Schneider Electric Handbook for Solar Installers

IEC Standards for Australia

Solar products and tech notes for residential and commercial applications

solar.schneider-electric.com
Smarter investment in PV solutions for grid-tie, off-grid and backup power installations

When it comes to grid-tie, off-grid and backup power residential and commercial solar systems, Schneider Electric has both the experience and the proven technology to help make your investment a success.

Schneider Electric solutions for residential and commercial installations are specially designed by keeping your needs in mind. Our balance-of-system solutions include everything you need to efficiently distribute and manage locally generated solar energy, from the DC output to the AC grid connection.

Schneider Electric: the global specialist in energy management and automation

Schneider Electric provides energy and automation digital solutions for efficiency and sustainability. We combine world-leading energy technologies, real-time automation, software and services into integrated solutions for homes, buildings, data centers, infrastructure and industries. For more information about Schneider Electric, please visit our global website at www.se.com/ww/en/about-us/company-profile/.
Why choose Schneider Electric's solar products and solutions?

- Trusted brand for over 180 years
- Designed for reliability
- Flexibility
- Schneider Electric’s ecosystem of products and solutions
- Long-term, trusted service partner
- IoT enabled solutions for Smart Homes and Buildings
String inverter solutions

Three-Phase string inverters for commercial applications

CL30 and CL50 string inverters

We offer suite of three-phase string inverters in multiple power ranges to address all your solar product needs.

Building on Schneider Electric’s core design principles, CL30, and CL50 offer the same flexibility, reliability, and easy setup, but with an added advantage of higher kVA rated power.

Commercial applications

Compatible with Insight Energy Management

Monitor your solar system onsite or remotely with our control devices and software. For more information about Insight Energy Management, please see page 8.
String inverters

The ideal solution for commercial and industrial buildings, carports, PV Diesel Hybrid and AC-Coupled systems.

Scalable and flexible PV architecture together with Schneider Electric’s broad range of low voltage products makes the CL range an ideal choice for commercial and industrial buildings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part number</th>
<th>Product name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| PVSCL50E   | CL50 (IEC standard) | • 55 kVA AC max. output power  
• 1100 V DC max. input voltage  
• 500 - 850 V MPPT voltage range for nominal power  
• 5 MPPT / max. 10 inputs  
• 98.7% max. efficiency |
| PVSCL30E   | CL30 (IEC Standard) | • 29.9 kVA AC max. output power  
• 1100 V DC max. input voltage  
• 500 - 850 V MPPT voltage range for nominal power  
• 3 MPPT / max. 6 inputs  
• 98.6% max. efficiency |
Our hybrid inverters manage power conversion and battery charging, while our charge controllers optimize the solar energy harvest. XW Pro, XW+ and SW along with MPPT charge controllers are suitable for grid-tie solar with storage, backup power, self-consumption, and off-grid power for homes, small businesses, and remote communities.

### Residential applications

- **Residential grid-tie solar with battery backup**
- **Residential self-consumption with storage**
- **Residential off-grid**
- **Residential backup power**

### Commercial applications

- **Commercial rooftop solar for self-consumption with storage**
- **Commercial backup power**
- **Commercial off-grid**
- **Microgrids**
- **Telecom towers**
Hybrid inverter systems

**XW Pro**

Adaptable and scalable, the XW Pro provides the one solution you need for grid-tie solar with storage, backup power, self-consumption, and off-grid for homes, small businesses and remote communities.

Designed for the ultimate backup power performance and product quality, the XW Pro builds on Schneider Electric’s extensive track record in solar + storage applications. The XW Pro includes enhanced controls for evolving utility interconnect requirements, as well as BMS integration with compatible Li-ion batteries.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part number</th>
<th>Product name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>865-8548-55</td>
<td>XW Pro 8.5 kW 230V</td>
<td>• Single phase and stackable 3 phase operation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 8500 W output power (30 min) at 25°C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 12000 W overload 60 sec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 140 A maximum output charge current</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 48 VDC nominal battery voltage</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**XW+**

XW+ is an adaptable single-phase and three-phase hybrid inverter with grid-tie functionality and dual AC power inputs

From a single unit to clusters up to 76.5 kW, the XW+ is a scalable system. The Schneider Electric XW+ system is suitable for grid-interactive and off-grid, residential and commercial, solar and backup power applications.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part number</th>
<th>Product name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>865-8548-61</td>
<td>XW+ 8.5 kW 230V</td>
<td>• Supports single-phase and stackable three-phase operations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 8500 W output power (30 min) at 25°C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 12000 W overload 60 sec</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>• 140 A maximum output charge current</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 48 VDC nominal battery voltage</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**XW Dred Tool for Australia**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part number</th>
<th>Product name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>865-1170</td>
<td>XW Dred Tool</td>
<td>• The dred tool allows utility control of inverter. Only needed for Australia market</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SW

SW is a pure sine wave, hybrid inverter system with switchable 50/60 Hz frequencies, providing power for every need.

