

# Sol-Ark 8K Install Guide & Owner's Manual

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### CONTACT US

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## Disclaimer

UNLESS SPECIFICALLY AGREED TO IN WRITING, SOL-ARK:

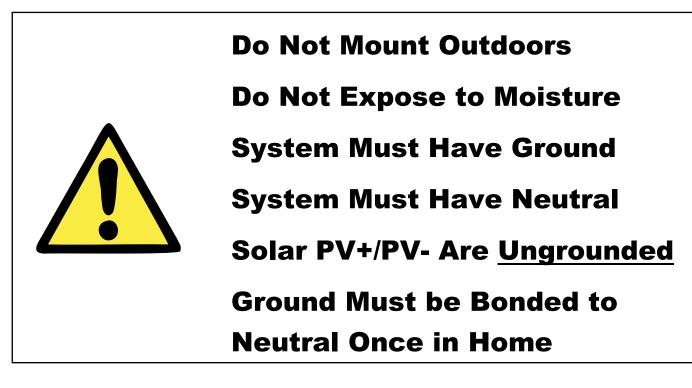
(a) MAKES NO WARRANTY AS TO THE ACCURACY, SUFFICIENCY OR SUITABILITY OF ANY TECHNICAL OR OTHER INFORMATION PROVIDED IN ITS MANUALS OR OTHER DOCUMENTATION.

(b) ASSUMES NO RESPONSIBILITY OR LIABILITY FOR LOSS OR DAMAGE, WHETHER DIRECT, INDIRECT, CONSEQUENTIAL OR INCIDENTAL, WHICH MIGHT ARISE OUT OF THE USE OF SUCH INFORMATION. THE USE OF ANY SUCH INFORMATION WILL BE ENTIRELY AT THE USER'S RISK.

Sol-Ark cannot be responsible for system failure, damages, or injury resulting from improper installation of their products.

Information included in this manual is subject to change without notice.

Sol-Ark 8K inverter should be installed by qualified persons only.

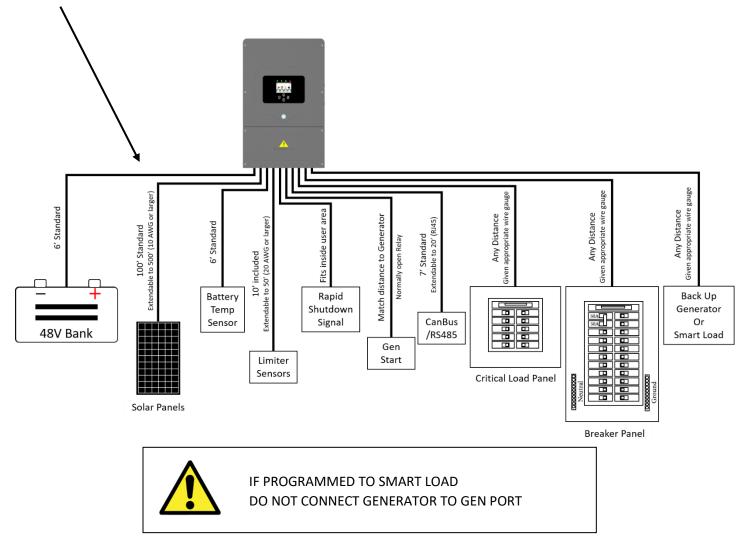


### **1. Inspect Shipment**

- a. Compare the package condition to the condition of the package in the photo we sent you before it left our facility. <u>You must note any damage due to shipping with</u> <u>delivery driver before accepting the package otherwise the shipping</u> <u>company will deny any claim.</u>
- b. If damaged, contact us immediately at 972-575-8875 Ext. 3
- 2. Component Guide
  - a. Solar Panel MC4 tool: To disconnect solar panels
  - b. Battery Resistor: To connect batteries for the first time
  - c. WIFI Plug: For software updates and remote monitoring (You will receive **ONLY ONE of two types of** WIFI plug, <u>not both</u>, picture indicates what the plugs look like)
  - d. Limiter Sensors: for "Limited-to-Home Mode"
  - e. French Cleat: For wall mounting the Sol-Ark 8K
  - f. Battery Temperature Sensor: For voltage adjustment
  - g. Battery Cables (If purchased)
  - h. Solar Panel Wire 100' (If purchased)
  - i. Solar Panel Jumper wires 25' (If purchased)
  - j. Y-Connectors (If purchased)
  - k. Battery Toroids: For EMI reduction

