



DAVIS & SHIRTLIFF LTD  
Dundori Road, Industrial Area  
PO Box 41762 - 00100, Nairobi, KENYA  
TEL: (+254 20) 558335, 536901  
FAX: (+254 20) 557617  
marketing@dayliff.com

**PRESS RELEASE**

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**DAVIS & SHIRTLIFF ANNOUNCES PARTNERSHIPS WITH WORLD LEADING GERMAN**

**SOLAR COMPANIES AT SOLAR SEMINAR**

**Davis & Shirliff** (D&S), Kenya's leading Water and Energy equipment provider, have brought together some of the world's leading German solar equipment companies for a Solar Seminar to focus on the technology of **Solar Power Electricity Generation** for both off and on grid applications.

The event is being held at the company's Head Office complex in Nairobi's Industrial Area on 8th and 9th May. This follows on from D&S's partnership announcement last year with the world's leading producer of inverters, Germany's **SMA** and they will be joined at the Seminar by three other German companies - **Solarworld**, manufacturers of PV solar panels, **Hoppeke**, the largest producer of industry battery systems in Germany and **Schletter**, renowned manufacturer of professional solar mounting structures. These companies together provide the key components for Solar Power generation systems.

The two-day event will include a full day technical training for D&S sales and engineering staff, whilst the second day will consist of awareness sessions for key customers and industry players including engineers, consultants, property developers and solar financing companies .

Over 1.5 billion people worldwide live without access to electricity. For people without access to the electrical grid, solar energy is the most cost-effective source of electricity. While the investment costs of solar equipment can be marginally higher than conventional generators, the long term operating costs are minimal with no fuel and minimal maintenance costs. Also, where grid power is available there is an increasing

awareness of the ecological and cost saving benefits of solar generated power to supplement regular consumption.

Speaking on the eve of the event, Davis & Shirliff's Chief Executive Officer, David Gatende said "Being situated at the equator, Kenya's strategic location makes it perfect for solar solutions. The solar industry has huge potential and solar equipment prices have been falling steadily over the years. With these partnerships, we will carry significant stocks of products from these companies to make them readily available to local and regional markets".

"German technology is amongst the most advanced in the world, and we believe that their superior quality will pay off in the long term" he concluded.

Bringing together the world's most reliable solar product manufacturers will build Davis & Shirliff's solar solutions capacity and benefit this growing sector in the region. Davis and Shirliff has a strong regional branch network in eight countries.

Note to Editors:



[www.solarworld.com](http://www.solarworld.com) or [www.solarworld.co.za](http://www.solarworld.co.za)

SolarWorld manufactures and sells high-tech solar power solutions and in doing so contributes to a cleaner energy supply worldwide. The group, headquartered in Bonn, Germany, employs 3,288 people and operates facilities in Freiberg, Germany; Arnstadt, Germany; and Hillsboro, Oregon, USA as well as in a joint venture with Qatar Solar Technologies.

From raw material silicon to solar wafers, cells and modules, SolarWorld manages all stages of production – including research and development in its own company, SolarWorldInnovations. Through an international distribution network with locations in Europe, USA, Singapore, Japan, South Africa and Qatar, SolarWorld supplies customers all over the world.

The company upholds high social standards and commits itself to resource- and energy-efficient production. SolarWorld was founded in 1998 and has been publicly traded on the stock market since 1999.



[www.sma.de/en/](http://www.sma.de/en/)

As a leading global specialist for photovoltaic system technology, SMA is setting the standards today for the decentralized and renewable energy supply of tomorrow. More than 3,000 SMA employees in 20 countries have devoted themselves to this task.

**With sales of €1 billion in 2015**, the SMA Group is the global market leader for solar inverters, a key component of all PV plants, and offers innovative key technologies for future power supply structures. SMA has an extensive range of products, which offers the right inverters for all module types and plant sizes; for small residential systems as well as large-scale plants, grid-connected photovoltaic systems as well as off-grid and hybrid systems.

For over 30 years, SMA has helped hundreds of thousands of people and companies produce and consume energy independently according to their individual needs. In collaboration with our customers and partners, we are helping the people around the world transition to a self-sufficient and decentralized energy supply



<https://www.hoppecke.com/en>

HOPPECKE Batteries is the largest producer of industry battery systems in European ownership.

Since 1927, the family company has been developing and producing in Germany, and thanks to its leading research and development activities, it has all reliable and innovative storage technologies in its product portfolio.

With the development of marketable, forward-looking energy storage solutions, HOPPECKE makes an important contribution to solve the societal challenges that result from the implementation of the global climate protection goals.

Since its foundation in 1927 HOPPECKE has been managed by the Zoellner family. Today, Dr. Marc Zoellner, is the fourth generation leading this industrial firm.

With its headquarters in Brilon-Hoppecke and 20 subsidiaries, representative offices, partners and distributors as well as production and assembly facilities worldwide, the HOPPECKE Group has more than 1,950 employees and generates turnover of over €400 million.



<https://www.schletter.eu/EN/solar-mount-system.html>

An experienced manufacturer of professional solar mounting systems, Schletter offers a variety of fasteners for photovoltaic modules. The systems combine optimum structural dimensioning, short mounting times, economic efficiency and maximum durability with a warranty of 10 years.

All systems are produced exclusively in Kirchdorf/Haag in Upper Bavaria, Germany. The Schletter PV-mounting system is a modular-unit assembly system comprising universally applicable, quality components (aluminum / stainless steel), facilitating the installation of any module on almost any site.

The system, already comprising components proven for quality over many years, is subject to continuous improvement through the enhancement of existing elements and the development of new products. Components are available from Schletter as individual units, or can be compiled to customer requirements and pre-packaged as mounting kits.

### **About Davis & Shirtliff**

Founded in 1946, Davis & Shirtliff has been the leading supplier of water related and alternative energy equipment for 70 years. It primarily focuses on six principal product sectors - Water Pumps, Boreholes, Swimming Pools, Water Treatment, Generators and Solar Equipment. It has 30 branches throughout Kenya in major towns and centres.

Issued on behalf of D&S by Yolanda Tavares PR  
Contact: Victor Muya 0706 010 063 or 0728 045 484  
Email: [victor@ytpr.co.ke](mailto:victor@ytpr.co.ke)