

#### Company presentation





#### Agenda

- REFU Elektronik GmbH
- REFU is part of Prettl Group
- Our Solar Product Portfolio
- Our Storage Product Portfolio
- Our References
- Why REFU?

#### REFU Elektronik GmbH







#### **REFU** at a glance

**Founded:** 1965

#### **Competencies:**

- Frequency converters
- Controllable power electronics
- Solar inverters
- Energy storage systems
- ~ **100 Employees** (>40 people in R&D)

Certificates: ISO 9001 / ISO 14001



#### Headquarters Pfullingen



**R&D Center** Metzingen



#### **REFU** fields of activity







Energy Storage Systems



Drive applications







#### **REFU** solar and storage history





#### **REFU** is part of Prettl Group



#### Prettl at a glance



#### **PRETTL Business Divisions**

Automotive	Appliance solutions	Energy	Electronics	ProSys
Coils, magnetic actuators and valves	Lighting modules	Power generators and emergency power units	Electronic components for control and radio systems	Emission Systems Brake wear sensors
Sensor cables and cable assemblies	Operating modules	On- and off-grid systems and battery systems	Wireless communication modules	Catalyzers
				Prosumer
Metal technology and seat structures	Control panels for the white goods sector	Solar Inverters	One of the leading system suppliers for EMS	High-quality kitchen appliances
				Drive systems for garage doors and gates



#### **Our Solar Product Portfolio**



#### Solar inverters: the heart and brain of a PV system



- DC-AC conversion
- plant performance monitoring and plant control
- Complicance with grid code and grid support (active/reactive power)
- interface to grid operator
- safety functions



#### **REFUsol** inverter products





# IECINVERTERS

Product	REFUSOI 08K	REFUSOI 10K	REFUSOI 13K	REFUSOI 17K	REFUSOI 20K	REFUSOI 23K-MV	REFUSOI 40K	REFUSOI 46K-MV
Art. No.	867P008. 010	867P010. 010	867P013. 010	867P017. 010	867P020. 010	867P023. 010	840P040. 010	840P046. 010
Max. DC Power [kWp]	12,4	15,0	19,5	25,5	30,0	34,5	60,0	70,0
DC voltage range [V]	370 850	410 850	480 850	460 850	490 850	575 850	490 850	575 850
Max. AC power [kW]	8,25	10	13,0	17,0	20,0	23	40,0	46
AC voltage range [V]	320 460	320 460	320 460	320 460	320 460	368 529	320 480	368 529
Max. Efficiency [%]	98,0%	98,0%	98,0%	98,2%	98,2%	98,3%	98,2%	98,3%
European Efficiency [%]	97,3%	97,4%	97,5%	97,8%	97,8%	98,1%	97,8%	98,1%
Weight [kg]	38,4	38,4	38,4	38,4	38,4	38,4	74,0	74,0

Broad range of power classes



#### **REFUsol unique product features**

- Patented, UltraEta<sup>®</sup> 5 Level Topology
  - High efficiency in real operation
  - Light weight inverter architecture
  - Low standby and night consumption
- Convection cooling without external fan
  - superior performance in harsh outdoor environments
  - Protection class IP65
  - No maintenance, no mechanical wearing
- Compact string inverter design
  - 38 kg for 20 kW scalable for any size of PV system
  - Fail-safe through multi-inverter PV plants
- Connected to REFUlog
  - Professional monitoring and service portal
- Award-winning performance tested by Photon Labs













#### Which criteria to choose the right inverters?



#### Criteria for inverter selection

- MAXIMUM OVERALL ENERGY YIELDS
- SAFE OPERATION
- INTELLIGENT MONITORING
- SUITABILITY FOR EXTREME INSTALLATION ENVIRONMENTS (HEAT/DUST)
- FLEXIBILITY AND RAPIDITY OF INSTALLATION
- RELIABILITY