The SW is a proven inverter/charger for off-grid, backup power and self-consumption applications for homes and small businesses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part number</th>
<th>Product name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>865-4024-55</td>
<td>SW 4024 230V</td>
<td>• 4000 W overload 30 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 7000 W overload 5 sec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 90 A maximum output charge current</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 24 VDC nominal battery voltage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>865-4048-55</td>
<td>SW 4048 230V</td>
<td>• 4400 W overload 30 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 7000 W overload 5 sec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 45 A maximum output charge current</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 48 VDC nominal battery voltage</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Charge Controller Solutions

### Conext™ MPPT charge controller solutions

Conext™ MPPT charge controllers are used for DC Coupled systems.

The Conext™ MPPT charge controllers provide maximum power point tracking of PV arrays to optimize solar energy harvest while regulating the battery charge. When combined with the XW and SW series inverters, surplus power is used to power AC loads.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part number</th>
<th>Product name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 865-1030-1  | Conext™ MPPT 60 150 Charge Controller | • 3500 W maximum output power (48 V systems)  
• 12, 24, 36, 48, 60 V nominal battery voltage  
• 150 V max. PV array open circuit voltage  
• Compatible with XW Pro, XW+ and SW |
| 865-1032    | Conext™ MPPT 80 600 Charge Controller | • 4800 W maximum output power (48 V systems)  
• 24 and 48 V nominal battery voltage. 600 Voc max. PV array  
• 1-2 PV string installs  
• Compatible with XW Pro, XW+ and SW |
| 865-1034    | Conext™ MPPT 100 600 Charge Controller | • 6000 W maximum output power (48 V systems)  
• 24 and 48 V nominal battery voltage. 600 Voc max. PV array  
• 1-2 PV string installs  
• Compatible with XW Pro, XW+ and SW |
Insight Energy Management solutions for residential and commercial applications

Local and remote monitoring

Insight is a powerful yet simple energy management platform and is a part of Schneider Electric’s residential and commercial solar & storage ecosystem. It provides intuitive mobile and web-browser based interfaces for homeowners and installers alike.

Residential applications

- Residential grid-tie solar with battery backup
- Residential self-consumption with storage
- Residential off-grid
- Residential backup power

Commercial applications

- Rooftop for feed-in-tariff / net metering
- Commercial rooftop solar for self-consumption with storage
- PV-Diesel hybridization
- Commercial backup power
- Commercial off-grid
- Microgrids
- Telecom towers
Insight and edge devices

Insight

Insight brings intuitive monitoring and control to both homeowners and commercial site operators as well as solar installers. Rich features such as monitoring, reporting, and remote control ensure that everyone can access critical system information when you need it from anywhere at any time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Advanced data security. Compliance with international cybersecurity standards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Access from anywhere at any time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Available through local, cloud, and mobile interfaces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Performance monitoring, reporting, and report control of your system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Multi-site management</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Edge devices

Our edge devices connect customers’ Schneider Electric solar and storage systems to the Insight app. InsightHome targets the residential solar and storage market globally. InsightFacility is for large residential and commercial solar and storage systems.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part number</th>
<th>Product name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 865-0329    | Conext™ Gateway | • Compatible with CL50, CL30, XW Pro, XW+, SW and Conext™ accessories  
• Supports Xanbus, Canbus, and Modbus for connectivity to range of SE solar products  
• Supports Wi-Fi and Ethernet for easy connectivity |
| 865-0330    | InsightHome   | • Compatible with CL50, CL30, XW Pro, XW+, SW and Conext™ accessories  
• Supports Xanbus, Canbus, and Modbus for connectivity to range of SE solar products  
• Support up to 25.5 kW of storage |
| 865-0335    | InsightFacility | • Compatible with CL50, CL30, XW Pro, XW+, SW and Conext™ accessories  
• Supports Xanbus, Canbus, and Modbus for connectivity to range of SE solar products  
• Support up to 50 kW of storage |
平衡系统

