Installer mode	• Display of and access to parameters for configuration and operation			
	The installer mode is password-protected.			
Expert mode	• Display of and access to all parameters for the system configuration set in QCG			
	The parameters for unconfigured components are hidden, e.g. the parameters for generators are hidden for off-grid systems without generators. The parameters for Multicluster systems are only available in expert mode.			
	The expert mode can only be accessed via the installer mode.			

## 4.2 Standard Mode

## 4.2.1 Display of Operating States



Figure 6: Display of operating states (example "Standby")

Position	Designation	Explanation
A	Standby	The off-grid inverter is in standby mode or in time-controlled mode.
	Boot	The off-grid inverter is initialising.
	LBM 1	The off-grid inverter is in battery protection mode 1.
	LBM 2	The off-grid inverter is in battery protection mode 2.
LBM 3 The off		The off-grid inverter is in battery protection mode 3.
	Silent	The off-grid inverter is in silent mode.
	Sleep	The off-grid inverter is in sleep mode.
	Search	The off-grid inverter is in search mode.
	Error	The off-grid inverter is in error mode.
	Startup	The off-grid inverter is starting up.
	Shutdown	The off-grid inverter is shutting down.

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# 4.2.2 Display Page during Operation



Figure 7: Energy flows and status of the off-grid inverter (example)

Position	Designation
А	Energy flow diagram
В	Status of the stand-alone grid
С	Status of the off-grid inverter
D	State of charge of the battery
E	Status of the external energy source

### **Energy Flow Diagram**



Figure 8: Energy flow diagram in standard mode (example)

Position	Designation	lcon	Explanation
А	Battery	ā	Icon for battery
В	Direction of energy	Ť	The battery is supplying the loads.
	flow	÷	The battery is being charged.
С	External energy source	٦	lcon for external energy source

Position	Designation	lcon	Explanation
D	Internal transfer relay	$\sim$	The external energy source is disconnected from the stand-alone grid.
			The stand-alone grid is connected and synchronised to the external energy source.
E	Direction of energy	÷	Loads are being supplied.
		÷	AC sources in the stand-alone grid are feeding in more energy than is being consumed by the stand-alone grid.
F	Loads in the stand- alone grid	L	Icon for loads in the stand-alone grid
G	Multi-function relay 1*	0	Multi-function relay 1 is open. Terminals <b>C</b> and <b>NC</b> are connected.
		-	Multi-function relay 1 is closed. Terminals <b>C</b> and <b>NO</b> are connected.
Н	Multi-function relay 2*	0	Multi-function relay 2 is open. Terminals <b>C</b> and <b>NC</b> are connected.
			Multi-function relay 2 is closed. Terminals <b>C</b> and <b>NO</b> are connected.

\* If the multi-function relay controls a load-shedding contactor, the contactor will shed the loads when the relay opens.

### Status of the Stand-Alone Grid



Figure 9:	Status	of the	stand-alone	grid	(example)	)
-----------	--------	--------	-------------	------	-----------	---

Position	Designation	Explanation
А	Output power	Output power of the off-grid inverter in kW
В	Loads in the stand- alone grid	Icon for loads in the stand-alone grid

### Status of the Off-Grid Inverter



Figure 10: Status of the off-grid inverter (example)

Position	Designation	lcon	Explanation
A	Warning icon		Icon for warnings or errors that do not affect off-grid inverter operation.
			When this icon flashes, acknowledge the error or warning (see Section 10.3).
В	Device assignment	M1	The off-grid inverter connected to the Sunny Remote Control is the master.
		S1	The off-grid inverter connected to the Sunny Remote Control is slave 1.
		S2	The off-grid inverter connected to the Sunny Remote Control is slave 2.
С	SD card		The SD card is inserted.
		lcon flashing	The off-grid inverter is accessing the SD card.
		No icon	The SD card is not inserted
D	Multi-function relay 1	0	Multi-function relay 1 is open. Terminals <b>C</b> and <b>NC</b> are connected.
		•	Multi-function relay 1 is closed. Terminals <b>C</b> and <b>NO</b> are connected.
E	Multi-function relay 2	0	Multi-function relay 2 is open. Terminals <b>C</b> and <b>NC</b> are connected.
		•	Multi-function relay 2 is closed. Terminals <b>C</b> and <b>NO</b> are connected.
F	Time	hh:mm:ss	Time of the off-grid system

### State of Charge of the Battery



Figure 11: State of charge of the battery in standard mode (example)

Position	Designation	Explanation	
А	Battery	Icon for battery	
В	State of charge	State of charge of the battery in percent	

### Status of the External Energy Source



Figure 12: Status of the external energy source in standard mode (example)

Position	Designation	lcon	Explanation
А	Active limit of the external energy source	t‡	Electrical limits for the electricity grid are active.
		ŧ×	Electrical limits for the electricity grid are not active.
			Electrical limits for the generator are active.

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Position	Designation	lcon	Explanation
В	Status of the external energy source	*	Voltage and frequency of the external energy source are within the set limits.
		?	Voltage and frequency of the external energy source are outside the set limits.
			The maximum reverse power to the external energy source has been exceeded.
		В	Battery
			Generator has been requested due to state of charge.
		С	Cycle
			Generator has been requested based on time.
		E	Extern
			Generator has been requested by an extension cluster.
		L	Load
			Generator has been requested due to load.
		S	Start
			Generator has been started manually via the off-grid inverter.
		T	Time
			Generator has been started for one hour via the off-grid inverter.
С	Power of the external energy source	-	Power of the external energy source in kW
D	External energy source	٦	Icon for external energy source
E	Internal transfer relays	$\sim$	The external energy source is disconnected from the stand-alone grid.
			The stand-alone grid is synchronised to the external energy source. The external energy source is supplying the loads and charging the battery.

## 4.3 User Mode

### 4.3.1 Display Pages for Operation

User mode will display all information crucial for operating the off-grid system in different categories. User mode also allows for manual control of the off-grid inverter and components of the off-grid system, for example starting the generator.

User mode distinguishes between display pages and setting pages. Display pages show the parameters of a category. To configure and operate the off-grid system, switch to a setting page.

## 4.3.2 Display Pages



Fiaure	13:	Display page	lavout in user	mode	(example)
igoic	10.	Dispidy page	10,001 11 0301	mouo	

Position	Designation	lcon or message	Explanation
А	Display page	FI .	Information
		_	The icon indicates display pages.
В	Category	Inverter	Off-grid inverter parameters
		Battery	Battery parameters
		Generator	Generator parameters*
		Grid	Electricity grid parameters*
		SIC50	Parameters of connected Sunny Island Chargers*
		System	Off-grid system parameters
		Time	Current time and date of the off-grid system
		Identity	Serial number and firmware version of the off-grid inverter
		Password	Access to installer mode

Position	Designation	lcon or message	Explanation
С	Page and number of pages	_	Page and number of pages of the selected category A category can contain multiple display pages
D	Return icon	له	Setting pages are available for the category.
		No icon	No setting pages are available for the category.
E	Parameters	-	Parameters with the current values

\* Is only displayed if the component is part of the off-grid system.

## 4.3.3 Setting Pages



Figure 14: Setting page layout in user mode (example)

Position	Designation	lcon or display	Explanation
А	Setting page icon	s	Set
			The icon indicates setting pages.
В	Category	Inverter	Restart off-grid inverter.
			Set time-controlled operation.
		Battery	Trip manual equalisation charge.
		Generator	Start and stop generator manually or set to automatic mode.
			Reset warnings.
		Time	Set date and time.
		Password	Enter the installer password.
С	Page and number of pages	-	Current page and total number of pages of the selected category
			A category can contain multiple setting pages.

Position	Designation	lcon or display	Explanation
D	Return icon	4	The icon points towards the selected parameter.
E	Parameters	-	Parameters with the current values

# 4.3.4 Selecting Display Pages

In user mode, the Sunny Remote Control displays the parameters page by page. The Sunny Remote Control only displays the pages for existing components.

Always select display pages as described below.

- 1. Press the button to activate the display illumination of the Sunny Remote Control.
- 2. Turn the button to the right.

☑ The Sunny Remote Control switches from standard mode to user mode.

- 3. To flip through the display pages, continue to turn the button to the right.
- 4. To go back to a previous page, turn the button to the left.
- 5. To switch to standard mode, turn the button to the left until the Sunny Remote Control displays the standard mode.