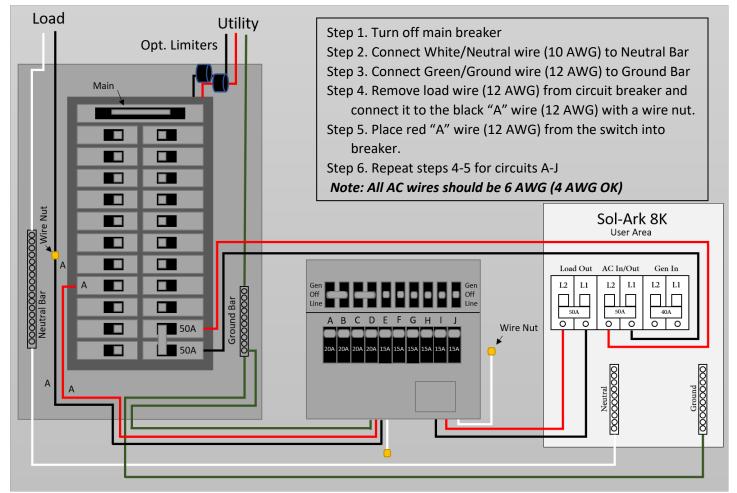


WIRE RUN LENGTH: SEE DIAGRAM FOR WIRE GAUGE (AWG) RECOMMENDATIONS, PAGE 11 FOR COMPLETE DETAIL



### 4. Decide Critical Backup Circuits

- a. Decide which 10 circuits will be on backup power continuously. These circuits **must use non-GFI breakers** to work with the transfer switch. You can replace a GFI breaker with a normal breaker, installing GFI outlets instead (or you can move GFI breaker into 10-circuit SW). If applicable, low load circuits can be combined.
- b. Important: Make sure to keep within inverter amperage limits: On Grid = 50A continuous
   Off Grid = 33A continuous/83A peak
- c. Verify each load circuit by measuring typical and max Amps with a clip-on Amp meter. Amps x 120V = Watts



### Important notes:

When the transfer switch is in the "Gen" position, this means the circuit is being powered by the Sol-Ark (which can use Grid/Solar/Battery/Generator automatically).

When in the "Line" position, the transfer switch is being powered by the grid (Sol-Ark can be removed).

The transfer switch setup is complete once all the switches are set to "Gen" position. The Sol-Ark will take care of the rest.

If you are not installing a transfer switch (Off Grid or have a 50A sub-load panel), you can wire the "Load" output of the Sol-Ark 8K directly to a Main Lug breakers sub-panel rated for at least 50A.

### Please refer to page 11 for complete wire diagram



### Strain Reliefs must be used for all wires going in/out of the Sol-Ark 8K user area

### Ground and Neutral must be wired as shown above, or damage will occur.

Conduit (or double insulated wire) must be used for the AC Wires going to and from the Sol-Ark.

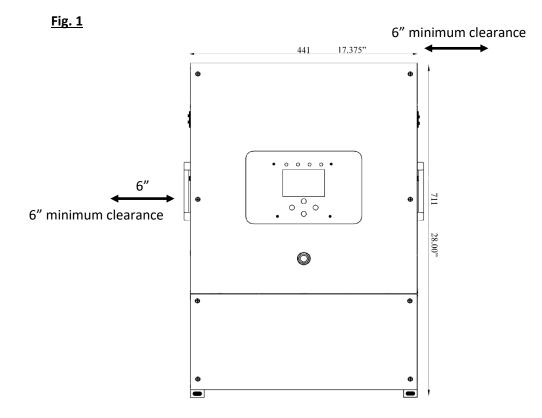
DO NOT CONNECT THE GRID TO THE LOAD OUTPUT BREAKER

### 6. Install Double Pole 50A breaker in Main Panel for Grid In/Out

a. It is best practice to install at the opposite end of the bus bar from the main breaker (Usually this is the bottom of the breaker panel as seen on page 5).

### 7. Mount Sol-Ark 8K

- a. Find a suitable location for the system, keeping in mind the dimensions in Fig. 1 below.
- b. System must be protected from moisture and extreme heat. (Do not mount outdoors or in attic OR WARRANTY WILL BE VOID AND DAMAGE WILL LIKELY OCCUR)
- c. The system weighs 75lbs (34kg), be sure to attach it securely to the wall. You may need to affix a mounting board to your wall first using 6-8 screws into studs.
- d. Then use 2-3 screws (appropriate in length and type for your mounting surface) to mount the French Cleat to the board/wall (washers recommended).
- e. Mount the Sol-Ark on the installed cleat making sure that it sits properly and is level.
- f. Add 2 screws in bottom mounts.

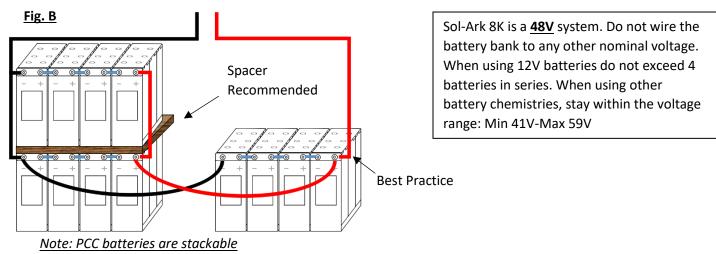


### 8. Connect Batteries (Sol-Ark should be POWERED "OFF")

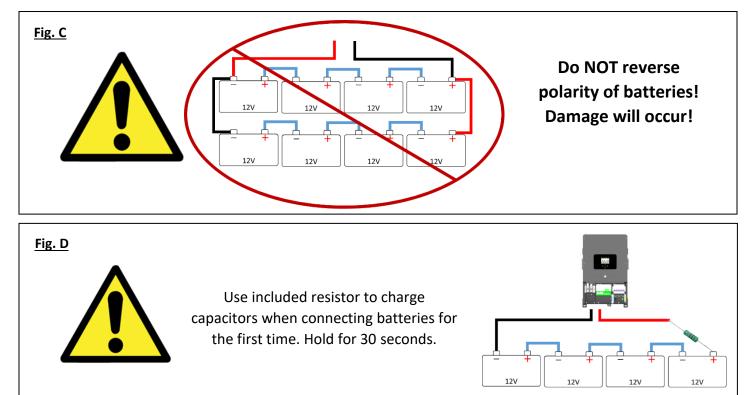
- a. Connect the batteries to the Sol-Ark 8K as shown in the diagrams **Fig. B** below:
- b. Fig. A: Install included ferrites (part k. on pg. 3) on the battery input cables.
   Slide the ferrite over the battery cables so that both cables are within the toroid (as shown in Fig. A).