宽范围的平衡系统，适用于住宅和商用应用

**配件**

我们提供广范围的平衡系统，与我们的储电逆变器/充电器和监控解决方案兼容。

利用施耐德电气的产品与解决方案生态系统。

**住宅应用**

- 住宅并网太阳能与电池备份
- 住宅离网

**商用应用**

- 商用屋顶太阳能用于自我消费与储电
- 商用备用电源
- 商用微电网
- 住宅并网太阳能与电池备份
- 住宅离网
- 商用离网
- 商用备用电源
- 商用微电网
- 电信塔
## Balance of systems

### Power Distribution Panels (PDP) and Charge Controllers

#### PDP accessory for XW systems

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part number</th>
<th>Product name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>865-1025-01</td>
<td>Conext™ XW Conduit Box</td>
<td>• PDP accessory for connecting to XW Pro and XW+ inverter / chargers and PDP&lt;br&gt;• Wiring accessories not included</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Battery fuse combiner box for XW systems

The Conext™ Battery Fuse Combiner Box combines XW+ inverter / chargers with one battery bank using a single battery pole disconnect method and provides fuse protection for cables, batteries and inverter / chargers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part number</th>
<th>Product name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>865-1031-01</td>
<td>Conext™ Battery Fuse Disconnect Box for 250A DC Fuses</td>
<td>Combines up to three XW Pro and XW+ inverter / chargers with one battery bank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>865-1030-01</td>
<td>Conext™ Battery Fuse Disconnect Box for 160 A DC Fuses</td>
<td>Combines up to three XW Pro and XW+ inverter / chargers with one battery bank</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Accessories

## Accessories for XW+ and SW systems

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part number</th>
<th>Product name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 865-1155-01  | Conext™ Configuration Tool                        | • PC-based software tool to simplify system configuration and reduce installation time  
• Compatible with XW+, and SW, as well as MPPT charge controllers |
| 865-1050-01  | Conext™ System Control Panel (SCP)                | • Control panel to set up and monitor the inverter charger system                                                                                                                                 |
| 865-1060-01  | Conext™ Automatic Generator Start (AGS)           | • Automatically activate or stop a generator in response to changing power requirements.  
• Compatible with XW+, and SW, as well as MPPT charge controllers |
| 865-1080-01  | Conext™ Battery Monitor                           | • Indicates hours of battery based runtime and determines battery bank state of charge.  
• Compatible with XW+ and SW, as well as MPPT charge controllers |
System Configurations / Bill of Materials
AC- and DC-Coupled systems using XW series storage inverters

Flexible, ultimate backup power performance
The XW series inverters paired with MPPT charge controllers will provide ultimate backup performance while keeping flexible configurations. Our solutions are suitable for both AC-Coupling and DC-Coupling.

AC-Coupling
AC-Coupling is a great option if your customer's goal is retrofitting the existing PV system with a storage solution, or the loads coincide with PV generation. Our XW series inverters are compatible with third-party inverters and microinverters.

Learn advantages and disadvantages of each approach in Tech Notes. See Page 32.

Read more about AC Coupling vs DC-Coupling
**DC-Coupling**
Prioritize storage of solar energy for later use with DC-Coupling. DC-Coupling is also suitable for prolonged blackouts. If the battery inverter shuts down due to discharged battery and no PV, the system automatically recovers through DC charging when PV returns.

**DC-Coupling Configuration Example**

Example system configurations for each system size
In the following pages, we show example ordering information for some typical configurations. Other configurations are also possible such as adding additional MPPT charge controllers. Please refer to each product’s specifications and manuals for more information.
### Residential 230 V Split Phase Example System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Storage inverters</th>
<th>Part Number</th>
<th>Solar w/ 8.5 kW Storage</th>
<th>Solar w/ 17 kW Storage</th>
<th>Solar w/ 25.5 kW Storage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>XW Pro or XW+</td>
<td>865-8548-55 or 865-8548-61</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Charge Controller Solutions for DC-Coupling**¹

| MPPT 100 600 or MPPT 80 600 or MPPT 60 150 | 865-1034 or 865-1032 or 865-1030-1 | 1                          | 2                          | 3                          |