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## 4.3.5 Operating and Configuring the Off-Grid Inverter

In user mode, always operate the off-grid inverter as described below.

1. Select the display page for the category you want to configure.

#### Example: Selecting the display page

You want to restart the off-grid inverter. This setting is in the Inverter category.

- Select display page Inverter (1/1).
- 2. Press the button. The Sunny Remote Control displays the setting pages for the display page.

#### Example: Selecting the setting page

You have selected the display page Inverter (1/1).

- Press the button.
- ☑ The Inverter (1/2) setting page appears.

Tot.Power Timer Mode	xx.x kW Disable
alnuartar	(1/2)

Restart ----Str.Date xx.xx.xxxx Start Time xx:xx:xx

3. To select the desired parameter, turn the button to the right until the return icon appears to the right of the desired parameter.

☑ You have selected the parameter.

4. To set the parameter, press the button and then turn it to the left or right.

5. When you have set the required parameter, press the button. This saves the setting.

#### Example: Setting the repetition type to Weekly in time-controlled mode

- Access the Inverter (1/2) action page.
  - ☑ The action page Inverter (1/2) appears.

<b>S</b> Inverter	(1/2)
Restart	
Str.Date	XX.XX.XXX
Start Time	XX:XX:XX

- Turn the button until the return icon appears next to the parameter **Repetition**. The Sunny Remote Control then changes from action page **Inverter (1/2)** to action page **Inverter (2/2)**.
- Press the button.
- Turn the button to the right until Weekly appears.
- Press the button. This saves the parameter.
  - The repetition type is set to **Weekly** in time-controlled mode.

<b>S</b> Inverter	(2/2)
Run Time	XXIXXIXX
Repetition	Weekly <b>4</b>
Timed Start	Disable

- 6. To exit the setting page, switch to the display page or the standard mode:
  - Turn the button to the left until the return icon appears in the first line.
  - To return to the display page, turn the button to the left until **<back>** appears.
  - To switch to standard mode, turn the button to the left until **<home>** appears.
  - Press the button.

Hint: **<back>** and **<home>** also appear at the end of the list if the button is turned to the right.

# 4.4 Installer and Expert Mode

## 4.4.1 Switching to Installer Mode

The installer mode is password-protected. The installer password changes constantly and must be re-calculated every time.

### NOTICE

#### Entering incorrect parameters endangers operational safety.

All parameter settings which could affect the operating safety of the off-grid system are protected by the installer password.

- Only skilled persons are permitted to set and adjust system parameters.
- Only give the installer password to skilled persons and operators.
- 1. Select the setting page **Password (1/1)** in user mode.
- 2. Calculate the digit sum of the operating hours Run time. This calculates the installer password.

#### Example: Calculating the digit sum

Operating hours **Run time** is 1234 h. The digit sum is the sum of all digits:

1 + 2 + 3 + 4 = **10** 

The digit sum is 10.

3. Select the parameter Set and set the installer password calculated.

☑ The Sunny Remote Control is in installer mode.

Install	.er	
100#	Meters	- <b>₽</b>
200#	Settin9s	
300#	Information	

### 4.4.2 Switching to Expert Mode

Expert mode can only be accessed via installer mode.

- 1. Switch to installer mode (see Section 4.4.1).
- 2. Select the parameter **700.01 ActLev** and set to **Expert** (see Section 4.4.6 "Setting the Parameters", page 35).

## 4.4.3 Menus in Installer and Expert Mode



Figure 15: Layout of the menu page in installer mode (example)

Position	Designation	Explanation
А	Menu path	The two previously selected menu levels
		If you are in the top menu level, the display will show <b>Installer</b> in installer mode and <b>Expert</b> in expert mode.
В	Return icon	Return icon for selecting a menu
С	Menu	-

# 4.4.4 Parameter Page in Installer and Expert Mode



Figure 16: Layout of the parameter page in installer mode (example)

Position	Designation	Explanation
A	Menu number and parameter number	-
В	Menu path	The two previously selected menu levels
С	Return icon	Return icon for setting the parameter
		If no return icon is displayed, the parameter cannot be adjusted.
D	Name of the parameter	-
E	Value and unit of the parameter	-

### 4.4.5 Selecting Menus and Parameters

Always select menus and parameters as described below.

- 1. Switch to installer mode (see Section 4.4.1).
- 2. Turn the button to the right until the return icon appears to the right of the required menu. The Sunny Remote Control scrolls through the menu items on the display line by line.
- 3. Press the button. This accesses the subordinate menu level.

☑ The Sunny Remote Control shows the subordinate menu level. The selected menu level is shown in the first line.

- 4. Repeat steps 2 and 3 until the Sunny Remote Control displays the first parameter page.
- 5. Turn the button to the right until the Sunny Remote Control displays the desired parameter.
- 6. To exit the parameter page and go to the superordinate level or the standard mode:
  - Turn the button to the left until the return icon appears in the first line.
  - To switch to a higher menu level, turn the button to the left until **<back>** appears.
  - To switch to standard mode, turn the button to the left until **<home>** appears.
  - Press the button.

Hint: **<back>** and **<home>** also appear at the end of the list if the button is turned to the right.

# 4.4.6 Setting the Parameters

Always set parameters as described below.

- 1. Switch to installer mode (see Section 4.4.1).
- Select the desired parameter. You can only set the parameters for which < Set > <sup>41</sup> is shown in the second line in the display.

Settings	inverter
210#01	<set><b>4</b></set>
	InvVt9Nom
	250.0 [V]

- 3. Press the button.
  - $\blacksquare$  The return icon flashes next to the value.

#### \* The display shows: Stop device to change the value?

The parameter can only be changed in standby mode.

- Stop the off-grid system (see Section 5.3).
- **X** The display shows: **No permission to change the value**.

You are not allowed to change the parameter in installer mode.

- If you want to change the parameters for the battery, select the **New Battery** menu in the QCG (see Section 9.8 "Replacing the Battery", page 52).
- If you want to change the addresses of the slaves in a cluster, select the **New Clst Cfg** menu in the QCG (see Section 10.4).
- For all other settings in the QCG, select the New System menu (see the installation manual of the off-grid inverter).
- 4. To set the parameter, turn the button to the left or right.
- 5. Press the button.
  - ☑ The Sunny Remote Control requests confirmation of the parameter set.

Settin9s	inverter
210#01	<accept n="" y="">♥</accept>
	InvVt9Nom
	230.0 [V]

- 6. To confirm the value, turn the button to the right until **Y** flashes and then push the button.
- 7. To discard the value, turn the button to the right until **N** flashes and then press the button.

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## 4.4.7 Directly Accessing Parameters

Any parameter can be accessed directly by entering a five-digit number. The five-digit number is composed as follows:

- The first three digits are the menu number.
- The last two digits are the parameter number.

#### Example: Five-digit number for direct parameter access

You want to use parameter **111.01 TotInvPwrAt** to show the entire active power of the off-grid inverter in a cluster. The five-digit number for directly accessing this parameter is 11101.

- 1. Switch to installer mode (see Section 4.4.5).
- 2. Select the parameter 600.02 Select Number and set the five-digit number.
  - ☑ The parameter is displayed.
  - X The display shows Item not Found?

You cannot access the parameter in installer mode.

• Push the button and switch to expert mode (see Section 4.4.2).

The number set is not correct.

• Press the button and enter the number again.
# 5 Starting and Stopping the Off-Grid System

# 5.1 Switching On the Off-Grid Inverter

#### **Requirements:**

- □ BatFuse must be closed.
- □ The off-grid inverter may not have switched itself off (see Section 10.6 "Charging the Battery after Automatic Shutdown", page 63).
- When using one off-grid inverter in the off-grid system, press the activation button on the off-grid inverter.
- In single-cluster systems, press the activation button on the master and hold it until you hear a signal.
- In Multicluster systems, press the activation button on each master of the individual clusters and hold it until you hear a signal.
- ☑ The inverter LED on every off-grid inverter is glowing orange and the off-grid inverters are in standby mode.

# 5.2 Starting the Off-Grid System

#### **Requirement:**

- □ All off-grid inverters must be switched on.
- Press the start-stop button on the off-grid inverter and hold it until you hear a signal.

#### or

Press and hold the button on the Sunny Remote Control until you hear a signal.