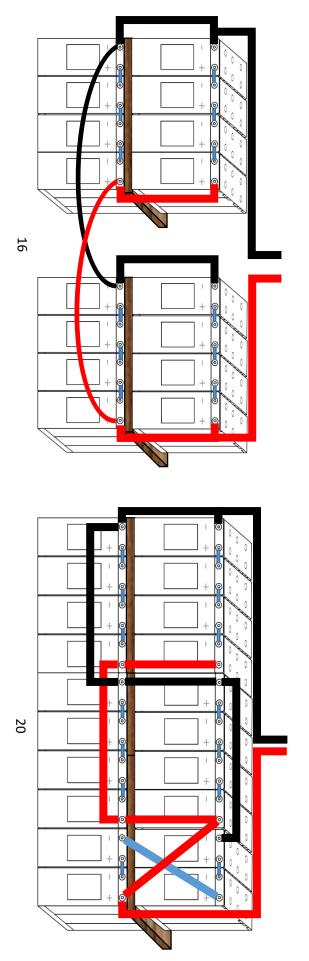


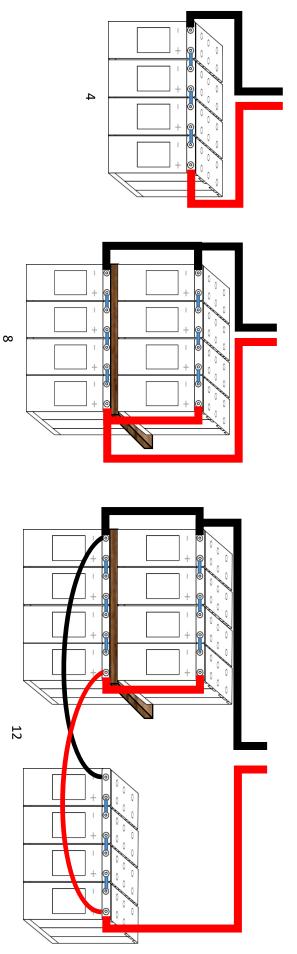
- i. The toroid usually fits inside the user area of the Sol-Ark.
- c. When connecting for 1<sup>st</sup> time, use included 100ohm resistor (part b. on pg. 3) to pre-charge the inverter for 30s before connecting 6ft cable to Sol-Ark (see Fig. D).
  - i. Hold the resistor so that it contacts the free battery cable and the battery terminal, completing the circuit (see below). This can be done with small clamps or by hand.



WARNING! Do not stack more than 2 banks high!







August 3, 2019

### 9. Solar Panel Install

1. Sol-Ark 8K has 2 separate pairs of solar panel inputs.

### (Dual MPPT)

2. Use the chart to the right to determine how many strings of panels and how many panels per string can be installed. This chart is only a guide, other panel types and configurations can be compatible if within system specifications.

3. Max PV input:

11,000W(+/- 5%) per system (6,000W per MPPT) PV = 500Voc Max

Note: Damage will occur if PV Voc > 550V.

4. Connect the strings of solar panels to the system as shown on pages 9/10.

5. Each pair of strings, PV1A/B and PV2A/B, must be the same voltage if both are used (see Fig. E).

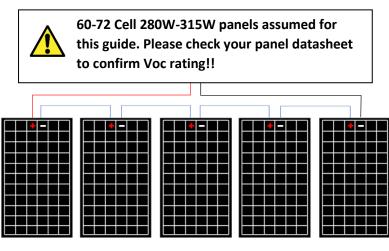
6. Panel frame grounding can be done to any ground in the home via 12AWG wire. Mounts usually bond frames together, so only 1 ground wire is needed.

