I. General Provisions

1. These General Terms and Conditions of Delivery (hereinafter referred to as “General Terms”) shall apply to all offers, deliveries and services (hereinafter referred to as “Deliveries”) of SMA Solar Technology AG (hereinafter referred to as “SMA”) to its customers (hereinafter referred to as “Customer”). These General Terms shall apply exclusively to business customers (B2B). The Customer hereby confirms to qualify as business customer, i.e. to enter into a transaction in exercise of his/her/its trade, business or profession and not in his/her capacity as ordinary consumer.

2. These General Terms shall apply exclusively and shall also apply to all future transactions between the parties to the contract without requiring any reference thereto again. Any deviating, contrary or supplementary general terms and conditions of the Customer shall only become an integral part of the contract if and to the extent that SMA has explicitly consented to their applicability. This requirement of explicit consent shall also apply when SMA unconditionally performs the Delivery to the Customer despite being aware of the Customer’s general terms and conditions.

3. If, in individual cases for certain Deliveries, particularly service and warranty agreements, specific provisions which deviate from these General Terms are agreed upon in writing, these General Terms shall be deemed as subordinate and supplementary.

4. In case of doubt, for the interpretation of trading terms the Incoterms® as applicable at that time shall be binding. Currently, the Incoterms® 2020 are applicable.

5. Any transfer of Customer’s rights arising out of the contractual relationship by Customer shall only be effective with SMA’s prior written consent.

6. Products provided by SMA are not suitable for use in medical areas, in railway traffic or aviation. In case of doubt, the Customer shall consult with SMA prior to any use.

II. Intellectual Property, Standard Software, Use of Trademarks

1. Unless otherwise agreed in writing, all rights in and to offer documents, including copies of offer documents, shall remain with SMA. The Customer is not entitled to reproduce, distribute, (publicly) display, modify or otherwise change the documents from SMA.

2. SMA shall be entitled to any and all work products and intellectual property rights which come into existence in connection with the manufacturing or other business process, and shall have the exclusive ownership to work products and intellectual property rights. SMA may demand the return or handover of work products at any time.

3. If standard software is provided, additional terms shall apply.

4. The Customer may only use SMA trademarks for advertising purposes with the prior written consent of SMA and in accordance with SMA’s instructions, in the original design and only in connection with the presentation of the unchanged product. SMA may withdraw its consent at any time. The Customer shall be solely responsible for the presentation of its advertisements.

III. Provisions of goods and services, terms of delivery, default

1. Delivery is made in accordance with the Incoterms® clause CIP. If FCA has been agreed, the Customer has to provide the means of transport or the freight carrier and the Customer is responsible for timely provision. Any delays have to be communicated to SMA without delay. Any costs resulting from such delay shall be borne by the Customer.

2. Delivery periods and delivery dates refer to the date of handover to the forwarding agent, freight carrier or any other third party commissioned to provide transport services. Any delivery periods and dates targeted by SMA shall only be deemed approximations irrespective of any provided fixed period or a fixed date, as the case may be. For purposes of any delivery, the Customer shall provide all required cooperation, in particular the provision of approvals and releases. Otherwise, the delivery period is deemed extended according to the following Section III. 4.

3. Agreed delivery periods are subject to timely receipt of all assistance, documents, approvals, releases to be provided by Customer as well as compliance of Customer with the agreed payment terms, including advance payments, and with all other obligations required for the Deliveries to be made. In case of delay, the delivery period will be extended accordingly plus an appropriate period of time to re-start the performance of the delayed Delivery.

4. SMA’s delivery obligations are subject to the condition of full and punctual supply to SMA by SMA’s own suppliers and are also subject to the condition that necessary export approvals are granted and other documents required for export are obtained.

5. Subject to Section X, any liability for any inability of any Delivery or delays of any Delivery to the Customer shall be excluded to the fullest extent permitted by law. To the extent that any circumstances make Delivery for SMA significantly more difficult or render it legally or practically impossible and the impediments are not only of short, temporary nature, SMA is entitled to terminate the contract by written notice.