☑ The inverter LED is glowing green on every off-grid inverter.

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# 5.3 Stopping the Off-Grid System

### Electric discharge of the battery:

When the off-grid inverter is stopped, it will discharge the battery via self-consumption. Hint: If the system is to be shut down for an extended period, switch off the off-grid inverter (see Section 5.4).

 Press the start-stop button on the off-grid inverter and hold it until the inverter LED is glowing orange.



Press and hold the button on the Sunny Remote Control until the progress bar expires.

or

or

Press the deactivation button briefly.



#### What happens when you hold down the deactivation button?

When you hold down the deactivation button, you trip an emergency disconnection. This triggers the uncontrolled shutdown of the off-grid system, and unsaved data is lost.

- It is better to switch off the off-grid system with the start-stop button or the Sunny Remote Control.
- ✓ The inverter LED is glowing orange on every off-grid inverter. The off-grid inverters are in standby mode. Time-controlled inverter operation is automatically deactivated and you must reactivate if required (see Section 5.6 "Setting Time-Controlled Inverter Operation", page 40).

# 5.4 Switching the Off-Grid Inverters Off

#### **Requirement:**

- □ The off-grid system is stopped.
- Press the deactivation button on the off-grid inverter and hold it until you hear a signal.



☑ None of the inverter LEDs on the off-grid inverters are glowing.

# 5.5 Tripping the Emergency Disconnection of the Off-Grid System

## i Effects of an emergency disconnection

Emergency disconnection triggers the uncontrolled shutdown of the off-grid system and unsaved data is lost.

- Only use emergency disconnection to avoid danger or consequential damage.
- Press the deactivation button on the off-grid inverter and hold it until you hear a signal.



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# 5.6 Setting Time-Controlled Inverter Operation

#### Example: Setting parameters for time-controlled inverter operation

You want to operate the off-grid inverter in inverter mode every Sunday from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm, starting Sunday, 8 January 2012. To do so, set the off-grid inverter as follows:

- Str.Date: 08.01.2012
- Start Time: 10:00:00
- Run Time: 08:00:00
- Repetition: Weekly

#### **Requirement:**

- The Sunny Remote Control must be in user mode (see Section 4.3).
- 1. Select the **Inverter** display page and press the button.
  - ☑ The Sunny Remote Control switches to the **Inverter** setting page.

linverter	(1/1)↓
Tot.Power	××.× kW
Timer Mode	Disable
<b>S</b> Inverter	(1/2)
Restart	<b>4</b>
Str.Date	xx.xx.xxx

XXXXXXXXX

Start Time

- 2. Setting time-controlled inverter operation:
  - Select the Start Date parameter and set it to the required start date.
  - Select the Start Time parameter and set it to the required start time.
  - Select the **Run Time** parameter and set it to the required run time.
  - Select the **Repetition** parameter and set it to the required repetition cycle.
- 3. To activate time-controlled inverter operation, select the **Timed Start** parameter and set it to **Enable**.
- ☑ Time-controlled inverter operation is activated. If the off-grid inverter has started automatically under time-control and you stop the off-grid inverter, time-controlled inverter operation is deactivated automatically.

# 6 Saving Data and Updating Firmware

# 6.1 Inserting the SD Card

#### **Requirements:**

- $\hfill\square$  The SD card must be formatted as FAT-16.
- $\hfill\square$  The storage capacity of the SD card must not exceed 2 GB.
- $\hfill\square$  The SD card must only be used as a data medium for the off-grid system.
- Insert the SD card, with the slanted corner facing upwards, into the SD card slot in the Sunny Remote Control. The label on the SD card must point to the front.



# 6.2 Saving and Loading Parameters

You can load and save the current parameter settings in two different parameter sets on the SD card. The two parameter sets are distinguished by the Sunny Remote Control in **Set1** and **Set2**. Every parameter set saves all settings. This makes it possible to test the settings of a new parameter set without having to delete the old parameter set. Hint: As soon as you have set up a functional off-grid system, save the parameter settings to the SD card. After saving, you can further adjust the off-grid system. If the adjustment does not lead to the desired results, reload the saved parameter set.

#### **Requirement:**

- □ The SD card must be inserted.
- 1. Switch to installer mode (see Section 4.4.1).
- 2. To save a parameter set, select the parameter 550.01 ParaSto and set the parameter:

Value	Explanation	
Set 1	Save the settings in the first parameter set.	
Set 2	Save the settings in the second parameter set.	

- 3. Proceed as follows to load a parameter set:
  - Switch to expert mode (see Section 4.4.2).
  - Select the parameter 550.02 ParaLod and set the parameter:

Value	Explanation
Set 1	Loads the settings from the first parameter set
Set 2	Loads the settings from the second parameter set
Factory	Loads the factory settings

# 6.3 Saving the Event History and Error History

#### **Requirement:**

- □ The SD card must be inserted.
- 1. Switch to installer mode (see Section 4.4.5).
- 2. To save the event history, select the parameter 550.03 CardFunc and set it to StoEvtHis.
- 3. To save the error history, select the parameter 550.03 CardFunc and set it to StoFailHis.

# 6.4 Updating the Firmware

A firmware update will not change any settings of the off-grid inverter. If the firmware update contains new parameters, the new parameters will be set up with default values.

#### **Requirements:**

- A computer with Internet connection is required.
- □ The SD card must be readable and writable with a computer.
- □ The Sunny Remote Control must be connected to the master.
- 1. To save the current parameters, save the parameter set to the SD card:
  - Insert an SD card without the new firmware version.
  - Save the parameter set to the SD card (see Section 6.2).
  - Remove the SD card.
- 2. Use a computer to download the latest firmware (see www.SMA-Solar.com for the installation file).
- 3. Copy the current firmware from the computer to the main directory of the SD card.
- 4. Stop the off-grid system (see Section 5.3).
- 5. Insert the SD card into the SD card slot in the Sunny Remote Control.
  - ☑ The Sunny Remote Control updates the firmware and performs a restart. In a cluster, the slaves are automatically updated by the master.
- 6. For a Multicluster system, repeat Step 5 for each master.
- 7. Start the off-grid system (see Section 5.2).

# 6.5 Displaying the Status of the SD Card

- 1. Switch to installer mode (see Section 4.4.1).
- Select the parameter 312.08 CardStt and read off (see parameter document of the off-grid inverter).

# 6.6 Removing the SD Card

If the SD card is removed without preparation, the removal will cause data loss. The maximum possible data loss will affect the data logged during the last 15 minutes. Always remove the SD card according to the following procedure.

- 1. Switch to installer mode (see Section 4.4.1).
- 2. Select the parameter **550.03 CardFunc** and set it to **ForcedWrite**. Unsaved data will now be saved to the SD card.
- 3. Remove the SD card.

# 6.7 Displaying the Content of the Files







sipar 1.lst

Figure 17: Content of an SD card (example)

The files saved to the SD card depend on the configuration and the off-grid system.

#### Explanation of the files:

File name	Explanation	
evthis.log	Event history	
errhis.log	Error history	
si010112.evt	Event and error history for one day	
	The date (ddmmyy) is part of the file name.	
si010112.log	Data recording for the day	
	The date (ddmmyy) is part of the file name.	
sipar 1 .lst	Parameter set 1	
sipar2.lst	Parameter set 2	
update.bin	Firmware version of the off-grid inverter	
batstat.txt	Statistical values of the battery	
	These values are saved every night at 10:00 p.m.	

File name	Explanation	
batstat.sma	Statistic values of the battery for evaluation by SMA Solar Technology AG	
sim.ccf	System information of the off-grid inverter	
bootex.log	File generated by the operating system of the computer	
	This file is not generated by every operating system.	

#### Structure of the files:

The files are CSV files, which means that the data is saved as text. The files are structured as follows:

- The first lines in the file are used for information. Information lines start and end with the character #.
- The data in the following lines is separated by semicolons.
- Decimal places are separated by full stops.
- The date format is dd/mm/yyyy.
- The time format is hh:mm:ss.
- Some of the parameter values are saved with plain text numbers (see the technical description of the off-grid inverter for an explanation of the plain text numbers).

#### **Requirements:**

- □ A computer with installed spreadsheet software must be available.
- □ The spreadsheet software must be able to read CSV files.
- 1. Insert the SD card into the card reader and show the content.
- 2. Start the spreadsheet software and import the required file. Set the import filter in accordance with the file structure (see spreadsheet software manual).