### Note: Max Panels in Series:

### 60 Cell: 10

### 72 Cell: 9

### 96 Cell: 5



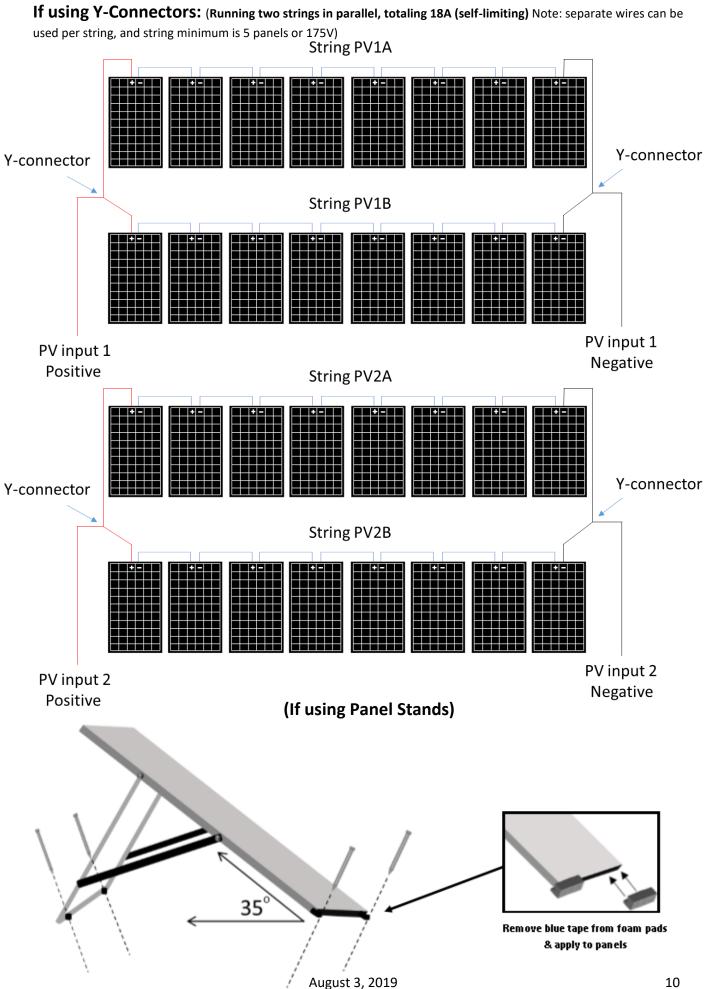
String Max

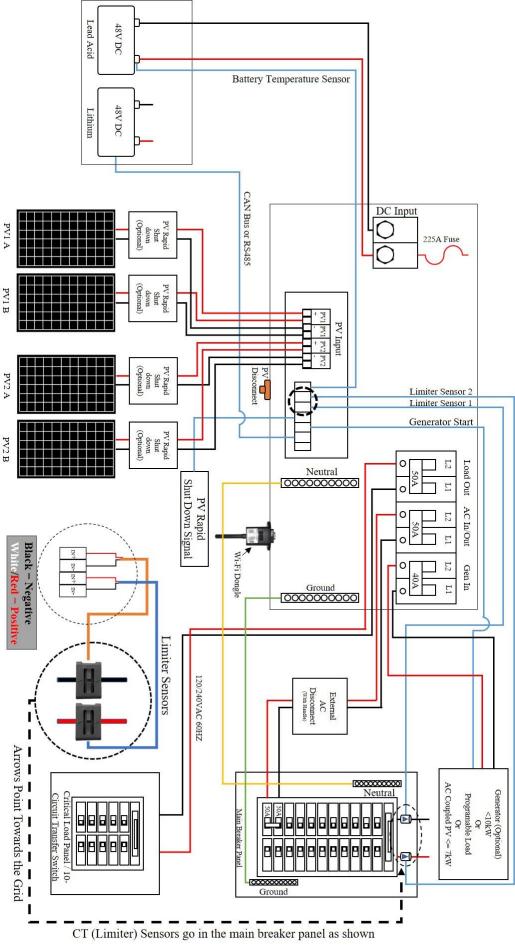
### Fig. E: Suggested Solar Panel String Guide

### (60 or 72 cell Panels, 305W/Panel or less)

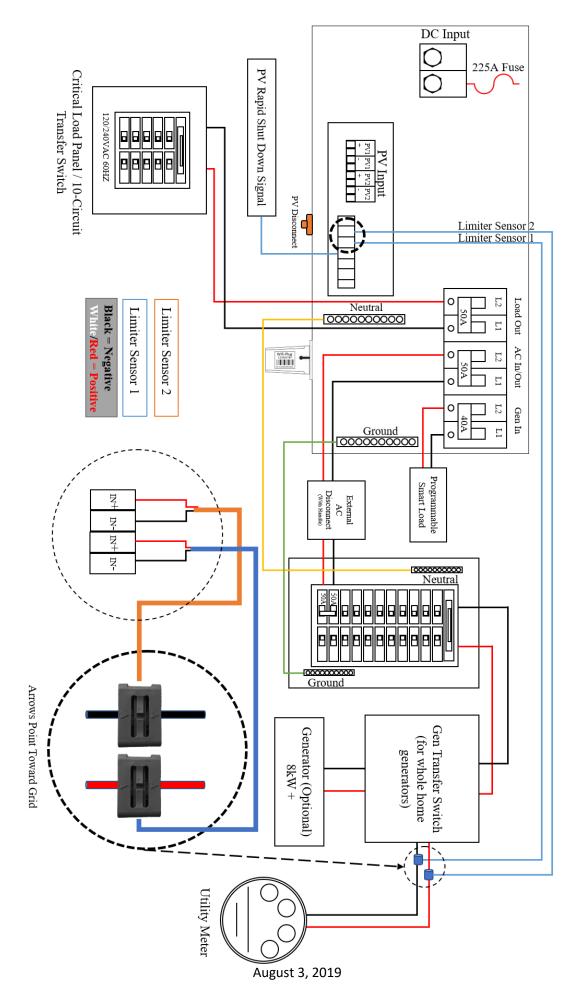
Total Panels	PV1A	PV1B	PV2A	PV2B
1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
5	5	N/A	N/A	N/A
6	6	N/A	N/A	N/A
7	7	N/A	N/A	N/A
8	8	N/A	N/A	N/A
9	9	N/A	N/A	N/A
10	5	5	N/A	N/A
11	6	N/A	5	N/A
12	6	6	N/A	N/A
13	7	N/A	6	N/A
14	7	7	N/A	N/A
15	8	N/A	7	N/A
16	8	8	N/A	N/A
17	9	N/A	8	N/A
18	9	9	N/A	N/A
19	6	6	7	N/A
20	7	7	6	N/A
21	7	7	7	N/A
22	7	7	8	N/A
23	8	8	7	N/A
24	8	8	8	N/A
25	8	8	9	N/A
26	9	9	8	N/A
27	9	9	9	N/A
28	7	7	7	7
29	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
30	8	8	7	7
31	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
32	8	8	8	8
33	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
34	9	9	8	8
35	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
36	9	9	9	9







# Portable Generator / AC Coupling / SmartLoad Diagram



# **Standard Install Diagram**

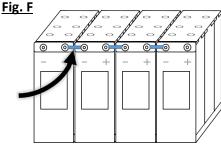
### 10. Connecting a Portable Backup Generator (240V only)