**Monitoring and Control**

| InsightHome or InsightFacility       | 865-0330 or 865-0335                 | 1                          | 1                          | 1                          |

**Optional Accessories**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>XW Conduit Box</th>
<th>865-1025-01</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Automatic Generator Start</td>
<td>865-1060-01</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Battery Monitor</td>
<td>865-1080-01</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Additional charge controllers also require an additional charge controller output breaker. XW series inverters are also compatible with AC coupled PV inverters.
### Three Phase Example System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Storage inverters</th>
<th>Part Number</th>
<th>Solar w/ 25.5 kW Storage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>XW Pro or XW+</td>
<td>865-8548-55 or 865-8548-61</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charge Controller Solutions for DC-Coupling¹</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPPT 100 600 or MPPT 80 600</td>
<td>865-1034 or 865-1032</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring and Control</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insight Home or Insight Facility</td>
<td>865-0330 or 865-0335</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional Accessories</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XW Conduit Box</td>
<td>865-1025-01</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automatic Generator Start</td>
<td>865-1060-01</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Battery Monitor</td>
<td>865-1080-01</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Additional charge controllers also require an additional charge controller output breaker. XW series inverters are also compatible with AC coupled PV inverters.
DC-Coupled systems using SW hybrid inverter/charger

Proven hybrid inverter solution
The SW inverter paired with MPPT charge controllers is perfect for off-grid, backup power and self-consumption applications for small home systems.

For expanded off-grid capacity, SW can be integrated with generators. It’s also self-consumption ready, able to prioritize solar consumption over the grid while maintaining zero grid export. The SW works with the grid to avoid peak utility charges and support the grid when utility supply is limited.
Example system configuration
The following table shows example ordering information for some typical configurations. Please refer to each product’s specifications and manuals for more information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inverters and Charge Controller Solutions</th>
<th>Part Number</th>
<th>Solar w/ up to 4.4 kW Storage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SW</td>
<td>865-4048</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPPT 100 600 or MPPT 80 600 or MPPT 60 150</td>
<td>865-1034 or 865-1032 or 865-1030-1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring and Control</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insight Home or Insight Facility</td>
<td>865-0330 or 865-0335</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional Accessories</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automatic Generator Start</td>
<td>865-1060-01</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Battery Monitor</td>
<td>865-1080-01</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Introducing Insight, one platform you need for Energy Management

Keep track of all your installations with ease. Monitor and manage your portfolio of installations from a single platform.
Benefits of SW / XW+ / XW Pro Enhanced Grid Support feature

Summary: Schneider Electric’s SW / XW+ / XW Pro Battery Inverter products are designed for maximum flexibility and can be integrated with PV generators on the or AC output (Load side) or DC side (Battery side). These two methods of connecting PV generators and storage inverters are commonly referred to as AC and DC coupling respectively. SW and XW series support both methods of PV integration. For more on this application, see our Tech note on AC & DC Coupling.

Enhanced Grid Support is Schneider Electric’s proprietary control algorithm for energy management and is based on Schneider’s patent US8076907B2.

This feature is designed to maximize energy storage when DC coupling is used with Schneider Electric’s battery inverters and charge controllers. The feature requires communication between the battery inverter and DC charge controller and therefore only works with Schneider Electric’s solar and storage products.

Enhanced Grid Support (EGS) applies to grid connected systems, for applications where the battery inverter is used for back-up or to maximize self-consumption. When EGS is active, the battery inverter and charge controller interact continuously during Bulk, Absorption and Float stages of charging. Through the charging stages, the system intelligently exports the excess PV power not stored by the battery, while adjusting to the charge voltage settings of the charge controller.
Why is unique about this?

1. The Charge controller(s) are able to execute a full two or three stage charge cycle, to optimally charge the battery. This allows the battery to be charged at a charging voltage associated with each charge stage (Bulk, Absorption, Float) and efficiently returns the battery to a full state of charge. For flooded batteries, the elevated battery voltage during Absorption stage promotes agitation of electrolyte which reduces stratification of the acid.

2. In most other DC coupled systems, a fixed voltage is used to regulate battery charging and excess PV export. The fixed charging voltage is likely to result in partial state of charge of the battery and could degrade battery performance over time.
Just like Smart Charge for AC Coupled systems, Enhanced Grid Support is designed to maximize and prioritize storage loads. The value of this feature is that the stored energy can be used later when rates are higher (Time-of-Use). Or in applications where the grid is intermittent, EGS prioritizes storage of your PV production to maximize readiness for potential grid outage.