# 7 Manually Controlling the Generator

# 7.1 Starting the Generator with Sunny Remote Control

#### **Requirements:**

- The off-grid inverter must be able to control the generator via a control cable.
- □ The Sunny Remote Control must be in standard mode or user mode.
- 1. Select the **Generator** display page on the Sunny Remote Control and push the button (see Section 4.3.5 "Operating and Configuring the Off-Grid Inverter", page 30).
- To start the generator and run it continuously, select the Mode parameter and set to Start.
   ✓ The generator starts and runs until you stop it again.
- 3. To start the generator and run it for one hour, select the Mode parameter and set to Run1h.
  - ☑ The generator starts. If there is no generator request after one hour, the off-grid inverter stops the generator.

# 7.2 Stopping the Generator with Sunny Remote Control

# 

#### Risk of crushing injuries due to movable generator parts

If the generator is stopped, the off-grid inverter can automatically restart the generator.

- Before performing work on the generator, permanently stop the generator and secure it against inadvertent restarting.
- Work on the generator in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.

#### **Requirements:**

- □ The off-grid inverter must be able to control the generator via a control cable.
- □ The Sunny Remote Control must be in standard mode or user mode.
- 1. Select the **Generator** display page on the Sunny Remote Control and push the button (see Section 4.3.5 "Operating and Configuring the Off-Grid Inverter", page 30).
- 2. Select the Mode parameter and set it to Stop.
  - ☑ The generator is momentarily stopped. The generator restarts when a generator request is issued in automatic generator mode and the minimum stop time elapses.
- 3. To stop the generator permanently, deactivate the automatic generator mode:
  - Switch to installer mode (see Section 4.4.1).
  - Select the parameter 235.01 GnAutoEna and set to Disable.
  - ☑ The generator is stopped permanently.

# 7.3 Starting the Generator without Autostart Function

#### **Requirement:**

- □ The generator is not controlled with GenMan.
- 1. Start the generator (see manufacturer's instructions).
- 2. Close the switch-disconnector between generator and off-grid inverter.
- $\blacksquare$  After the warm-up period, the off-grid inverter switches the stand-alone grid to the generator.

# 7.4 Stopping the Generator without Autostart Function

#### **Requirement:**

- □ The generator is not controlled with GenMan.
- 1. Open the switch-disconnector between the generator and off-grid inverter. That prevents the generator being driven by AC sources in the stand-alone grid.
- 2. Stop the generator (see manufacturer's instructions).
- ☑ The generator is stopped. After the cool-down time and the minimum stop time, you can use the generator as an external energy source again.

# 8 Disconnecting the Off-Grid Inverter from Voltage Sources

- 1. Switch off the off-grid system (see Section 5.4).
- 2. Disconnect the miniature circuit-breaker and the switch-disconnectors in the sub-distributions and secure against reconnection.
- 3. Open the switch-disconnector of the BatFuse and secure against reconnection.

# 4. **A WARNING**

#### Danger to life due to high voltages

- If you are not a skilled person, inform a skilled person.
- Steps 5 to 10 may only be performed by skilled persons.

## 5. NOTICE

#### Electrostatic discharges can damage the off-grid inverter.

The components inside the inverter can be destroyed by electrostatic discharge.

- Earth yourself before touching any components.
- 6. If you are a skilled person, loosen all the screws of the enclosure lid and remove the lid.
- 7. Ensure that the DC terminal is disconnected from voltage sources.
- 8. Ensure that the terminals AC1 Loads/SunnyBoys and AC2 Gen/Grid are disconnected from voltage sources.
- 9. Earth and short-circuit the AC conductors.
- 10. Cover or safeguard any adjacent live components.

# 9 Cleaning and Maintenance

# 9.1 Cleaning the Enclosure of the Off-Grid Inverter

- If the enclosure is heavily soiled, use a soft brush to remove the soiling.
- If the enclosure is dusty, remove the dust with a soft cloth. Do not use solvents, abrasives or corrosive liquids.

# 9.2 Cleaning the Sunny Remote Control

• Clean the Sunny Remote Control with a soft cloth. Do not use solvents, abrasives or corrosive liquids.

# 9.3 Performing a Manual Equalisation Charge

Perform a manual equalisation charge at least once a year. After extended periods without charging (e.g. systems operated seasonally), perform a manual equalisation charge at the end or start of the season.

#### **Requirement:**

- □ The Sunny Remote Control must be in standard mode or user mode.
- 1. Select the **Battery** display page on the Sunny Remote Control and press the button (see Section 4.3.5 "Operating and Configuring the Off-Grid Inverter", page 30).
- 2. Select the **Equalize** parameter and set to **Start**.

# 9.4 Checking the Function

#### **Requirement:**

- □ The Sunny Remote Control must be connected to the off-grid inverter/master.
- For the first six months after installation of new off-grid systems, check every week whether error messages have been registered. This will reveal any hidden errors in the installation or configuration:
  - Switch to installer mode (see Section 4.4.1).
  - Select the **420# Error history** menu and check whether error messages have been registered.
  - If error messages have been registered, rectify the cause (see Section 10 "Troubleshooting", page 54).
- Check every six months whether error messages have been registered:
  - Switch to installer mode (see Section 4.4.1).
  - Select the 420# Error history menu and check whether error messages have been registered.
  - If error messages have been registered, rectify the cause (see the technical description of the off-grid inverter for the causes of errors and disturbances).

# 9.5 Checking the Connections

# 

#### Danger to life due to high voltages

- Connections may only be checked by skilled persons.
- 1. Disconnect the off-grid inverter from voltage sources (see Section 8).
- Ensure that the cables on the DC+ and DC- terminals are securely fastened (torque: 4 Nm ... 5.7 Nm).
- 3. Ensure that the terminals are free of corrosion.
- 4. Ensure that the cables in the AC1 and AC2 terminals are securely fastened.
- 5. Close the inverter (see the off-grid inverter installation manual).
- 6. Switch on all switch-disconnectors and miniature circuit-breakers.

# 9.6 Checking and Maintaining the Battery

# **A** CAUTION

#### Risk of injury by corrosive and/or toxic electrolyte from the battery

If handled inappropriately, electrolyte from the battery can burn the skin or eyes or be toxic.

- Protect the battery enclosure against destruction.
- Do not open or deform the battery.
- Whenever working on the battery, wear rubber gloves, rubber boots and goggles.
- Rinse acid splashes with clear water and consult a doctor.

# **A** CAUTION

#### Risk of burns from short-circuit currents

Short-circuit currents in the battery can cause heat build-up and electric arcs.

- Remove watches, rings and other metal objects.
- Use insulated tools to mount and install the battery.
- Do not place tools or metal parts on the battery.

## i Battery Checks and Maintenance

Only skilled persons are suitably qualified to check and maintain the batteries.

- If you are not a skilled person, have a skilled person perform the work.
- 1. Stop the off-grid system and switch off the off-grid inverter (see Section 5).
- 2. Open the switch-disconnector of the BatFuse and secure against reconnection.
- 3. Check and maintain the battery (see the instructions of the battery manufacturer).
- 4. Quickly connect the switch-disconnector of the BatFuse and close the BatFuse (see the installation manual of the BatFuse).
- 5. Start the off-grid system.

# 9.7 Cleaning the Fans

If the Sunny Remote Control shows warning **W137**, **W138** or **W139**, one of the fans is probably defective or blocked. Always use the following procedure to check and clean each fan on the affected off-grid inverter.

- 1. Disconnect the off-grid inverter from voltage sources (see Section 8).
- 2. Wait for the fans to stop rotating.

3. Check whether the fan guard is dusty or heavily soiled.

If the fan guard is dusty, clean the fan guard with a vacuum cleaner or a soft paintbrush.

If the fan guard is heavily soiled, remove the fan guard and clean it:

• Use a screwdriver to press both locking tabs on the right edge of the fan guard to the right and remove from the bracket.



- Carefully remove the fan guard.
- Clean the fan guard with a soft brush, a paintbrush, a cloth or compressed air.
- 4. Check whether the fan is soiled.

If the fan is soiled, remove the fan:

• Use a screwdriver to press both locking tabs on the right edge of the fan guard to the right and remove from the bracket.



