

NFWS

# Solar Inception Announces SolaGRID Audible Alarm Compact Safety Product Meets and Exceeds latest Australian Safety Standards

BRISBANE – 15 April 2013 – Solar Inception Pty. Ltd. today announced The SolaGRID Audible Alarm, a self-contained, lightweight safety device that ensures solar power users are immediately alerted if an earth fault affects an inverter. The unit can be placed in areas near the solar user such as a kitchen or office, and if a fault is detected, the unit emits both an audible (beeping – 74 dB @ 1 m) and visual (flashing red light) alarm.

The SolaGRID Audible Alarm complies with latest modifications to the Australia and New Zealand Safety and installation Standard 5033:2012. Clause 3.4.3 of the Standard requires that low voltage PV arrays be equipped with an alarm that alerts the solar user when an earth fault has occurred and repeats the alarm at least once each hour until the fault has been resolved. SolGRID Audible Alarm goes a step further. Although the user can push a mute button to silence the audible warning, the red light will continue to flash until the fault is cleared.

## Safety Alert Close at Hand

Like any resource that results in electrical power, solar solutions must be designed to ensure safety. Since solar arrays are usually installed in exposed areas, they are subject to both environmental and operational conditions that can cause a safety hazard. For example, the impact of lightning, wind, vermin infestation or mechanical failure can lead to a short circuit or earth fault, which, if undetected, could potentially lead to fire or electrocution.

Many solar inverters have a local indicator that triggers if a fault occurs. The problem is placement. Inverters may be located in a garage, switch room or on a rooftop, where a solar system owner or operational staff member may not notice the warning – a clearly dangerous circumstance.

The SolaGRID Audible Alarm overcomes this safety issue by providing a compact, self-contained unit that can be placed where it can be easily seen and heard. It enables the user to identify possible hazards quickly and institute control measures including shutting down the solar system and contacting service personnel.

### Compatibility, Flexibility

The SolaGRID Audible Alarm is compatible with highest quality inverter products, including Power One and SMA. Powered from a 230 V AC single-phase control circuit – 1 amp max, one SolaGRID Audible Alarm unit will track and alert an earth fault from multiple inverters. The user can then check the inverter displays to determine which inverter carries the fault.

### **Availability and Pricing**

The SolaGRID Audible Alarm is available immediately in easy-to-assemble kit form starting at \$243.46. (excluding GST) . For more information and specifications, please see the SolaGRID Audible Alarm data sheet.

### **About Solar Inception**

Solar Inception Pty. Ltd. is an Australian owned and operated company that is a single-source provider of quality grid- and off-grid solar power products and professional services. The company is equipped to meet small through large-scale solar project needs. Financially strong, with highest-quality manufacturing partnerships and an established distribution channel, Solar Inception is positioned for continued success and longevity in a shifting market. The company serves solar customers throughout Australia, and in Asia,

New Zealand and the Pacific Islands. For more information, visit www.solarinception.com.au, email <u>mailto:info@solarinception.com.au</u> or contact the company directly at its offices in Queensland: 07 3166 9598, Victoria: 03 9017 1010 or South Australia: 08 8372 7808.