#### Criteria for inverter selection

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#### Yearly energy yields depend on operting conditions

- Conversion efficiency depends on the operating conditions of an inverter, this basically irradiation and module temperature, which are continiously changing
- > This is similar to automobiles: "fuel-efficiency" depends on driving style & conditions



> Patended Ultra Eta ©Topology provides best conversion efficiency in all operating conditions

- > Very low stand-by consumptions (<0.5W)</p>
- Low start-up voltage



#### Varying operating conditions during the year



- Ambient Temperature variation over the year (~150 V)
- Power range variation over the day and year (0 .. 100% of nominal power)
- With UltraEta, the real operation over the year is within the best effficiency area



#### **REFUsol's patended Ultra-Eta Plus topology**



- Patented Technology exclusively used by REFU
- More switches than competitors for optimized energy flow
- 5 voltage levels: boosted high, high, neutral, low, boosted low





### REFUsol UltraEta<sup>®</sup> efficiency – example REFUsol 46K

AC Power	46,000	DC Voltage											Maximum				
P/Pn	P (W)	275 V	325 V	375 V	425 V	475 V	525 V	575 V	625 V	675 V	725 V	775 V	825 V	850 V	900 V	950 V	Efficiency
296	920		92.9%	93.8%	93.4%	94.1%	94.7%	94.2%	94.0%	94.2%	94.7%	96.5%	96.8%	96.2%	95.8%	-	96.76%
596	2,300	96.6%	95.5%	96.0%	96.1%	96.1%	96.3%	97.0%	96.5%	96.7%	95.7%	97.1%	97.1%	97.1%	96.5%	-	97.14%
10%	4,600	96.8%	96.9%	96.7%	97.1%	97.2%	97.2%	97.5%	97.8%	98.0%	97.6%	97.9%	97.8%	97.7%	97.6%	-	97.95%
20%	9,200	97.1%	97.4%	97.5%	97.7%	97.8%	97.9%	98.0%	98.0%	98.1%	98.1%	98.1%	98.0%	97.9%	97.9%	97.8%	98.14%
30%	13,800	97.1%	97.3%	97.6%	97.8%	98.0%	98.0%	98.1%	98.2%	98.2%	98.2%	98.2%	98.1%	98.1%	98.0%	97.9%	98.25%
40%	18,400	97.1%	97.3%	97.5%	97.4%	98.0%	98.1%	98.2%	98.2%	98.3%	98.3%	98.3%	98.2%	98.2%	98.1%	98.0%	98.33%
50%	23,000	97.1%	97.3%	97.5%	97.7%	97.9%	98.1%	98.2%	98.2%	98.3%	98.3%	98.3%	98.2%	98.2%	98.1%	98.0%	98.30%
60%	27,600	97.1%	97.3%	97.5%	97.6%	97.8%	98.0%	98.1%	98.2%	98.3%	98.3%	98.2%	98.2%	98.1%	98.1%	98.0%	98.28%
70%	32,200	97.1%	97.3%	97.5%	97.6%	97.7%	97.9%	98.0%	98.1%	98.2%	98.2%	98.2%	98.1%	98.1%	98.0%	98.0%	98.22%
75%	34,500	97.1%	97.3%	97.5%	97.6%	97.6%	97.9%	98.0%	98.1%	98.2%	98.2%	98.2%	98.1%	98.1%	98.0%	98.0%	98.20%
80%	36,800	97.1%	97.3%	97.5%	97.6%	97.7%	97.8%	98.0%	98.1%	98.1%	98.2%	98.1%	98.0%	98.0%	98.0%	98.0%	98.17%
90%	41,400	97.1%	97.3%	97.5%	97.6%	97.7%	97.8%	97.9%	98.0%	98.1%	98.1%	98.1%	98.0%	97.9%	98.0%	98.0%	98.09%
10096	46,000	97.1%	97.3%	97.5%	97.6%	97.7%	97.8%	97.8%	98.0%	98.0%	98.0%	98.0%	97.9%	97.9%	98.0%	98.0%	98.03%
Maximum El	fficiency	97.11%	97.37%	97.62%	97.79%	98.01%	98.13%	98.20%	98.25%	98.29%	98.30%	98.33%	98.21%	98.19%	98.13%	98.02%	98.33%
European Ef	ficiency	97.0%	97.2%	97.4%	97.6%	97.8%	97.9%	98.0%	98.1%	98.1%	98.1%	98.1%	98.0%	98.0%	98.0%	89.2%	98.14%
CEC Efficien	icy	97.1%	97.3%	97.5%	97.6%	97.7%	97.9%	98.0%	98.1%	98.2%	98.2%	98.2%	98.1%	98.0%	98.0%	94.1%	98.19%



