

The Phoenix Control Center: plant operation and maintenance services

- **Seamless operation and ongoing high levels of return over the whole lifetime of the photovoltaic power plant**

Sulzemoos 2 June 2010 / Phoenix Solar AG is a leading photovoltaic system integrator which provides its customers with an extensive range of operation and maintenance services, along with advisory services and the planning and construction of photovoltaic power plants.

The aim of an owner of a photovoltaic power plant is to ensure that the power plant runs smoothly for at least 20 years and feeds output into the grid on a steady basis, thereby securing return. Phoenix Solar offers a range of services specifically for this purpose: from monitoring the plant, across the annual inspection, medium-voltage maintenance, site maintenance, inverter maintenance and low voltage supply through to a repair costs flat rate.

Today, Phoenix Solar already monitors and maintains a plant volume of over 140 MWp in Europe alone.

Phoenix Control Center monitoring system

The Operation & Maintenance Department monitors all the components of a solar power plant using a proprietary software solution: in real time with updating at 10-minute intervals, independent of manufacturers, and with the archiving of all data for a minimum of 20 years. In the event of failure, the team will initiate the necessary steps without delay so that any downtime can be kept to an absolute minimum. Preventive maintenance management enables the early detection of potential failure and guarantees swiftest possible elimination during running operation.

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By having on-line access, the plant operator can view all important yield data any time. Moreover, the operator will receive detailed analyses on a monthly, quarterly and yearly basis showing the actual yield and operational readiness of the power plant with a minimum of disruption.

Annual inspection

The requirements imposed on plant operators for maintaining a plant in respect of occupational health and safety and fire safety management are many and varied. The specialist personnel of Phoenix Solar support and advise power plant owners in matters of compliance with the statutory provisions.

Medium-voltage maintenance

The legislator and energy supplier prescribe maintenance at the medium-voltage level to be carried out at specified intervals. This maintenance is carried out by certified specialist personnel and documented.

Photovoltaic site maintenance

High grass or bushes on a ground-mounted power plant site can have a substantially detrimental effect on the return of a solar park. Site maintenance services offered include mowing and weeding the site, also in accordance with occupational health and safety guidelines and development directives. If desired, Phoenix Solar will also take over the cleaning of solar modules.

Inverter maintenance

The inverter is the heart of the solar power plant. Regular checking and maintenance through Phoenix Solar specialists contribute to generating stable return.

Low-voltage supply

Irrespective of the provisions prevailing in the specific country and the technical configuration, upon request by the customer Phoenix Solar will feed in the required electricity through the plants own cable connected to the public-sector grid and support the plant operator in all administrative matters.

Repair costs flat rate

Phoenix Solar offers the plant operator a repair costs flat rate. This means that all fixed costs are covered for a 20-year period of operating time. The advantage to the plant operator is being able to plan the investment better. The operator will not need to form reserves and can calculate returns right from the time when the plant begins to operate.

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About Phoenix Solar AG

Phoenix Solar AG, which has its headquarters in Sulzemoos near Munich, is a leading international photovoltaic system integrator. With total revenues of EUR 473 million, the Group achieved an EBIT of EUR 12.2 million in the financial year 2009. The company develops, plans, builds and takes over the operation of large-scale photovoltaic plants and is a specialist wholesaler for complete power plants, solar modules and accessories. The Group is a leader in photovoltaic system technology. It focuses on the consistent lowering of system costs. With a sales network throughout Germany, and subsidiaries in Spain, Italy, Greece, France, Singapore, Oman and Australia, the Group currently has a workforce of more than 300 employees. The shares of Phoenix Solar AG (ISIN DE000A0BVU93) are listed on the official market (Prime Standard) of the Frankfurt Stock Exchange and on the TecDAX, Deutsche Börse AG's technology index.

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