- a. Generators smaller than 10kW See page 11
  - i. Connect the generator output to the "Gen" input breaker in the Sol-Ark 8K user panel.
  - ii. Only 240V generators are supported.
  - iii. If **Off-Grid** connect the generator output to the "Grid" input in the Sol-Ark and select the "GEN connected to Grid input" option in the Sell Control tab of the Grid Setup Menu.
    - 1. Home Screen  $\rightarrow$  Gear Icon  $\rightarrow$  Grid Setup  $\rightarrow$  Sell Control
- b. Standby Generators >10kW See page 12
  - i. If **Off-Grid**, you may connect the generator output directly to the "Grid" input on the Sol-Ark 8K. The Sol-Ark 8K will perceive the generator as if it were the grid. You will need to select the "GEN connected to Grid input" option in the Sell Control tab of the Grid Setup Menu.
    - 1. Home Screen  $\rightarrow$  Gear Icon  $\rightarrow$  Grid Setup  $\rightarrow$  Sell Control
  - ii. Being **Off-Grid**, you will have "Grid Sell Off" and without the need for current limiting sensors.
  - iii. Under "Grid Setup" do the following:
    - 1. Select "Limited to Load"
    - 2. Select "General Standard"
    - 3. Increase Grid frequency range: 53-65Hz
  - iv. "Limited To Home" mode works well with generators.

If using a large generator with a whole home transfer switch, we suggest not using the "Gen" input breakers in the Sol-Ark. Instead, use the existing home wiring to distribute the generator's power (through your existing "Gen" transfer switch, usually to the main panel in the home or building).

### **11. Sensor and Accessory Placement**

- a. Limiter Sensors
  - Install on incoming electrical service wires on L1 and L2 (see diagram pg. 11). Required if selling power to whole home.
- b. Battery Temp Sensor
  - i. Place between batteries (See Fig. F). Note: Temp sensor is not required for lithium batteries.
- **ig. F).** Note: Temp m batteries.



- c. CanBus & RS485
  - i. In order to connect batteries to the Sol-Ark 8K via RJ45, you will need to splice the end that connects to the Sol-Ark 8K. Use the middle two conductors.
- d. Gen Start Signal
  - i. Normally open relay that closes when the Gen Start state is active
  - ii. If your generator only starts with the loss of 120/240V to the generator, we suggest using a DPST relay to the output of the inverter.
- e. PV Rapid Shutdown Signal
  - i. 12v signal/200mA power is present until the Sol-Ark is shut down with the front button
- f. WI-FI Antenna
  - i. Only needed for remote monitoring or software updates.

### 12. Testing and Powering up Sol-Ark 8K

- a. Check Voltage of each PV input circuit
  - i. Should be no higher than 500Vdc open circuit.
  - ii. DO NOT connect PV+ OR PV- to GND.
  - iii. Good to verify polarity.
- b. Check Grid Input Voltage (voltages shown are for North America)
  - i. Ensure 120Vac L1 to Neutral and L2 to Neutral.
  - ii. Ensure 240Vac L1 and L2.
  - iii. Check Neutral and Ground are ~0V AC.
- c. Check Battery voltage
  - i. Turn on battery switch (if using a Lithium battery).
  - ii. Voltage should be 45Vdc-57Vdc.
- d. If all checks out, Turn on Breakers for Grid and Load, Turn PV Disconnect knob to "On"
- e. System will boot up with power from PV, Grid, or ON/Off Batt.
- f. Press the ON/OFF Button on the front, light should come on.
- g. If you installed limit sensors for Limited To Home selling mode, it is critical you verify the proper sensor and direction. (if MCU SW = 1654 or higher, an auto learn function avoids all this).
  - i. Using AC multi-meter, verify L1 voltage on AC in/out is 0Vac with main L1 connection in panel. Same for L2.
  - ii. To verify sensor connections to Sol-Ark, try removing one sensor from the main L1 connection. The power should drop to OW.
  - iii. To verify proper sensor direction, with any loads in the home, the HM: +watts will be positive. If you turn on solar panels and turn enable Grid Sell, you should see HM: -watts if you are producing more power than the loads are consuming. And if you turn on limited power to Home mode, then HM: ~0 watts to zero the meter (system matches the loads to within 99%).

### 13. Basic Setup

- a. Display: Auto dim must be enabled for LCD screen to be covered by warranty. Color LCD screens dim if left on continuously for years.
- b. Time: Set date and time for the system

### 14. Programming Battery Settings

- a. Battery Size
  - i. This allows Sol-Ark to know the size of the battery bank. The system is also self-learning as batteries age.
  - ii. Main Menu  $\rightarrow$  System Settings  $\rightarrow$  Battery Setup  $\rightarrow$  Batt  $\rightarrow$  Batt Capacity
- b. Use Battery Voltage or % Charged
  - i. Use whatever you are comfortable with. Most installers prefer voltage, while most homeowners prefer % Charged.
- c. Battery Charge & Discharge Current
  - i. For AGM and Flooded, we recommend Ah battery size x 20% = Charge/Discharge amps
  - ii. For Lithium, we recommend Ah battery size x 50% = Charge/Discharge amps
  - iii. For Gel, follow manufacturer's instructions.

iv. When Off Grid, discharge current is not limited. The inverter will always remain powered on.

### d. Battery Type

i. Navigate to the charge menu and set the values appropriate to your battery chemistry. The owner's manual is good reference for lead acid batteries.