#### Superior performance vs. competitors



#### WIRKUNGSGRADKURVE FRONIUS ECO 27.0.3-S



Wirls Z 00 Eta (U<sub>11</sub> = 390 V) - Eta (U<sub>12</sub> = 600 V) 88 800 - - Eta (U<sub>11</sub> = 800 V) U<sub>urr</sub> [V] 86 0,8 0,0 0,2 0,4 0.6 1.0 Ausgangsleistung / Bemessungsleistung

00

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#### Criteria for inverter selection

- MAXIMUM OVERALL ENERGY YIELDS
- SAFE OPERATION
- INTELLIGENT MONITORING



- SUITABILITY FOR EXTREME INSTALLATION ENVIRONMENTS (HEAT/DUST)
- FLEXIBILITY AND RAPIDITY OF INSTALLATION
- RELIABILITY



#### Other important features of REFUsol inverters: DC/DC booster

REFUsol's UltraEta® inverters feature a fully equipped solar inverter with a wide range of operation: DC/DC Booster and a DC/AC Inverter



Other high power string inverter don't have a DC/DC booster, only the DC/AC inverter is part of the product. The trade-off is a limited DC operation window for full output power:





#### Benefit of DC/DC booster: wide DC voltage operating window

- DC/DC booster allows a flexible design with different module types mounting structures.
- No power derating due to low DC voltage (=high temperatures) or high grid voltage



DC voltage range Inverter / Panels



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#### **PV** system monitoring = performance control

> Why system monitoring?

Although PV is a low-maintenance technology there are a lot of failures which might impact on the success of your business plans:

- Modules (micro cracks, junction boxes, LID, PID, shadowing, hot spots, snail spurs, isolation problems, soiling, thefts, vandalism...)
- Cables (especially on metal sheet roofs)
- Connectors (bad crimping or water)
- Stringfuses (too low Amp-value, DC box too small))
- Circuit breakers (under-dimensioned, scarse ventilation,..)
- Inverters (temperature and voltage derating, firmware problems, parameter settings, hardware failures, fans, filters etc...)
- Telecommunication cables



#### **REFUlog monitoring solution**

www.refu-log.com

- INTEGRATED DATALOGGER
- Cloud based FREE monitoring portal
- Remote firmware update and other service features
- Intelligent algorithms / analysis features
- Apps for IOS and Android
- Report and messaging service



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#### such as:

- > Dust
- Sand
- Salty air
- Livestock breeding…

## WITH LONG LIFETIME AND MINIMUM OPEX



#### Unlimited installation scenarios

- ≻Protection degree IP65
- Pure convection cooling
- No fans, therefore no control, no exchange, no stop of operation

## " Install it and forget it".....





#### Pure convection cooling - excellent suitability for hot climates

- Best-of-class components temperature with REFU's natural convection cooling
- Longer life-time according to Arrhenius rule





#### Temperature derating curve REFUsol 40K/46K



Suitability for climates with ambient temperatures of 50°C without derating



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#### REFUsol 08...23K

#### **Description**

- Compact Outdoor String Inverter
- 8, 10, 13, 17, 20 (400 V grid), 23 kW (460 V grid)
- 6 Phoenix Sunclix DC inputs