NOTE: Enhanced Grid Support is not compatible with lithium-ion batteries with BMS integration due to the need for closed loop control communication with BMS in the lithium-based battery. To achieve Enhanced Grid Support functionally with BMS integration, InsightHome or InsightFacility needs to be installed in the system.

For more information on enhanced grid support feature, refer to respective product manuals.
Using Lithium-ion & Advanced Batteries with Our Hybrid Inverters & Charge Controllers

Summary: Lithium-ion batteries continue to increase in popularity due to improved affordability, superior cycle life and longevity compared to traditional lead acid batteries. However, Lithium batteries require controlled charging and discharging for optimal and safe operation which necessitates changes to traditional battery charging algorithms to adapt to the chemistry’s sensitivities. The XW and SW series inverters now support operation with lithium batteries to increase your options for storage technology.

The XW, SW and MPPT charge controller family of products can be used with Smart Lithium-ion Batteries. Smart batteries have an internal Battery Management System (BMS) that monitors critical internal parameters and determines safe charging or discharging parameters. Insight Home and Insight Facility retrieve the relevant charging and discharging parameters from the battery BMS and intelligently controls operation of the XW/ SW inverter and charge controller system accordingly. This type of control is known as closed loop control and allows the Schneider Electric solar and storage system to adapt to battery BMS operating limits, warnings and in real time. It is also possible to use your Schneider Electric Solar product with Lithium batteries that do not rely on communication with the inverter. Such lithium batteries are referred to as Lead Acid replacements.

For information on supported lithium battery models, please contact your battery manufacturer or Schneider Electric application engineers.
Benefits of SW Smart Charge Feature

Summary: As utilities struggle with excess generation from distributed PV, a phenomenon commonly known as the “duck curve”, storage is becoming a key component of a long-term solution. Through incentive programs, end users are being encouraged to add storage and store excess PV during peak generation (mid-day) periods, for use during peak demand hours (early evening), e.g. Time-of-Use rates. For existing PV installations, this means adding storage as a retrofit. Smart charge facilitates easy time of use by automatically storing excess generation from your existing PV inverter system.

Smart Charge is Schneider Electric's proprietary control algorithm and is based on Schneider Electric’s patent US9917446B2.

This feature is designed to maximize energy storage in AC coupled systems. The feature does not require any communication between the battery inverter and PV Inverter, and thus works with any brand of PV Inverter.

For the feature to work, the PV inverter must be installed downstream of the SW inverter, or to the AC Output port of the inverter which would typically also connect to a critical load panel. This feature is used for grid connected systems, where the storage inverter is used for back-up or to maximize self-consumption.

When smart charge is active, the battery inverter monitors the flow of excess PV power produced by the PV inverter flowing in through the AC Load terminal and out to the grid port. The battery inverter intelligently captures the excess PV power and re-directs it to charge the battery. As the battery approaches full charge, excess PV power that cannot be stored by the battery is
allowed to flow out to the inverter grid input port and support other loads in the home or for eventual export to the grid where allowed.

Just like Enhanced Grid Support for DC coupled systems, Smart Charge is intended to maximize and prioritize storage over non-critical loads in AC coupled systems. The added value of this feature is that the stored energy can be used later when rates are higher (Time-of-Use). In applications where the grid is intermittent, Smart Charge prioritizes storage of your excess PV production to maximize readiness for potential grid outage.

For more on Smart Charge feature, refer to the respective product manual.
Getting the most out of XW+/ XW Pro Auxiliary Control Port

Summary: Schneider Electric’s XW product line is designed for maximum flexibility. A useful feature is the Auxiliary port (Aux Port). This is a 5-position terminal block located at the lower right side of the inverter and is software configurable to perform several functions.

The Aux port can be used to control other devices based on certain conditions in the system. Some uses include the following applications.

1. Large installations using multiple inverters.
   - For large three phase systems with 3 or more inverters, the Aux port is used to control an external transfer or disconnect switch to switch the loads between the XW systems and an alternate AC source (grid or generator).
   - For stacked single phase systems, the port can be used to control an external load switch when loads in the system exceed 60A. This avoids damage to XW’s internal transfer relays when used with large loads in a stacked system.