Battery Type	Absorption Stage	Float Stage	Equalize Stage (every 90 days 3hr)	
AGM (or PCC)	14.2v ( <b>56.8v</b> )	13.4v ( <b>53.6v</b> )	14.2v ( <b>56.8v</b> )	Default
Gel	14.1v ( <b>56.4v</b> )	13.5v ( <b>54.0v</b> )		
Wet	14.7v <b>(59.0v)</b>	13.7v <b>(55.0V)</b>	14.7v <b>(59.0v)</b>	
Lithium	14.1v ( <b>58.0v</b> )	13.2v ( <b>56.0v</b> )		]

ii. Main Menu → System Settings → Battery Setup → Charge

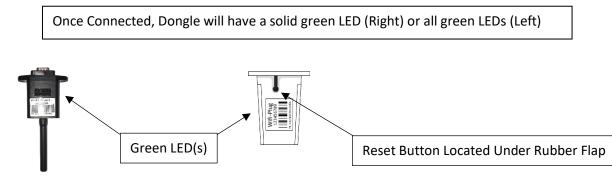
- e. Battery Discharge
  - i. Allows the user to define the depth of discharge the system will allow before using the grid/generator to the charge the battery bank. Solar is always the first priority in charging the battery bank.
  - ii. Main Menu  $\rightarrow$  System Settings  $\rightarrow$  Battery Setup  $\rightarrow$  Discharge

### 15. Grid Setup

- a. Grid Sell: maximum watts sold to grid
- b. Limited To Home: Limits power produced by the system to match the demand of the home
- c. Limited To Load: Limits power produced by the system to match the demand of connected loads

### 16. Remote Monitoring Setup (WIFI Setup Video: <u>https://youtu.be/0H0OZfZz\_kQ</u>)

- a. WIFI (Via Cell Phone or computer)
  - i. Plug WIFI dongle into Sol-Ark
  - ii. If using a cell phone, turn off cellular
  - iii. Using your device look for WIFI networks and select the one that matches the PN number on your dongle
    - Password: 12345678 (Once Dongle is set up in this can be changed)
  - iv. Once connected, use a web browser to navigate to 192.168.8.66 (type it into the address bar) and log in
    - Username: admin (Once Dongle is set up in this can be changed)
    - Password: admin (Once Dongle is set up in this can be changed)
  - v. Once Connected to the Dongle





Setup WI-FI Wi-Fi Configuration Select 8 If you see this error refer to step 2 return to the app Once connected 12 \$ } 0 Select Connect Wi-Fi datalogger 0 Select the Wi-Fi icon 7 Select confirm prompt signal aroun TP-LINK\_735E X2118051120904 (2118122219116 DIRECT-1d-HP M477 LaserJet IRECT-76-HP 2118211773996 Select your Wi-Fi atel LINKZONE 2165 network Enter password and 2118122219116 Icatel LINKZONE 2165 IRECT-76-HF Select "settings" CT\_14LUD MATTI SCO

August 3, 2019

When step 3 is compete

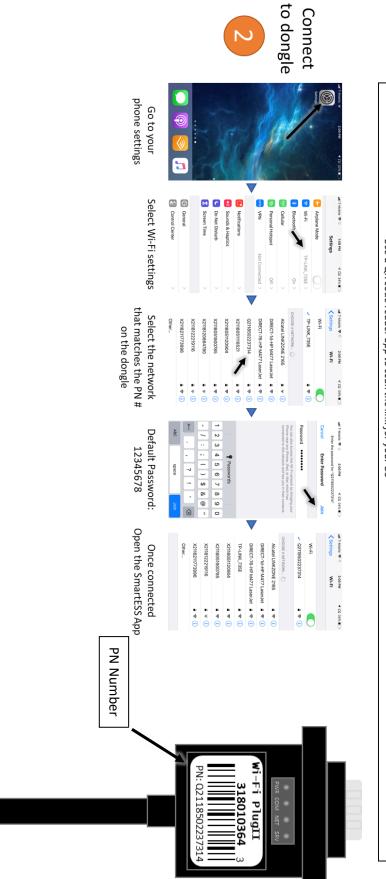
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### Manual Wi-Fi Setup without phone app (Skip if you used the phone app setup)

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0	DIRECT- 1d-HP M477 LaserJet	92:cd:b6:16:71:1d	81%	10	AES	WPA2PSK	Infrastructure		Device Management	Password	admin Apply Cancel	
0	J&S Rentals	94:10:3e:87:e9:4e	0%	11	AES	WPA2PSK	Infrastructure			Restart Module	Restart	
0	HP-Print- 9B-Officejet 4630	58:20:b1:3d:72:9b	0%	11	AES	WPA2PSK	Infrastructure			Load Factory Default	s Load Default	
$\bigcirc$	TLS Landscape	30:f7:72:95:5b:ed	37%	11	AES	WPA2PSK	Infrastructure	г				
Apply	Refres	Select Yo	ur Net	work The	en Ap	oply		] [	Select: "Devic Then Restart D	e Management ongle	"	

Note: If you setup a new password for your WIFI, the first character of the password must be either 0-9 or A-Z and "=" is not supported.