- Carefully remove the fan guard.
- Push the front locking tabs of the fan backwards and the rear locking tabs of the fan forwards.



• Remove the fan slowly from the off-grid inverter.

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• Release and remove the fan plug.



# 5. NOTICE

#### Damage to the fan due to compressed air

- Clean the fan with a soft brush, a paintbrush, or a damp cloth.
- 6. Insert the plug of the fan into the socket until it clicks into place.
- 7. Insert the fan into the off-grid inverter until the fan clicks audibly into place.
- 8. Push the fan guard into the retainer until it audibly clicks into place.

# 9.8 Replacing the Battery

# **A** CAUTION

#### Risk of injury by corrosive and/or toxic electrolyte from the battery

If handled inappropriately, electrolyte from the battery can burn the skin or eyes or be toxic.

- Protect the battery enclosure against destruction.
- Do not open or deform the batteries.
- Whenever working on the battery, wear rubber gloves, rubber boots and goggles.
- Rinse acid splashes with clear water and consult a doctor.

# **A** CAUTION

#### Risk of burns from short-circuit currents

Short-circuit currents in the battery can cause heat build-up and electric arcs.

- Remove watches, rings and other metal objects.
- Use insulated tools to mount and install the battery.
- Do not place tools or metal parts on the battery.

#### [i]

## Installation work on the battery

Only skilled persons have the qualifications required to perform installation work on batteries.

- If you are not a skilled person, have a skilled person perform the work.
- 1. Stop the off-grid system and switch off the off-grid inverter (see Section 5).
- 2. Open the switch-disconnector of the BatFuse and secure against reconnection.
- 3. Disassemble the battery to be replaced (see battery manufacturer's instructions).
- 4. Mount and connect the new battery (see battery manufacturer's instructions). The battery must comply with the technical requirements of the off-grid inverter (see the off-grid inverter installation manual for technical data of the DC connection).
- 5. Quickly connect the switch-disconnector of the BatFuse and close the BatFuse (see the installation manual of the BatFuse).
- 6. Switch on the off-grid inverter (see Section 5.1).

☑ If the Sunny Remote Control shows **<Init System>**<sup>↓i</sup>, press and hold the button until the Sunny Remote Control shows the QCG.

- 7. Select the **New Battery** menu and push the button.
- 8. Confirm with Y.
- 9. Select the **BatTyp** parameter, set the battery type and confirm with **Y**.
- 10. Select the **BatVtgLst** parameter, set the battery voltage and confirm with **Y**.
- Select the BatCpyNom parameter, set the C10 capacity of the battery (see the installation manual of the off-grid inverter on how to calculate the battery capacity) and confirm the battery capacity with Y.
- 12. Select the last page and confirm the question Setup New Battery with Y.

# 10 Troubleshooting

# 10.1 What to Do if an Error Occurs

## Display of Errors, Warnings and Events

Pending warnings and errors are shown automatically on the display of the Sunny Remote Control until the cause of the warning or error is no longer recorded by the off-grid inverter or is acknowledged. Events are recorded by the off-grid inverter. The following menus record warnings, errors and events:

• 410# Error active

Display of currently pending warnings and errors

• 420# Error history

Error and warning history

• 430# Event history

History of events

## **Error Levels**

The off-grid inverter distinguishes between five separate error levels, with each resulting in a different behaviour.

Level	Designation	Display on the Sunny Remote Control	Explanation
1	Warning	Warning	Warning, inverter continues running. Information in standard mode indicating that a warning has been generated.
2	Disturbance 1	Malfunction	Disturbance that is only detectable during operation. The off-grid inverter shuts down. Restart can be initiated immediately (e.g. via autostart).
3	Disturbance 2	Malfunction	Disturbance that is also detectable in standby mode. The off-grid inverter shuts down. Restart is blocked until the disturbance is no longer detected by the off-grid inverter.
4	Failure	Failure	Device failure, the off-grid inverter shuts down. Troubleshooting, acknowledgment of the error and manual restart necessary.
5	Device defect	Defect	The off-grid inverter is defective and shuts down. The off-grid inverter must be replaced.

#### **Treatment of Pending Errors upon Activation**

During the activation procedure, all pending errors are generally acknowledged without an entry being made in the history. Errors which are still pending are entered again after activation. Errors which are detected by the off-grid inverter before activation, and are no longer detected after activation, are shown in list **420# Error history**.

#### Autostart

The autostart function allows automatic restarts in the event of disturbances. If the autostart function fails in the event of a disturbance, the off-grid inverter attempts to carry out the next autostart immediately. The number of autostarts is restricted. If the off-grid inverter runs in inverter operation without disturbances for ten minutes, it resets the autostart counter.

When the maximum number of autostarts has been reached, the off-grid inverter reacts as follows:

- The off-grid inverter waits ten minutes.
- The autostart counter is reset.
- The off-grid inverter attempts to perform an autostart.
- When the maximum number of autostarts is reached, the off-grid inverter waits ten minutes.

#### **Master-Slave Treatment**

The **250.30 RnMod** parameter influences the reactions of a three-phase off-grid system in the event of a disturbance. Depending on the setting, the entire cluster may either stop or remain in if an error in a slave cannot be rectified via the autostart function, the entire cluster may either stop or remain in in operation without the affected slave. In the default setting, the cluster remains in operation.

Each off-grid inverter records and saves its own errors. The slaves report their errors to the master. The master collects these error messages and records the errors of the slaves as warnings in its menu **410# Error active**. If you acknowledge the error of the slave on the master, the master sends the acknowledgement to the slave.

The error and event memories of the master and the slaves are not synchronised. If the off-grid system is restarted, the errors of the slaves are acknowledged.

#### Example: Handling errors in a cluster

Slave 1 reduces its power due to excessive temperature and records warning **W138** in its menu **410# Error active**. Slave 1 reports the warning to the master. The master records the warning in its menu **410# Error active**.

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# 10.2 Acknowledging a Generator Error

#### **Requirement:**

- The Sunny Remote Control must be in standard mode or user mode.
- 1. Rectify the cause for the disconnection of the generator from the stand-alone grid (see the technical description of the off-grid inverter for causes of errors and disturbances).
- 2. Select the **Generator** display page on the Sunny Remote Control and push the button (see Section 4.3.5 "Operating and Configuring the Off-Grid Inverter", page 30).
- 3. Set the Error parameter to Ackn.

# 10.3 Acknowledging Level 3 and 4 Errors

If a disturbance or failure has occurred, the off-grid inverter switches to standby mode.

- 1. Rectify the cause (see the technical description of the off-grid inverter for the causes of errors and disturbances).
- 2. Push the button on the Sunny Remote Control. This acknowledges the error.
- 3. Start the off-grid system (see Section 5.2).

# 10.4 Changing Slave Addresses in a Cluster

If you want to change slave addresses (e.g. after replacing an off-grid inverter), you can assign the slaves a new address using the QCG. Only the address is changed - all other configurations remain as they were, e.g. assignment of the clusters in a multicluster system. When replacing a master, you must reconfigure the cluster (see the installation manual of the off-grid inverter on the configuration of single-cluster operation or Multicluster operation).

#### You can change the slave addresses in two ways:

- Change the slave addresses with a Sunny Remote Control.
- Change the slave addresses without a Sunny Remote Control.

## Changing Slave Addresses with a Sunny Remote Control

#### **Requirements:**

- □ The off-grid inverters must be switched off.
- $\Box$  A Sunny Remote Control is connected to the master only.
- 1. Switch the slave on.
- Turn on the master and then press and hold the button on the Sunny Remote Control.
   ☑ A signal sounds three times and the QCG starts.
- 3. Select the NewClstCfg menu and confirm with Y.
- 4. For a one-phase system, set **1Phs** and press the button.
- 5. For a three-phase system, set **3Phs** and press the button.

- 6. Confirm the question Setup new cluster ? with Y.
- 7. Wait until the inverter LED of slave 1 flashes and the Sunny Remote Control shows the message To identify Slave1 press Tss on the Slv.
- Press the start-stop button at slave 1.
   ☑ The QCG configures slave 1.



- To configure slave 2, wait until the inverter LED of slave 2 flashes and the Sunny Remote Control shows the message **To identify Slave2 press Tss on the Slv**.
- Press the start-stop button on slave 2.

