



WALMER ENERGY

Mainstream inverter power





Overview

What is a central inverter?

Photo courtesy CPS America. Central inverters are designed to centralize power flows and convert large quantities of power from dc to ac in a single unit. The inputs to central inverters are most often combined dc circuits from many (or all) strings in the array that feed a small number of integrated MPPTs.

What are the different types of PV inverters?

There are three primary tiers of PV inverters: microinverters, string inverters, and central inverters. Since microinverters are not rated for utility-scale voltages, we will largely ignore them in this article. String inverters convert DC power from “strings” of PV modules to AC and are designed to be modular and scalable.

When will string inverters be released?

Inverter manufacturers are expected to release new products in 2025 to drive costs down further. String inverters with power rating greater than 400 kW are likely to be released at major trade shows in 2025.

Should PV power stations use string inverters?

Currently, PV power stations that pursue profitability and lean operation tend to choose high-power string inverters with advantages in increased power generation. As a result, string inverters have begun to quickly take over. In 2016, the market share of string inverters in China was only 32%.



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