#### Your benefits

- Maintenance free thanks to passive cooling
- High Energy yields thanks to Patented UltraEta<sup>®</sup> 5 Level Topology
- Easy installation and replacement thanks to low weight
- Easy monitoring with REFUlog
- Proven technology more than 250,000 units sold
- Available in UL and JP variants







Weight for REFUsol 20K is 38,4kg & high compactness
## REFUsol 40K/46K

#### Description

- Large Outdoor String Inverter
- 40 kVA (400 V grid) and 46 kVA (460 V grid)
- Available as 22 kW for 220 V AC
- External DC Connection Box with 10 String Inputs

#### Your benefits

- Ideal for large Systems in rough environments thanks to max. power up to 50C ambient temperature and IP 65 protection
- High energy yields thanks to patented UltraEta<sup>®</sup> 5 Level Topology
- Easy Monitoring thanks to REFUlog
- Flexible use for different plant designs (centralized / decentralized)







#### REFUsol 40K/46 K – DC Combiner

#### Description

- Input: Fuse holder / screw terminal up to 16 mm<sup>2</sup>
- Output: Distribution block 35 ... 120 mm<sup>2</sup> Cu / Al
- With several SPD options
- France: with integrated DC switch and MC4





#### Why single MPPT input?

#### Comparison of different string inverter installation concepts







## Comparison central and string inverters

#### **Advantages of string inverters**

- LESS RISK Easy replacement in case of failures
- HIGHER YIELDS More MPPTs, less auxiliary consumptions
- LOWER OPEX Less maintenance; Don't require maintenance contracts, no air condition
- MORE FLEXIBILITY Adapts to all conditions

#### **Advantages of central inverters**

- FAST DEPLOYMENT Independent DC and MC cabling, then install container
- LOWER BoS Benefits fully from DC AL cables AC distribution in field
- EASIER MAINTENANCE Inverters concentrated one place
- LOWER CAPEX Lower over-all system cost



## REFUcube

#### Description

- Power classes 1 MVA, 1.6 MVA, 2 MVA, 3 MVA
- String inverters, MV/LV Transformer, MV Switchgear, LV switch board, DC connection panel, Auxiliary transfer and auxiliary switch board, grid protection relay installed in a 20ft / 40ft container
- Plug&Play solution, All components pre-cabled and tested
- Intelligent passive cooling system maintenance –free (no fans)!
- Suitable for all climate types
- More flexibility



## REFUcube

#### Your benefits

- Less risk
- Fast deployment
- Higher yields
- Lower BoS
- Lower CAPEX
- Lower OPEX
- Easier maintenance
- More flexibility





#### Other important features of REFUsol inverters: high DC/AC ratio

Example: Spain DC/AC=150% (3,2% less energy respect to DC/AC = 100%)



The losses are relatively low compared to the benefits deriving from lower installed AC power

REFU company presentation / Henner Funk / Director Technical Sales / 20170919



#### Benefit of a high allowed DC/AC ratio: better economic performance



Example: DC/AC 150%

Losses 3% Savings 13%

Overall benefit 10%



#### Other important features of REFUsol inverters suitable for east-west roofs





#### Advantage of single MPPT: all configurations possible incl. east-west

Normalized yield benefit in % in comparision to a single MPPT depending on the inclination << 0,5%

One MPP tracker inverter is well suited for east west systems





#### REFUsol – tools for solar inverters

#### **REFUdesign Planning Tool**

#### www.refu-design.com



- Automatic online planning tool
- Including battery system
- Real hourly simulation
- Solar panel and weather database included

#### **REFUlog Monitoring**

#### www.refu-log.com



- Professional monitoring portal
- Direct data collection from inverter
- Remote firmware update
- Analysis features



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#### **German Engineering**

- Power electronic competence since 1965
- Solar inverter competence since 1998
- REFUsol String inverters are designed for a service life of 20 years
- qualification and selection of high-quality components
- Simulation of heat flow, mechanical stress etc.
- Type tests during R&D process (see next slide)



## **Product Testing**

A comprehensive list of test items are taken care of during the development process of our products.