2. Load shedding: Can be used to disconnect a non-critical load based on battery state of charge to prolong autonomy in back-up mode. An external relay is required.

3. Simple AGS control: Can be used to start/stop a two-wire generator based on battery voltage or State of Charge.

4. Battery Cabinet venting: Can be used to control a fan in a battery cabinet. Programmable to start the fan at a specific battery voltage or charge stage (e.g. bulk exit) and stop at completion of Absorption Phase.

5. Outdoor cabinet cooling fan: Can be used to activate a cabinet cooling fan based on internal temperature of the XW. This can be used if the XW is installed in a cabinet that is exposed to high ambient temperature but has a cabinet cooling fan.

6. Time of Use Load shedding: Can be used to disconnect non-critical loads in the home during a high tariff period (e.g. ToU).

Note: In each of the above applications, an appropriately rated external relay must be used to switch each respective load.
Example: External transfer and load shedding applications using XW Series Aux in a system.
AC Coupling vs DC Coupling

Summary: AC or DC coupling refers to how power from Solar panels connects or couples with power from a battery inverter. It can connect on the battery inverter’s AC output terminals (AC coupling) or to the battery side (DC coupling).

The question of which of the two approaches is better has been debated at length among solar installers and system integrators. Each approach has its advantages and disadvantages which depend on the needs of an application. One analogy is that of vehicle propulsion options, front vs rear drive vs all-wheel drive. The choice depends on use case, e.g. whether for city driving or racing or off-road driving.

Here are some pros and cons of each approach:

**AC Coupling**

Pros:
- More efficient if loads coincide with PV generation (e.g. commercial building, offices).
- Easier to retrofit storage.

Cons:
- Lacks black start capability. (If battery inverter shuts down due to discharged battery and no PV, system will not recover when PV returns).
- There are constraints on AC coupled PV system sizing in comparison to the power rating of the battery inverters.
DC Coupling
Pros:

- More efficient if prioritizing storage of PV for later use (e.g. residential, off-grid communities)
- Battery inverter is sized to match the load.
- Supports black start. If the battery inverter shuts down due to discharged battery and no PV, the system automatically recovers through DC charging when PV returns).

Cons:

- PV inverter must be replaced with charge controller for retrofit systems.
- Less efficient if loads are coincident with PV generation.
Five Steps to Sizing The Solution You Need

When sizing any solar and storage system it is important to always work backwards – understand the load you want to run. Understand when you want to run it (day or night) and for how long. Based on this, the design engineer can select the inverters, the PV array sizing and size the battery bank (or storage).

**Step 1: Load Profile**
Always start here. Understand how much power your system needs to provide at its highest point in demand and also understand how many kWh of power needs to be produced on a daily basis.

Also determine how much energy needs to be stored in kWh for night time usage daily.

Three things to determine:

- **Max Load (kWp)**: Inverter sizing
- **Daily Energy (kWh)**: Solar array sizing
- **Daily Stored Energy (kWh)**: Battery bank sizing

**Step 2: Inverter Sizing**
Once the maximum instantaneous power of a given site is determined, we know what the peak power rating of our inverters should be.

It is also important to make sure that all the critical loads can be run for enough time. Be aware of the inverters capabilities over time and at different temperature ranges.
Solar Array Sizing
It is sized based on daily kWh and whether grid export is allowed. Decide AC coupling or DC coupling or both.

1. Size the array that will fulfill your daytime consumption requirements. For larger systems this will typically be installed on grid tied inverters (AC Coupled).

2. Size the array that will charge your batteries for night time usage. For most systems this will be installed on charge controllers (DC Coupled).

Battery Bank Sizing
Depending on the weather conditions where your installation is taking place, nighttime consumption of your system and the storage technology suited for you site, it is recommended that the battery bank be sized with a reasonable oversizing factor to ensure uninterrupted supply of power.

Battery bank sizing should take into account the system use case such as self-consumption or time-of-use rate optimization. It may as consider the household critical loads and desired number of hours of autonomy in case of a grid failure.

Back-up Power Sources
If you are installing a system in an area with extended periods of bad weather or very heavy loads that only run occasionally you may need to install a backup generator or get a grid connection to ensure that you have the excess power available.