 $\blacksquare$  A signal sounds and the QCG configures slave 2.

- 9. Press the button. This closes the QCG.
- ☑ The off-grid inverter switches into standard mode.

## Changing the Slave Addresses Without a Sunny Remote Control

Only use this method if no Sunny Remote Control can be connected.

#### **Requirement:**

- □ There is no Sunny Remote Control connected to the cluster.
- 1. Switch the off-grid inverters on.

☑ The off-grid inverters are in standby mode.

- 2. Press and hold the activation button on the master until a signal sounds three times.
  - ☑ The cluster is restarted and the LEDs on the off-grid inverters in the cluster flash.



- 3. In a one-phase system, press the activation button repeatedly until one LED flashes.
- 4. In a three-phase system, push the activation button repeatedly until all three LEDs flash.

- 5. Wait until the LED/LEDs of all off-grid inverters flash.
- Press the start-stop button on slave 1.
   ☑ The master configures slave 1.



- 7. In order to configure slave 2, press the start-stop button on slave 2.☑ The master configures slave 2.
- 8. Press the start-stop button on the master. This completes configuration.

# 10.5 Frequently Asked Questions

# 10.5.1 Questions on the Off-Grid Inverter

## Error F117 occurs when starting the off-grid inverter?

The loads connected to the stand-alone grid might be too great for the off-grid inverter.

• Switch some loads off.

A permanent short-circuit might exist in the stand-alone grid.

• If you are a skilled person, check whether there is a short-circuit at connection AC1 and in the stand-alone grid.

# The off-grid inverter does not deactivate even though you have opened the switch-disconnector of the BatFuse?

The off-grid inverter might still be supplied from the AC side.

• Switch off all AC sources and disconnect them from the off-grid inverter.

## The off-grid inverter does not switch to silent mode?

Another function might have a higher priority than silent mode, e.g. equalisation charge or full charge.

# After automatic disconnection in battery protection mode, the off-grid inverter can no longer be started?

- Switch all loads off.
- If there is a generator, start the generator manually at the generator. Observe the warm-up time of the generator. Five minutes without charge current can result in disconnection of the off-grid inverter.
- If enough power is available from the generator or the AC sources in the stand-alone grid, e.g. sufficient solar irradiation for PV inverters, switch the off-grid inverter on. AC sources in the stand-alone grid cannot feed in electric current until the off-grid inverter has been started and is in operation.

## How can I switch between winter and summer operation e.g. for alpine chalets?

• Save two different parameter sets for winter and summer operation on the SD card and load them in the appropriate season (see Section 6.2 "Saving and Loading Parameters", page 41).

# 10.5.2 Questions on the Sunny Remote Control

# Why is the display of the Sunny Remote Control dark and why is nothing displayed?

The off-grid inverter might not be switched on.

- Switch on the off-grid inverter (see Section 5.1).
- ★ The off-grid inverter does not switch on?
  - If you are a skilled person, ensure that the fuse in the BatFuse is not defective.

The Sunny Remote Control might not be connected to the off-grid inverter.

• If you are a skilled person, ensure that the Sunny Remote Control is connected to the off-grid inverter.

The RJ45 data cable might be damaged.

• If you are a skilled person, replace the RJ45 data cable between the Sunny Remote Control and the off-grid inverter.

#### Why is it not possible to change the parameters?

The parameter might only be shown in expert mode.

• Switch to expert mode (see Section 4.4.2).

The parameter might only be changeable in standby mode or in the QCG.

• Note the messages in the display (see Section 4.4.6 "Setting the Parameters", page 35).

The parameter might be hidden as it is not required in the configuration set for the off-grid system.

• Check that the configuration does not deactivate any functions which are required.

#### How do I start the QCG?

• See the installation manual of the off-grid inverter for information on starting the QCG.

### Why is "MCC operation failed" shown in the display?

An action with the SD card has failed.

- Ensure that the write protection on the right side of the SD card is deactivated.
- Use a computer to ensure that the SD card is free of errors.
- If you are a skilled person, ensure that the data cable between the Sunny Remote Control and the off-grid inverter is undamaged and that the plugs are firmly inserted into the sockets.

#### Why is Incomp shown in the display?

The SD card is not formatted with the FAT-16 file system.

# 10.5.3 Questions on the External Energy Source

#### The off-grid inverter does not connect to the running generator?

A high output power of the off-grid inverter when the battery state of charge is low can prevent the off-grid inverter raising the AC voltage in the stand-alone grid to the AC voltage of the generator. The off-grid inverter cancels synchronisation.

• To charge the battery, reduce the power of the loads.

The generator voltage might not be within the limiting values for voltage and frequency.

• Check whether the icon "+" is displayed permanently in standard mode.

If the "+" icon is not displayed, ensure that the fuse is not defective or the miniature circuitbreaker is activated.

If the "+" icon is not displayed permanently, the generator voltage is sporadically outside the limiting values.

• If you are a skilled person, set the limiting values for voltage and frequency of the generator voltage (see the installation manual of the off-grid inverter).

If the "**\***" icon is displayed permanently, the off-grid inverter is in the warm-up period or is blocked for connection. Hint: Check whether the Sunny Remote Control displays the "!" warning icon in standard mode.

Is a GenMan used in the system?

- If you are a skilled person, check the feedback signal at the **DigIn** connection.
- Ensure that the generator is started manually via the GenMan only.

#### The off-grid inverter only connects to the generator briefly?

The generator might be overloaded.

- Select parameter 234.03 GnCurNom and set it to 75% of the rated current of the generator.
- If possible, reduce the power of the loads.

The set maximum generator voltage permitted might be too low.

 If you are a skilled person, select the 234.02 GNVtgMax parameter and set it to the maximum generator voltage.

The minimum frequency set for the generator voltage might be too high.

• If you are a skilled person, select parameter **234.05 GnFrqMin** and set it to the minimum frequency of the generator voltage.

The permitted time 234.14 GnRvTm for reverse power might have been exceeded.

- Check whether warning W401 is registered in menu 420# Error history. Hint: If a warning was entered, the warning icon "!" is shown in the standard mode of the Sunny Remote Control.
- Select the 540.02 GnAck parameter and set to Ackn. This acknowledges the generator error.

# The off-grid inverter does not connect to the external energy source, although the limiting values for voltage and frequency are now complied with?

The off-grid inverter is switched with a hysteresis, i.e. the limiting values for connection do not correspond to the limiting values for disconnection.

# 10.5.4 Questions on the Battery

#### A battery cell is defective?

- If you are a skilled person, remove the defective battery cell from the battery system. This reduces the rated voltage of the battery by the voltage of the battery cell.
- In the QCG, set the current rated voltage of the battery under **New Battery** (see Section 9.8 "Replacing the Battery", page 52).

## The battery discharges even though the generator is running?

The off-grid inverter might not be connecting to the generator.

• Rectify the cause (see Section 10.5.3 "Questions on the External Energy Source", page 60).

The power of the loads might exceed the power of the generator.

## The state of charge of the battery is not 100% after completion of a full charge?

The power requirements of the loads might have been so high before completion of the full charge that the battery could not be charged 100%.

• If necessary, select the parameter 222.03 AptTmFul and set it to a longer period.

#### What do you need to do after replacing a battery current sensor?

• If you are a skilled person, calibrate the battery current sensor (see the installation manual of the off-grid inverter for commissioning instructions).

# 10.5.5 Questions on Cluster Systems and Multicluster Systems

# Extension clusters remain in standby mode, although the main cluster is in inverter mode?

The data cable between the masters of the individual clusters might not be connected. The master of the main cluster cannot forward the "Start" command to the masters of the extension clusters.

#### Why is the Multicluster system not supplying full power?

An extension cluster or individual off-grid inverters of an extension cluster might have failed.

# In the Multicluster system, high powers are passed back and forth between the clusters?

The state of charge of the batteries might differ temporarily. The off-grid system equalises different states of charge automatically.

The nominal frequencies and nominal voltages might be defined differently.

• Set the frequencies and voltages in the **210# Inverter Settings** menu to the same values for all masters.

The battery capacities might differ significantly.

• If you are a skilled person, distribute the battery capacities to the clusters as evenly as possible.

Individual battery cells of a battery might have failed.

• If you are a skilled person, disconnect defective battery cells and set the new rated voltage and capacity (see Section 9.8 "Replacing the Battery", page 52).