6. In such an event, SMA will refund the Customer any amount paid in advance. No further claims towards SMA apply. In the case of impediments of short, temporary nature, the delivery periods shall be extended or the delivery dates shall be postponed by the period during which the impediments exist. In such a case, to the extent that the Customer cannot be reasonably expected to perform the contract, the Customer may terminate the contract by written notice to SMA.

IV. Prices, invoicing, terms of payment

1. The prices stated are net amounts and do not include value-added tax or any other taxes, customs duties or other levies payable under applicable laws. Any taxes, levies and customs duties shall always be borne by the Customer and increase the final price unless another agreement, including in the form of Incoterms®, has been concluded. The price stated shall not comprise transport, packaging and insurance costs even if CIP is agreed. These costs are calculated separately and invoiced to the Customer.

2. All payments have to be made in EURO within 30 days from the invoice date, unless agreed otherwise.

3. If the Customer does not make payments when due, the outstanding amounts are subject to interest according to applicable law. The right to claim additional damages in the event of default remains reserved.

4. If the Customer is in default or if, after conclusion of the contract, facts and reasonable doubts become known that question the Customer’s creditworthiness, SMA is entitled to declare the entire outstanding amounts immediately payable, to
request prepayments or the provision of securities or, after the expiry of an appropriate grace period, to terminate the contract, notwithstanding any other rights. 5. The Customer waives to set-off any payables, and is not entitled to hold back due payments.

V. Transfer of risk, place of performance
1. In the case of the sale of goods, the risk shall pass to the Customer no later than upon handover of the goods to the forwarder, freight carrier or to another third party commissioned for carrying out shipment, according to Incoterms® clause CIF, unless explicitly agreed otherwise.
2. If shipment or handover is delayed due to a circumstance for which the Customer is responsible, the risk shall pass to the Customer from the day on which the delivery item is ready for shipment and SMA has notified the Customer thereof.
3. The place of performance for all obligations from the contractual relationship is SMA’s registered office, except as otherwise specified.
4. SMA may choose the distribution channel, unless another agreement has been made in writing.

VI. Acceptance
If the object of the contract is a product especially designed or adapted for the Customer, acceptance shall take place upon completion of the work. The work product shall be deemed accepted if the Customer has not submitted a written refusal to accept the works within 14 days as from the delivery. The refusal must include the reasonable and comprehensive reasons for the refusal.

VII. Retention of title
1. SMA shall retain, and the Customer hereby agrees that SMA retains, title to the goods delivered (goods subject to retention of title) until the relevant price has been paid in full. Prior to the transfer of title to the Customer, any pledge or assignment as security of the goods is prohibited. In addition, where necessary, SMA may register its retention of title with all competent authorities or offices and take any other action necessary or advisable to retain title to the goods delivered. Upon request by SMA, the Customer shall be required to assist SMA to effect such retention of title [at the Customer’s own costs].
2. Any machining or processing work carried out in relation to the goods subject to reservation of title is performed for the benefit of SMA without any obligations for SMA arising from such work. In the case of processing together with third-party goods that do not belong to SMA, SMA shall be entitled to a co-ownership interest in the new goods based on the ratio of the invoice value of the goods subject to reservation of title relative to the other goods at the date of processing. The same shall apply even if the Customer would be entitled to sole ownership.
3. Any machining or processing work carried out in relation to the goods subject to reservation of title is performed for the benefit of SMA without any obligations for SMA arising from such work. In the case of processing together with third-party goods that do not belong to SMA, SMA shall be entitled to a co-ownership interest in the new goods based on the ratio of the invoice value of the goods subject to reservation of title relative to the other goods at the date of processing. The same shall apply even if the Customer would be entitled to sole ownership according art. 939, par. 2, of the Italian civil code. In such a case, the latter law provision shall not apply. The new goods shall be stored by the Customer for SMA free of charge, and shall be considered goods subject to reservation of title within the meaning of this clause.
4. The Customer is entitled to resell the goods subject to reservation of title in the normal course of business. In case of resale, the Customer shall inform the third party purchaser of the SMA retention of title over the goods.
5. The Customer’s receivables arising from the resale of the goods subject to reservation of title are transferred to SMA automatically. They serve as a security to SMA for the price of the goods delivered.
6. The Customer has to provide the full remuneration that is due.
7. The Customer’s right of retention is enforceable against SMA only if the defects cannot be remedied by the time of acceptance.
8. The Customer is required to hold back the price in case of hidden defects.
9. The Customer is to inform SMA about the transfer of title.