Work closely with your installer to understand this, simply installing a generator for emergency or exceptional conditions can drastically reduce what you need to spend on your overall system.
Using Two Generators with XW+/ XW Pro

Summary: The XW+ multi-mode inverters offer a broad flexibility to accommodate your application needs. Some off-grid installations (e.g. remote hospitals, resorts, etc), use multiple energy sources to increase autonomy and maximize resiliency. One solution is the use of two generators to add redundancy.

The XW is a perfect solution for redundant generator application. The two AC inputs on the XW can be used to manage the two AC sources. Two Conext™ AGSs will also have to be installed in the system to control the generators. To setup the system, stagger the following configuration settings:

- Select a primary generator and configure the start/stop triggers on the associated Conext™ AGS as appropriate.
- On the back up AGS, set the start/stop configuration settings slightly lower than on chosen for the primary AGS.

Once installed and configured, simply select the primary running generator by configuring the “AC source priority” parameter on the Master in the XW System. The primary generator will always start first since trigger settings are higher. If the primary generator does not start for any reason (e.g. out of fuel) the battery voltage or battery State of Charge (SoC) will continue to drop. Eventually the trigger conditions for the second AGS will be met and the back-up generator will start.
Li-ion Compatibility
Discover AES LiFePO₄ Batteries

Integration with Schneider Electric
Discover AES LiFePO₄ batteries are built for demanding off-grid, whole home backup and microgrid applications. Discover AES batteries offer 1C continuous charge / discharge capabilities for the fastest recharge possible and support 3C peak output to handle in-rush and starting loads. They are field serviceable and have a 10-year replacement warranty. Each battery has an independent Battery Management System (BMS) that can be networked with up to 20 Discover AES batteries in parallel (133 kWh) and will communicate directly with the world’s leading hybrid inverter systems.

Discover AES batteries are Xanbus devices for easy, plug-and-play integration with Schneider Electric hybrid inverters or direct connection with InsightHome or InsightFacility. Closed-loop communication provides real-time battery data/status reporting over the Xanbus network and enables the internal BMS to automatically set, optimize and dynamically manage the charge and discharge configuration of Schneider Electric hybrid inverters. Dynamic charge control offers up to 25% improvement in 0% to 100% SoC recharge time compared to open loop control.

Product Highlights

Discover AES LiFePO₄ 6.65 kWh
- p/n 42-48-6650
- Usefull 6.65 kWh (130 Ah) 100% DoD
- Nominal: 51.2 V
- Continuous Discharge / Charge: 130 A (each)
- Peak Current: 300 A (each)
- Communication: Xanbus, CAN, Modbus TCP / IP
- Parallel: Up to 20 batteries per network string
- IEC 62133, UL 1973, UN 38.3

Discover AES LiFePO₄ 2.8 kWh
- p/n 44-24-2800
- Usefull 2.8 kWh (110 Ah) 100% DoD
- Nominal: 25.6 V
- Continuous Discharge / Charge: 110 A (each)
- Peak Current: 300 A (each)
- Communication: Xanbus, CAN, Modbus TCP / IP
- Parallel: Up to 20 batteries per network string
- IEC 62133, UL 1973, UN 38.3

This page in no way constitutes an endorsement, express or implied, of any product, service, or company.
Pylontech

Integration with Schneider Electric
Pylontech batteries are set up for BMS communication with Schneider Electric’s XW Pro and InsightHome/InsightFacility. The Pylontech batteries operate with closed-loop control with the XW Pro inverter, using the InsightHome/InsightFacility as the CAN interface with the BMS.

Product Highlights
US2000:
- 48V nominal
- 50Ah, 2.4 kWh
- Up to 8 battery packs in parallel, expandable with LV-Hub
- CAN, RS485 communication

US3000:
- 48 V nominal
- 74 Ah, 3.552 kWh
- Up to 8 battery packs in parallel, expandable with LV-Hub
- CAN, RS485 communication

LV-Hub
- Connect up to 5 battery piles
- Each battery pile can configure maximum 8 pcs US2000 or US3000

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SimpliPhi Power

Integration with Schneider Electric

SimpliPhi’s entire line of non-hazardous LFP PHI batteries have been successfully integrated with Schneider Electric inverters worldwide for nearly a decade in a diverse range of on- and off-grid residential, commercial and microgrid applications.

SimpliPhi also offers its all-in-one AccESS Energy Storage System featuring 3 or 4 PHI 3.8 kWh batteries with the XW+, with both AC Coupled or DC Coupled options, prewired in a NEMA-3R-rated cabinet. The Rule 21 compliant AccESS with Schneider Electric is ideal for backup power, TOU, peak-shaving, and self-consumption of solar, and UPS functions.