- Electrical safety: i.e. IEC 62109-1
- Temperature: thermal imaging, power derating, peformance tests
- EMC emissions: conducted and radiatted emmissions, i.e. FCC Part 15, CISPR 22, harmonics
- EMS disturbances: radiated immunity, conducted immunity, electrostatic discharge, transients, surge withstand tests, voltage dips
- Functionality: short circuit, earth fault etc.
- Environment: humidity, temperature cycle, salt test, dust and sand
- Efficiency, MPP Tracker
- Vibration, Shock, Free fall, acoustic pressure
- Accelerated Life testing etc



#### **Production Quality**

- 1. Isolation resistance and dielectric withstand test
- 2. Dipole input voltage
- 3. DC switch (manual)
- 4. identifying Power board
- 5. temperature sensors
- 6. Firmware check / firmware update
- 7. Clock setting
- 8. Check Udc link balance
- 9. Udc link monitoring adjustment



## Our Storage Product Portfolio



#### AC - coupled storage solution (grid or diesel generators)

#### **Description**

- Two separate inverters for PV and battery (REFUsol 08K ...46K paired with REFUhybrid 100)
- Battery rack by REFU or third-party
- Individual control/EMS solution through REFU partners

#### Your benefits

- Independent sub-systems for solar and storage
- Independent design, installation, operation & maintenance
- High voltage design up to 800V
- Can be easily extended and retrofitted
- Individual controls through REFU partners
- Turnkey system for solar plus storage



## **Our References**





#### 70 MW, Germany







#### 2550 x REFUsol 20K 38 x REFUsol 333K

Commissioning 2011



## 13 MW, United Kingdom



227 x REFUsol 46K

Commissioning 2015



#### 10 MW, Germany



500 x REFUsol 20K

Commissioning 2014



#### 5 MW plant, Turkey







136 x REFUsol 40K 1 x REFUsol 20K

Commissioning 2016



## 4.6 MW, Belgium



312 x REFUsol 10K,13K,17K

Commissioning 2011



#### 1.5 MW, Germany



65 x REFUsol 20K

Commissioning 2012



#### 3 MW, India



120 x REFUsol 23K

Commissioning 2013



## 1.7 MW plant, Italy



75 x REFUsol 12K 267 x REFUsol 17K

Commissioning 2011



#### 1 MW plant, Germany





22 x REFUsol 20K

Commissioning 2011



#### 1 MW plant, Turkey



20 x REFUsol 40K

Commissioning 2016



#### 400 kW System on Lake, Korea



20 x REFUsol 40K

Commissioning 2016



# Why working with REFU?

## Why working with REFU?

- As part of the PRETTL Group, we are a strong partner with **inhouse R&D, PCB and assembly**
- High bankability and **long track record** the in solar business
- **Expert knowledge** since 1965 in the field of inverters, from 1998 solar and renewable energy
- Maximum revenue through **top efficiency products** proven by independent Photon tests
- Focus on Commercial and Utility systems
- Innovative Products for Energy Storage Systems
- Comprehensive software and **online tools available** (REFUlog, REFUdesign, REFUset)
- Field experience: more than **250,000 inverters operating** in the field
- Service partners / Parcel replacement service



#### Thank you for your attention.





# Backup



#### REFU provides... flexible system design with Gen2

#### GROUND MOUNTED SYSTEMS





#### Advantage of string inverters – low MTTR

#### LOSSES DUE TO FAILURES CT€/W



Assumptions: 30MWn MTTR string 4h MTTR central 48h Value kWh 10ct€/kWh

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