# 10.6 Charging the Battery after Automatic Shutdown

# 

#### Danger to life due to high AC voltages

In order to charge the battery after automatic shutdown of the off-grid inverter, the installation of the off-grid inverter must be changed.

• Only skilled persons may charge the battery after automatic shutdown of the off-grid inverter.

When a battery is deeply discharged, the off-grid inverter shuts down automatically and you cannot restart it. In order to start the off-grid inverter again after an automatic shutdown, you must charge the battery in emergency charge mode.

In emergency charge mode, the off-grid inverter does not form a separate stand-alone grid, and you can charge the battery using a generator. Battery management is active in emergency charge mode and the off-grid inverter charges the battery in accordance with the parameter settings. In standby mode or in the QCG, you can adapt the parameters for the battery, e.g. the battery nominal voltage, if a battery cell fails.

#### i Restricted management functions in emergency charge mode

In emergency charge mode, the generator management is not active. The limits for voltage, current and frequency are not monitored. Set the maximum current consumption of the off-grid inverter for charging the battery in emergency charge mode. The off-grid inverter does not record additional stress on the generator caused by loads.

#### **Requirement:**

 $\hfill\square$  The Sunny Remote Control must be connected to the master.

#### Procedure:

- Connect the generator to terminal AC1.
- Charge the battery.
- Disconnect the generator from terminal AC1.
- Start the off-grid system.

## Connecting the Generator to Terminal AC1

- 1. Disconnect the off-grid inverter from voltage sources (see Section 8).
- 2. If a generator is installed permanently in the off-grid system, bridge the terminals AC1 and AC2.
- 3. If a mobile generator is used, connect the generator to terminal AC1 (see the installation manual of the off-grid inverter).
- 4. Close the off-grid inverter (see commissioning in the off-grid inverter installation manual).

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## Charging the Battery

- 1. Switch off all loads.
- 2. Activate or deactivate all miniature circuit-breakers and/or fuse-switch-disconnectors for energy sources.
- 3. Quickly connect the switch-disconnector of the BatFuse and close the BatFuse (see the installation manual of the BatFuse).
- 4. Start the generator.
- 5. Switch the off-grid inverter on (see Section 5.1).
- 6. If the Sunny Remote Control shows **<Init System>**#, press and hold the button.

☑ The Sunny Remote Control shows the QCG.

Select	option
001#01	
	StartMenu
	Start System <b>4</b>

7. Select menu Emerg Charge and press the button.

Select option
001#01 <b>60000000</b> ]
StartMenu
Emer9 Char9e <b>4</b>

- 8. Confirm with Y.
  - ☑ The Sunny Remote Control shows the ExtCurMax parameter.

Emerg.	Charg	Mode
005#24		<set><b>↓</b></set>
	E	.xtCurMax
		0.0 [A]

- 9. Set the AC current of the connected generator and press the button.
- 10. Confirm the AC current with **Y**.
- 11. Turn the button to the right and confirm the message **Emerg. Charg Mode Start?**.

Emer9.	Char9 Mode
Start?	<accept n="" y=""></accept>

#### i Interrupting emergency charge mode

You can interrupt the emergency charge mode, e.g. to add diesel to a generator.

- Press and hold the button.

   Emergency charge mode is stopped.
- Press and hold the button.
   ☑ Emergency charge mode is running.

#### **Disconnecting the Generator from Terminal AC1**

- 1. Switch off the off-grid inverter (see Section 5.4).
- 2. Ensure that the generator is stopped permanently.
- 3. Disconnect the off-grid inverter from voltage sources (see Section 8).
- 4. If the terminals AC1 and AC2 are bridged, remove the bridge.
- 5. If a mobile generator is used, disconnect the generator from terminal AC1.
- 6. Close the off-grid inverter (see commissioning in the off-grid inverter installation manual).

#### Starting the Off-Grid System

- 1. Switch on or connect all miniature circuit-breakers and fuse-switch-disconnectors.
- 2. Start the off-grid system (see Section 5.2).

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# 11 Glossary

## Absorption phase

See constant voltage phase

## AC coupling

The connection between various loads, generators and storage devices in the stand-alone grid.

## AGM battery

Absorbent glass mat separator battery. In AGM batteries, the electrolyte is held in a fibreglass mat. The AGM battery is a sealed lead acid battery. A gas mixture consisting of hydrogen and oxygen is always generated when lead acid batteries are charged, and in normal operation this mixture undergoes internal recombination to form water. Hence, there is no need to regularly top up the battery cells with water, which is why these batteries are often described as low maintenance or even maintenance-free batteries. AGM batteries are available from many different manufacturers for a wide range of applications. They usually have very good high-current properties but lower deep-cycle stability.

## Anti-islanding

Anti-islanding is a process which protects against unintentional stand-alone grid formation at the connection of the external energy source. This is required to ensure that the off-grid inverter prevents possible reverse voltage to these power supply units if the external energy source fails.

## Battery

A battery is an electrochemical energy storage device that can release previously stored chemical energy as electrical energy. A distinction is made between non-rechargeable primary elements and rechargeable secondary elements (rechargeable batteries or accumulators). Lead acid batteries are generally used as rechargeable secondary elements in off-grid systems.

## **Battery bank**

See Battery system

## Battery charge mode

An off-grid inverter operating mode, in which the off-grid inverter takes energy from the AC grid to recharge the battery in a controlled way. In this operating mode, the off-grid inverter is primarily responsible for correctly charging the batteries and acts like an independent battery charging device.

#### **Battery cycle**

The battery cycle is the cumulative total discharge current over time, measured in ampere-hours. These meters are not automatically reset after charging. The nominal battery cycle is the battery cycle relative to the nominal capacity of the batteries.

#### **Battery inverter**

See Off-grid inverter

#### **Battery management**

Battery management is responsible for optimal battery charging and reliable protection against deep discharge. This is the only way of ensuring that the battery service life corresponds to the manufacturer's specifications.

#### Battery power converter

See Off-grid inverter

#### **Battery protection mode**

Battery protection mode protects the battery. If the battery falls below the limiting values for the state of charge, the battery protection mode is activated. To protect the battery, the off-grid inverter switches to standby mode or deactivates.

#### **Battery system**

Series connection and possibly also parallel connection of several identical batteries. Battery banks of 12 V, 24 V, 48 V and 60 V are typical.

#### **Boost charge**

See Fast charge

#### **Bulk phase**

See Constant current phase

## Capacity

Describes the storage capability of a cell or battery, specified in ampere-hours or watt hours. The capacity of a battery is heavily dependent on the charging cycle, the electrical current strength drawn and the temperature.

## Charge mode

See Battery charge mode

## Cluster

Multiple off-grid inverters which are switched in parallel on the DC side, and which are connected to a shared battery system. On the AC output side, these inverters can form a single-phase or three-phase stand-alone grid. The inverters in a cluster must be connected via data cables and configured in such way that one inverter manages the cluster as a master and all other devices communicate with the master as slaves.

## Constant current phase

Charging phase in which the battery can be charged using the maximum charging current.

# **Constant V phase**

See Constant voltage phase

## Constant voltage phase

A charging phase using constant charging voltage to charge the battery. The charging current constantly decreases in this phase.

## C rate

The nominal capacity specification is always provided with the discharge time on which the capacity is based. The nominal capacity is the product of the constant charging current  $I_N$  and the discharge time  $t_{N'}$  which passes between commencement of discharging the fully charged battery and when the final discharge voltage  $U_S$  is reached. For stationary batteries, the C10 capacity is usually specified. A battery with a capacity of C10 = 200 Ah can be discharged for 10 hours at a nominal current of 0.1 × C10 =  $I_{10}$  = 20 A.

## Derating

A controlled power reduction, usually dependent on component temperatures. Compared with the practice of completely shutting down the device, the effect on the stand-alone grid is smaller with derating.

## Electrolyte

Allows the conduction of ions within a battery. The electrolyte in lead acid batteries is diluted sulphuric acid.

## Equalise charge

See Equalisation charge

### **Equalisation charge**

Equalisation charge is a charge process in the constant voltage phase. Equalisation charges charge different series-connected battery cells to a uniform state of charge of 95% ... 100%. Without regular equalisation charging, the states of charge of the individual cells slowly drift apart, which can lead to premature battery system failure.