### Manual Wi-Fi Setup without Phone App (Skip if you used the phone app setup)

### b. Phone App

- i. iOS Download Link: <u>https://itunes.apple.com/US/app/id1334656760?mt=8</u>
- ii. Android Download Link: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.eybond.smartclient&hl=en\_US





Android Download Link

- a. Registering WIFI (Via Cell Phone or computer)
  - i. Using the browser on your device that is connected to the internet, navigate to:
    - <u>http://www.dessmonitor.com/</u>
  - ii. In the upper right-hand corner use the dropdown menu to select English
  - iii. Then select "Register immediately"
    - Fill in the credentials and make sure to remember or write down your login credentials





Note 1: The PN number is the number on the WIFI dongle that is connected to the Sol-Ark

Note 2: Registration of your system can also be done via the Smart ESS App

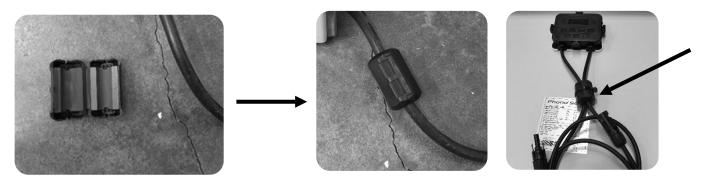
### WIFI Troubleshooting:

- Light on the dongle won't turn green when connecting to WIFI:
  - If using a cell phone, make sure the cellular function is turned off.
  - Try turning off your local wireless router until you finish setup above.
  - You may need to reset your dongle (see below).
- Light on dongle is green but system cannot be seen by the application on PC or App.
  - Make sure your local wireless router that the Sol-Ark is connected to is connected to the internet.
- General troubleshooting techniques:
  - Make sure that the dongle is plugged in all the way.
  - Unplug the dongle and plug it back in.
  - Reset the dongle.
  - Uninstall phone app and reinstall.
- How to Reset the WIFI Dongle
  - While the dongle is plugged into the Sol-Ark and has power, press and hold the reset button for 10 seconds. The LED should turn red.
  - If Your dongle does not have a reset button, log into it and click "reset" under the device management tab.
- Which barcode should I scan when setting up the phone app?
  - The barcode on the WIFI dongle, not the QR code above
- I have tried everything, but it still won't connect.
  - Sometimes firewall settings on home routers will block traffic to the dongle, you may need to relax your firewall settings.

### E.M.P Systems only:

### Suppressor installation

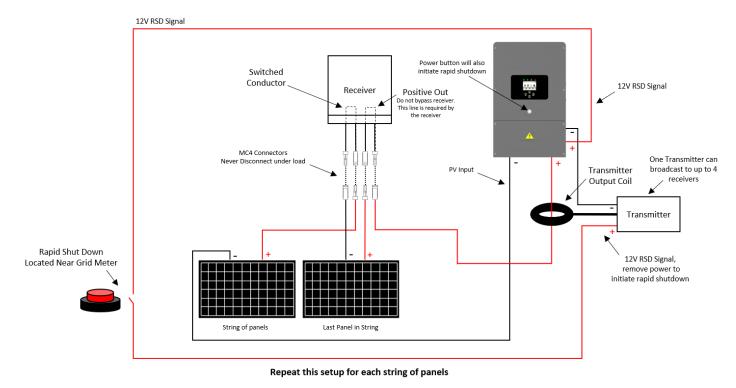
- If your system was purchased with Lightning / EMP Hardening, the vast majority of protection is in the Sol-Ark. However, you also have EMP suppressors that get installed on the power cords of appliances that are connected to the transfer switch. Although not critical, it is recommended they be installed as close as possible to the appliance.
- You also have EMP suppressors that get installed on both solar panel wires with a zip tie. Closer to the panel is better. If you purchased the panels from us, we already installed >150kV/m protection inside the solar panels.



If using panels not<sub>20</sub> from Sol-Ark

August 3, 2019

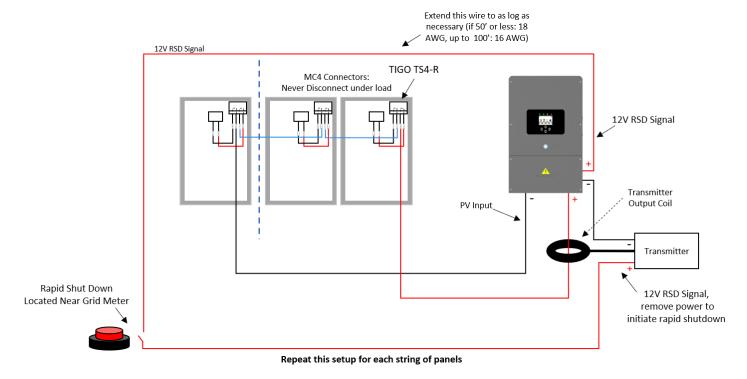
### Rapid Shutdown Hardware Diagram (Midnight RSD per PV string)



### Note: Transmitter fits inside the user area of the Sol-Ark 8K

If String Level rapid shutdown is required for your install, each string of panels must have its own receiver module.

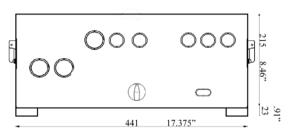
### Rapid Shutdown Hardware Diagram (TIGO RSD per PV Module)