PHI Battery Product Features
- Up to 100% DoD and 98% efficiency
- 10-year, 10,000-cycle warranty
- LFP battery chemistry free of cobalt hazards — no risk of overheating, fire, fumes or off-gassing
- No thermal monitoring, fire suppression, cooling or ventilation equipment required
- Indoor and outdoor use in all climates
- Modular and scalable
- Can install in small or unique spaces
- Full range of capacity and voltage options

SimpliPhi Power designs and manufactures efficient, non-toxic and enduring energy storage and management systems that utilize lithium ferro phosphate (LFP) battery chemistry. Based in Oxnard, California, SimpliPhi combines the nonhazardous LFP chemistry with its proprietary cell and battery architecture, power electronics, Battery Management System (BMS) and manufacturing processes to create safe, reliable, durable and highly scalable on-demand power solutions for residential, commercial and emergency response applications. Integral to all SimpliPhi solutions is a proprietary management system that further optimizes the lifecycle, efficiency, overall performance and durability of its batteries. SimpliPhi storage system components are UL certified and have been rigorously tested and passed requirements by the U.S. Army and Marine Corps.

Website
simpliphipower.com/

Contact
sales@simpliphipower.com

This page in no way constitutes an endorsement, express or implied, of any product, service, or company.
Register Schneider Electric solar products at SEsolar.com/registration for free extended warranty
"The village is now able to access to electricity 24 hours from our Minigrid - where they used to have only 4 hours per day.

I would like to thank Schneider Electric for their supports and commitments throughout the project."

— Barani Aung, Managing Director of Techno-Hill Engineering

Learn more at solar.schneider-electric.com/myanmar
Asia Pacific

Myanmar
Microgrids
Powering a remote fishing and farming village in Kenti island
Solution: microgrid solution using six XW+ inverters / chargers with 14 MPPT 60 charge controllers that are connected to 288,000 Ah battery bank.
Learn more at SEsolar.com/myanmar

Indonesia
Electrification of 60 remote villages across Indonesian islands
Learn more at SEsolar.com/indonesia

New Zealand
Residential off-grid
Portable all-in-one energy supply alternatives in New Zealand
Solution: solar and storage system using XW Pro inverters and MPPT 80 charge controllers.
Learn more at SEsolar.com/new-zealand

Australia
3-Phase solar + storage system
Living independently and resiliently off grid
Solution: solar and storage system using XW Pro inverters and MPPT 80 charge controllers.

Customer success stories
Europe, Middle East and Africa

- **Germany** Commercial rooftop
- **Finland** Commercial rooftop
- **France** Commercial rooftop
- **UK** Commercial rooftop
- **Spain** Off-grid solar
- **Nigeria** Commercial off-grid
  - 170 schools and 11 healthcare centers throughout Lagos State powered by solar
  - Solution: XW+ inverter / chargers with the online monitoring solution
  - Learn more at SEsolar.com/nigeria
- **Ukraine** Commercial rooftop
- **Egypt** PV plant
- **Finland** Commercial rooftop
- **Germany** Commercial rooftop
- **UK** Commercial rooftop
- **Egypt** PV plant
- **Nigeria** Microgrids
  - One Everton - A South African flagship for community energy independence
  - Solution: centralized storage solution using nine XW+ inverters
  - Learn more at SEsolar.com/one-everton
North and South America

Mexico
Residential solar + storage
This system produces 90% of the house’s power requirement.
Solution: XW+ inverters, MPPT 80 600 charge controllers, paired with third party grid-tied inverters and Li-ion battery

California, USA
Off-grid solar

Ontario, Canada
Off-grid solar

Vermont, USA
Residential off-grid
Homeowner in VT gains energy independence from the grid
Solution: multi-cluster off-grid system including XW+ inverter / chargers, MPPT 80 600 charge controllers and compatible batteries

Puerto Rico
Microgrids
100 schools are powered by Microgrids through Red Cross’s community resiliency project
Solution: microgrids using XW+ inverter / chargers, MPPT 60/80 charge controllers and other communication devices.
Learn more at SEsolar.com/red-cross

Argentina
Microgrid

Hawaii, USA

Customer success stories

Residential application
Commercial application