Enecsys selects Emberâ€™s ZigBee Technology to Help Optimize Solar PV System Performance

Boston and Cambridge, UK, OCTOBER 3, 2011

Enecsys Limited has teamed with Ember to bring wireless ZigBee communications to roof-top solar photovoltaic (PV) systems so that households and businesses can better monitor and optimize their systemsâ€™ performance.

Enecsys has integrated Emberâ€™s ZigBee system-on-chip (SoC) and ZigBee PRO software into its SMI series of micro inverters, which convert the DC output of solar panels into AC for connection to the electricity grid. Unlike traditional centralized string inverters, Enecsysâ€™ micro inverters connect to each module of a solar PV system, or each pair of modules in the case of the â€œDuoâ€ product. They deliver better energy harvest, higher reliability, longer life expectancy, and greater solar PV design flexibility.

Each Enecsys micro inverter has Emberâ€™s ZigBee technology built-in to communicate detailed information on the performance of each solar module, which string inverters cannot do. The Ember-enabled micro inverters provide real-time and historical data to a user-friendly graphical interface so that users can ensure PV system performance is optimized over the life of its installation.

The ZigBee-based monitoring system can be used to detect performance issues and pinpoint the exact location and nature of the problem, such as shading or dust on a section of a module. The micro inverter also connects to an Ember-enabled ZigBee-to-IP gateway that enables monitoring from any Internet device. And an Enecsys iPhone app enables remote monitoring from anywhere in the world using the mobile device.

â€œEmberâ€™s ZigBee technology enabled us to deliver a micro inverter solution with robust wireless communications thatâ€™s easy and inexpensive to install,â€ said Louis-Philippe Lalonde, vice president of worldwide marketing and product management at Enecsys. â€œWe selected Ember because of the companyâ€™s leadership in the ZigBee industry and the reliability of their technology.â€

Emberâ€™s ZigBee networking systems â€“ chips, ZigBee protocol software and tools â€“ simplify the complexity of integrating embedded software, networking and RF for developing low-power, wireless products in the connected home, smart energy, and other remote monitoring and control applications.

â€œWhile ZigBee is already the wireless standard of choice for devices in Smart Home and Smart Energy applications, Enecsys is leading the charge in extending ZigBee communications on to the roof for grid-connected solar PV systems,â€ said

Bert Lutje Berenbroek, Emberâ€™s vice president of sales for EMEA. â€œThe long life, reliability and robustness of its micro inverter family demands the same level of performance for its wireless communications capabilities, which Ember is proud to deliver.â€

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