

Printing house in Germany now printing with solar power

Photovoltaic system relieves burden on the diesel generator and reduces energy costs

Bad Staffelstein / Germany, November 28, 2017 – IBC SOLAR AG, a global leader in photovoltaic (PV) systems and energy storage, has installed a 95 kWp PV system on top of a production hall of the Regler printing centre in Altenstadt an der Waldnaab (Upper Palatinate) together with its partners Krisch Energietechnik GmbH and DHYBRID. The desire for maximum independence from the electricity supplier and the associated decrease in high energy costs were the crucial factors for the printing house in terms of the solar energy system.

Regler printing centre is one of the leading technical specialist printing houses in Germany and prints almost everything except paper. Aside from conventional screen and textile printing, the company primarily focuses on high-quality large format digital printing for example for advertising signs, banners and trade fair systems. Up to now, during production times, a diesel generator covered the very high power consumption of about 350,000 kWh per year. This resulted in the printing plant making itself independent of the local energy provider and also meant that it could use the waste heat from the generator to heat the production halls and generate process heat. In summer 2017 the production process was further modernised and prepared for the future. The IBC SOLAR Premium Partner Krisch Energietechnik GmbH installed a PV system with a nominal output of 95.4 kWp on top of one of the halls. The system will reduce the burden on the diesel generator's electricity production from now on.

This means that the PV system will not only significantly reduce the amount of fuel required, but it will also prevent the diesel unit from becoming overloaded due to peak loads. A hybrid controller by DHYBRID is used to connect the solar energy system to the unit. The controller provides the generator with the optimum photovoltaic capacity at all times and ensures that it runs in conjunction with the solar energy system without any interference.

DHYBRID has been a partner of IBC SOLAR since 2016. Both companies have already worked on many projects together, especially in African, Asian and Caribbean countries. Tobias Reiner from DHYBRID: "We have already installed our solutions worldwide, but this is the first time that we are enhancing a commercial diesel generator application here in Europe. We are increasingly noticing that these applications are also in demand here due to the high electricity costs."

A lithium-ion storage system is already being discussed for the coming year as an addition to an enhanced PV system. The capacity of the current diesel generator set will soon be reached. Peak loads are also reached several times a day due to production reasons. These could be offset with the power generated by the PV system and stored in the storage system. The storage system would be charged again by the PV system or the diesel generator in periods where there is a reduced load. This would avoid having to purchase a second diesel generator.

Erich Regler, Managing Director of the printing centre is delighted: “We have been trying to make ourselves independent of connection and purchase costs since 1984. We successfully took the first step with a cogeneration solution back then and we have now found another excellent solution with the installation of the solar energy system. We are therefore once again a technological pioneer in the German printing sector and are also committed to protecting the environment.”

Project Details:

Location:	Altenstadt an der Waldnaab, Upper Palatinate, Germany
Performance:	95.4 kWp
Electricity production:	90,630 kWh/a
Modules:	NSP 265 Wp, polycrystalline
Inverter	Fronius Symo (4 x 20 kW & 2 x 6 kW)
Diesel generator	300 kVA / 240 kW
Hybrid controller	DHYBRID Universal Power Platform
CO2 reduction:	Diesel saving: 17,400 litres/a; corresponds to a CO2 saving/a of approximately 48 tonnes
Start of operation	August 2017
Installer:	Krisch Energietechnik GmbH

About IBC SOLAR

IBC SOLAR is a leading global provider of photovoltaic and energy storage solutions and services. The company offers complete systems and covers the entire product range from planning to the turnkey handover of photovoltaic systems. The product range comprises solar parks, self-consumption systems for commercial enterprises and private households, off-grid photovoltaic systems and diesel hybrid solutions. As a project developer and general contractor, IBC SOLAR implements and markets major solar projects worldwide. The manufacturer-independent system house guarantees the highest quality for all projects and has currently implemented photovoltaic systems with an output of over 3 gigawatts worldwide. IBC SOLAR works with a close network of Premium Partners and supports them with their own software tools for planning and designing grid-connected systems including storage systems. IBC SOLAR offers customised packages for energy providers, municipal utilities and providers of photovoltaic solutions. The company ensure the best possible output of solar parks through technical management and monitoring.

IBC SOLAR was founded by Udo Möhrstedt in Bad Staffelstein in 1982 who has managed the company as the Chairman of the Executive Board to date. The system house is a pioneer of the energy turnaround in Germany and is especially committed to energy cooperatives with its own planned public solar parks. The company is active internationally with numerous regional companies, sales offices and partner companies in more than 30 countries.

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