VIII. Performance bond
In the event of a delivery abroad, for the purpose of securing the payment claims, SMA is entitled to request from Customer the provision of a commensurate, directly enforceable performance bond subject to Italian law that is issued by a credit institution admitted in the EU.

IX. Warranties
1. In case of material defects, the statutory legal provisions shall apply, unless otherwise set forth in the following.
2. SMA’s warranty is excluded in case of the use of products in medical applications, in railway traffic or aviation or similar use. In the case of resale, the Customer has to explicitly mention such lack of suitability and to impose on the buyer a corresponding obligation applying in the case of a further resale so that each buyer of products is informed about this specific circumstance.
3. It shall be the Customer’s responsibility to check the delivered goods and notify SMA in writing about any defects or false or incomplete deliveries without undue delay, however not later than eight (8) calendar days after handover or, in the case of hidden defects, within eight (8) calendar days from the date of obtaining knowledge of the defects or the date on which the defects would have been discovered through the exercise of reasonable investigations. If the Customer does not notify SMA in writing in due time, the delivered goods are deemed fully accepted.
4. SMA shall be entitled to remedy the defects of the delivered goods, in its own discretion, by repairing the delivered goods or by delivering non-defective goods. If SMA fails to remedy the defect, the Customer shall be entitled to a reduction of price or to terminate the contract.
5. SMA shall make its remedial action subject to the condition that the Customer pays the remuneration that is due.
6. The Customer has to provide SMA with appropriate time to remedy the defects and, in particular, has to handover, or to make accessible to SMA, the defective goods for the purpose of performing a review. In case of a replacement delivery, the Customer has to return to SMA the defective goods in accordance with the statutory legal provisions, unless SMA waives its rights in this respect.
7. SMA’s obligation to remedy the defects shall neither include the disassembly of the defective good nor the reassembly unless SMA has explicitly assumed an obligation to assemble in the underlying contract.
8. Customer’s warranty rights shall lapse if the Customer, without SMA’s consent, modifies the delivery item or has it modified and, in doing so, makes remediation of the defects impossible or unreasonably more difficult. In any case, the Customer has to bear the additional costs for remediation of the defects arising from such modification.
9. The general statute of limitations for warranty claims is one year from the delivery date.
10. Customer’s claims for damages or reimbursement of frustrated expenses in case of defects shall only be available in accordance with the provisions of Section X and are excluded otherwise. Section IX.9 shall remain unaffected.

X. Limitation of liability, disclaimer, indemnity

1. SMA’s liability in connection with or arising out of the contractual relationship with the Customer, regardless of the ground (contract or tort or otherwise) shall be limited to the fullest extent permitted by law. In no event shall SMA be liable for (i) any form of negligence (including negligence to the extent permitted by law) by SMA or by any of SMA’s employees, executives or affiliates; (ii) indirect damage, consequential damage and/or loss of profits or unrealised savings; and (iii) any acts and omissions on the part of auxiliary persons of SMA or the supplier.

2. Any liability for damages that results from the use of the goods other than for the ordinary and designated use is excluded. Upon SMA’s request, the Customer shall hold SMA harmless from any third-party claims that are asserted against the SMA in connection with the use of the goods other than for the ordinary and designated use.