#### **Extension cluster**

An extension cluster is a cluster within the Multicluster system which is subordinate to the main cluster. The master of the extension cluster obeys the instructions issued by the master of the main cluster. The master of the extension cluster sends the operating data of its cluster to the master of the main cluster. If the master of an extension cluster stops, only this cluster stops working. In this case, the Multicluster system continues to operate with reduced power.

#### Fast charge

Fast charge is a charging process in the constant voltage phase. Fast charging charges the battery as quickly and efficiently as possible to a state of charge of approx. 85% ... 90%.

#### Firmware

Firmware is software embedded in electronic devices. Firmware is stored in a non-volatile, electronic memory module.

#### Float charge

In a float charge, the off-grid inverter attempts to maintain the battery at a high state of charge by using a lower charge voltage. Float charge is more important for grid backup systems and less important for off-grid systems.

## Full charge

Full charge is a charging process in the constant voltage phase. Full charge charges the battery to approx. 95% at least once a month. This avoids premature battery aging caused by inadequate charging.

#### Generator

An electric generator is an electrical machine which converts kinetic energy into electrical energy. In off-grid systems, not only the electric generator itself, but also the combustion unit (diesel, petrol, or gas motor) necessary for the power unit are simply referred to jointly as generator.

## Grid-tie plant

PV plant which is connected to the electricity grid.

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#### Inverter mode

Operating mode of the off-grid inverter in which the off-grid inverter supplies the stand-alone grid from the energy in the battery. In this operating mode, the off-grid inverter is primarily responsible for the control of frequency and voltage in the stand-alone grid.

#### I-Phase

See Constant current phase

#### Main cluster

The main cluster is the leading cluster within a Multicluster system. The master of the main cluster is the central user interface for the main cluster and all extension clusters of a stand-alone grid. The master of the main cluster is superior to the masters of the extension cluster. The following are some of the tasks performed by the master of the main cluster:

- Starting and stopping the Multicluster system
- Controlling and monitoring the masters of the extension cluster
- Communicating with the Multicluster Box

If the master of the main cluster stops operation, the entire Multicluster system shuts down. If a generator is integrated in the stand-alone grid, it will take over the power supply to the loads in this case.

#### Master

A configuration setting which assigns the leading role in a cluster to an off-grid inverter or backup inverter. The master performs centralised control and monitoring tasks (e.g., frequency regulation, battery management, generator control, and control of the Automatic Switch Box in the backup system), which must be performed by just one device in a cluster. All other inverters in the cluster must be configured to leave these tasks to the master, and to be controlled by the master (see Slave). The master is also the device used to configure and operate the cluster, and record data centrally.

## **Multicluster Box**

The Multicluster Box is the AC main distribution in the Multicluster system and a component of the SMA Multicluster Technology. In a stand-alone grid the Multicluster Box connects the clusters with the loads, the AC sources of the stand-alone grid, and the generator.

#### **Multicluster system**

A Multicluster system is made up of multiple clusters connected in parallel. The power of the Multicluster system increases with the number of clusters. The clusters are connected in parallel via a Multicluster Box. The size of the Multicluster Box is determined when the system is designed depending on the power requirement.

## Off-grid inverter

A bidirectional converter capable of regulating voltage and frequency in a stand-alone grid as well as correctly charging the batteries. The off-grid inverter forms a stand-alone grid and maintains a stable and autonomous energy supply by regulating all processes.

## Off-grid system

An off-grid system is the entire system with all components required to implement a stand-alone grid. Batteries are a major component of off-grid systems used for energy storage. In order to increase the availability of the stand-alone grid and to reduce the battery capacity, the off-grid system can use external energy sources as an energy reserve.

## **Overload capacity**

The overload capacity of an inverter is the short-term power which the inverter is capable of maintaining for a few minutes or seconds. The overload capacity is significantly above the rated power in off-grid inverters. Overload capacity is important to be able to start electrical machines with a rated power close to the rated power of the off-grid inverter, as these machines typically require six times the rated current (in relation to the nominal current) when starting.

## **Parallel connection**

Parallel connection of batteries increases the capacity of the battery system while the voltage remains constant. Example: Two 24 V/100 Ah batteries connected in parallel still have a voltage of 24 V, but a capacity of 100 Ah + 100 Ah = 200 Ah.

## Piggy-Back (board)

A printed circuit board plugged into another printed circuit board to enable optional functions. A Piggy-Back board can also replace an individual chip. In this case, the chip is removed and the board is plugged into the empty base.

#### **PV** array

Technical device for the conversion of solar energy into electrical energy. All electrically connected (in series and in parallel) PV modules of a PV plant are referred to a PV array.

## **PV** inverter

Device for converting the direct current supplied by the PV array into grid-compliant alternating current. Inverters for PV plants usually include at least one MPP tracker, store operating data, and monitor the power supply line of the PV plant.

## PV module

Electrical connection of several PV cells encapsulated in an enclosure to protect the sensitive cells from mechanical stress and environmental effects.

## **PV** plant

Term for a solar energy system for power generation. This includes all components needed for collecting and utilising solar energy. In the case of grid-tie plants, this includes the PV array as well as the PV inverter.

## **Quick Configuration Guide**

The Quick Configuration Guide (QCG) is used to configure the settings required for operation. Step by step, the QCG prompts you to make the settings required for the off-grid system. Parameters for a cluster are set centrally at the master. All slaves take on the configuration automatically.

## Sealed lead acid battery

Battery type where the electrolyte is bound in a gel. This is a type of closed lead acid battery. A hydrogen and oxygen gas mixture is always generated when lead acid batteries are charged, and in normal operation this mixture undergoes internal recombination to form water. Hence, there is no need to regularly top up water, which is why these batteries are often described as low maintenance or even maintenance-free batteries (see also AGM batteries). There are sealed lead acid batteries for high-current applications but also for cycle operation with very high cycle resistance.

## Search mode

Search mode is an energy saving mode. At regular intervals, the off-grid inverter checks whether loads are connected to the system. If the off-grid inverter does not detect any loads, the off-grid inverter switches to search mode. Once a load is connected, the off-grid inverter exits search mode and switches to normal operation.

## Self-discharge

Charge loss of a battery cell while it is stored or unused. A higher ambient temperature has a strong influence on self-discharge.

## Series connection

The positive pole of each battery is connected to the negative pole of the next battery. There is only one circuit where current can flow. Series connection increases the voltage of the battery system. If two 24 V batteries with a capacity of 100 Ah each are connected in series, the total voltage is 24 V + 24 V = 48 V, while the total capacity remains at 100 Ah.

## Silent mode

Silent mode is an energy saving mode for grid backup systems. If a configurable time for the float charge has expired, the off-grid inverter switches to standby mode. The off-grid inverter is then in standby mode. If the electricity grid fails when in standby, the off-grid inverter provides a stand-alone grid within seconds.
#### Slave

A configuration setting which assigns a subordinate role in a cluster to an off-grid or backup inverter. Thus, this device is relieved of control and monitoring tasks, which must (or may) only be performed by the master in a cluster. Slave devices accept the configuration settings, current firmware, and start/ stop commands from the master, and report events, warnings and error messages.

#### Sleep mode

Sleep mode is an energy saving mode in single-phase parallel off-grid systems. If the power of the loads does not require the power of all off-grid inverters, the master switches off one or two slaves.

#### Stand-alone grid

A stand-alone grid is an electricity grid which is independent of the public energy supply. A standalone grid with an off-grid inverter is designed as a single-phase or three-phase AC grid and integrates various kinds of power generators such as PV plants and small wind turbine systems.

#### State of charge

Describes the current amount of charge that can be drawn from the battery, in percent of the nominal capacity. If 25 Ah is taken from a 100 Ah battery, for example, the state of charge (SOC) is then 75%.

#### Wind power inverter

Device for converting the direct current from the wind energy generator to grid-compliant alternating current.

## 12 Contact

If you have technical problems concerning our products, please contact the SMA Service Line. We require the following information in order to provide you with the necessary assistance:

- Off-grid inverter type
- Serial number of the off-grid inverter
- Firmware version of the off-grid inverter
- Error message indicated
- Type of battery connected
- Nominal battery capacity
- Nominal battery voltage
- Type of communication products connected
- Type and size of additional energy sources
- If a generator is connected:
  - Type
  - Power
  - Maximum current

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