XI. Data protection

1. In accordance with EU Regulation n. 679/2016, the parties mutually acknowledge and agree that, in carrying out the activities of the present agreement, their respective personal data shall be processed to perform this agreement according to Art. 6.1, letter b) of EU Regulation n. 679/2016, also by electronic means, or to implement obligations under current legislation, according to Art. 6.1, letter c) of EU Regulation n. 679/2016 by persons authorized to perform these tasks, duly appointed as data processors or persons in charge of the processing, equipped with security measures to ensure the confidentiality of the data subjects to whom the data refer and to avoid undue access to third parties or unauthorized personnel.

SMA Italia S.r.l. informs the other party that, for internal administrative purposes only, it may communicate personal data of the other party to SMA Solar Technology AG, a company based in Germany.

2. Each of the parties undertakes, as independent data controller, to process respective personal data in compliance with the EU Regulation n. 679/2016, for the sole purpose of carrying out contract performances charged to them on the basis of this agreement and in order to comply with the related legal obligations.

3. Each party acknowledges that these respective data processing are mandatory, since they are carried out in execution of a contractual obligation, with the consequence that any possible refusal to provide personal data would not allow the finalization of this agreement and it also undertakes to process personal data in a lawful and correct manner, collecting and registering them for specific, explicit and legitimate purposes, verifying that the data are relevant, complete and not excessive in relation to the purposes for which they are collected or subsequently processed.

4. Each party, moreover, acknowledges that personal data will be processed for the period of execution of the present agreement, after which those data will be retained only in order to comply with the related legal obligations and/or for defenses purposes.

5. The parties, also, may communicate and/or to distribute their respective personal data that, in compliance with the applicable law, the police, the judicial authority, the information and security agencies or other public subjects might ask for purposes related to defense or State security or to preventing, detecting or suppressing crimes.

6. As per Articles 1.5 et seq. of EU Regulation n. 679/2016, each data subject has the right to receive from the other party information on the existence of the processing of his/her personal data, as well as to access his/her own data, to obtain the rectification, integration, updating, erasure or blocking of the data; each data subject will also has the right to obtain a copy of his/her data, the limitation of the processing and/or, moreover, to oppose against processing, as well as the right to data portability and to bring a complaint with the competent supervisory authorities under the conditions and within the limits given in the art. 13 of EU Regulation 679/2016.

XII. Miscellaneous, choice of law, place of jurisdiction

1. These General Terms have been executed in duplicate equally authentic originals in Italian and in English. In the event of divergence between the English and Italian text of these General Terms and Conditions, the English text shall prevail.

2. The failure of any of SMA or the Customer to enforce any of the provisions of the General Terms or any rights with respect thereto shall in no way be considered as a waiver of such provisions or rights or in any way affect the validity of the contract and the General Terms, respectively. The waiver of any breach of agreement by any party hereto shall not operate to be construed as a waiver of any other prior or subsequent breach.

3. Neither the contractual agreement nor any rights or obligations thereunder shall be assigned by any party, including, but not limited, pursuant to a transfer of assets (cessione d’azienda) or divestiture (scissione), without the prior written consent of the other party. The foregoing shall not apply to any rights and claims assigned by SMA as security to its financing sources (or common agent or representative of such financing sources).

4. If any provision of the contract including these General Terms is held to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason it shall be revised rather than rendered void, if possible, in order to achieve the intent of the parties to the fullest extent possible. In any event, all other provisions of the contract including these General Terms shall be deemed valid and enforceable to the fullest extent possible.

5. All legal relationships between SMA and the Customer in connection with this contractual relationship shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the substantive laws of Italy. The United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (CISG) does not apply

6. Any disputes arising out of or in connection with the contractual relationship shall be submitted to the exclusive jurisdiction of the competent courts of the City of Milan, Italy, any other concurrent place of jurisdiction being expressly excluded. However, SMA shall also be entitled to file actions before any other court that would be competent according to the law.