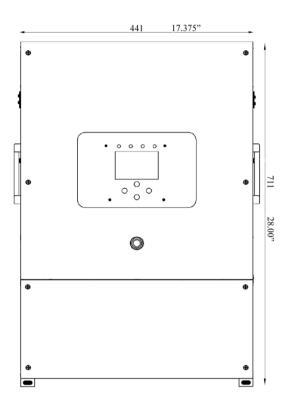


### Sol-Ark-8K-48-ST Specifications

SolarMax allowed PV Power11000WMax allowed PV Power per MPPT6000WMax DC voltage500VMPPT voltage range150-425VStarting voltage175VNumber of MPPT2Solar Strings per MPPT2Max DC current per MPPT18A (self limitingMax AC Coupled Input (Micro/String Inverters)7,000WMax Combined Solar Input (DC+AC)13,000WAC Output9000W 37.5A L-L (2Connections120/240V split ph9000W 37.5A L-L (220,000VA L-N (12)Surge AC power on Solar or Battery4800W 40A L-N (12)Frequency60/50HzContinuous AC power with Grid or Generator6000W 50A L-N (12)Continuous AC power with Grid or Generator6000W 50A L-N (12)Continuous AC power with Grid or Generator6000W 50A L-N (12)Continuous AC power with Grid or Generator600W 50A L-N (12)Continuous AC power with Grid or Generator600W 50A L-N (12)Continuous AC power modesFull Grid-TiedDesign (DC to AC)TransformerlessResponse Time (Grid-Tied to Off-Grid)4msPower Factor+-0.9 - 1.0	)
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Response Time (Grid-Tied to Off-Grid)     4ms       Power Factor     +-0.9 - 1.0	
Power Factor +-0.9 - 1.0	ю
<b>D</b>	
Battery (optional)	
Type Lead-Acid or Li-lo	'n
Nominal DC Input 48V	
Capacity 90 – 2000Ah	
Voltage Range 41.0 – 59.0V	
Continuous Battery charging output 190A	
Charging curve 3-stage w/ equaliza	tion
Grid to Battery Charging Efficiency 96.0%	
External temperature sensor included	
Current shunt for accurate % SOC integrated	
External Generator Start based on voltage or % SOC integrated	
Communication to Lithium battery CanBus & RS48	

General	
Dimensions (H x W x D)	28.0" x 17.375" x 9.37"
Weight	75 lbs
Enclosure	NEMA type 1 (Indoor Use)
Ambient Temperature (4 variable speed fans)	-25 to 55C, >45C derating
Display	Color touch screen
Wi-Fi Communication (monitoring or SW updates)	integrated
Snap on sensors for limited selling to Household	included
Standard Warranty	5 years
Optional Extended Warranty	10 years





<b>Protection &amp; Certifications</b>	
Electronics certified safety by SGS labs to NEC	
& UL specs – NEC 690.4B & NEC 705.4/6	Yes
Grid Sell Back – UL1741-2010/2018,	
IEEE1547a-2003/2014, FCC 15 class B, (April	
2019: UL1741SA, CA Rule 21, HECO Rule 14H)	Yes
PV DC disconnect switch – NEC 240.15	integrated
Ground Fault Detection – NEC 690.5	integrated
PV rapid shutdown control – NEC 690.12	integrated
PV Arc Fault detection – NEC 690.11/	
UL1699B	integrated
PV input lightning protection	integrated
AC input/output 50A breakers	integrated
Battery overcurrent fuse	integrated
User wiring enclosure w/ ¾" & 1" knock-outs	integrated
Solar Flare/EMP Hardened to 2015 MIL-STD-	
461G (Independently tested June 2018)	optional

- Limiter Sensors are not required for completely Off-Grid installs.
- The Grid input breaker on the Sol-Ark should be used as the Generator input (4-30kW generators) so that you maintain Smart Load output capability when off-grid. Smart Load will allow you to run high power nonessential appliances (hot water, dehumidifier, heat pump, irrigation pump) on solar power instead of batteries. Therefore, you will use Grid Charge (default) in the Battery Setup/Charge menu.
- When off grid there is no need for a transfer switch, simply connect the load output of the Sol-Ark to the whole home.
- Do not use Grid Sell or Limited To Home Modes. Only Limited power to load (default).
- The Auto Generator start functions as a 2-wire switch (closes the circuit when needing charging)
  - Auto Genstart will be triggered when the battery voltage or percent reaches the level programmed in the battery setup menu. Then once triggered the generator will continue to charge the batteries until they are about 95% full (this percentage is not programmable) before turning the generator off.
- Under setup for Grid/Sell Control, select General Standard and "GEN connect to Grid Input". Then go to Grid/Grid input to widen the input frequency range to 53-65Hz to work with any frequency generator.
- If you are using a small portable generator, you may need to purchase an electrical filter from us to clean up the noisy power from the generator enough for the Sol-Ark to use it.
- If you would like to use a wind turbine in conjunction with Sol-Ark 8K, the turbine must have a 48V charge controller with a dump load as to prevent overcharging of the batteries. Simply connect the charge controller on the turbine to the battery bank the Sol-Ark is using and the turbine will help charge your batteries.
- Don't forget to set the Battery capacity and proper charge rates.

# Grid-Tie / No Battery Install Tips

• Under Battery setup, select no Battery (or system will beep).

Grid

0W

50.0Hz

HM: 0W

LD: 0W

HM: OW

LD: 0W

117V

117V

- Note: full system power cycle is required when changing between battery and no battery settings.
- Under Grid Setup, select Grid Sell.

Solar

L1: 0V

0.0A

0W

L2: 0V

0.0A 0W

0W

• Touch Battery Icon to see the Detailed Volts View to verify your inputs & outputs.

INV

0W

50.0Hz

116V

0.2A

0W

• Note: If Rapid Shutdown is required, external 12V is required for transmitter when no batteries are used.

69W

87%

51.13V

1.36A

0.00

Batt

	DC:50.1C
ow	AC:40.3C
OW	AC:40.3C
	OW

Load

0W

116V

0W

Batt S	Setup						
Batt	Charge	Di	scharge	Sma	rt Load		
lf sele with C	Use Gen inpu ected, Use Gr Brid Limiter se t Load OFF B	id In et to	put for Ge	n chargin	•	Pow	ter input rer(W) onnected
Smar	t Load ON B	att	54.0V	100%	500	w	
	CAN	CE	L ]	Ĺ	ок		

att (	Charge	Discharge	Smart Load	
Start V	49.0V	49.0V	Float V	55.2V
Start %	30%	30%	Absorption V	57.6V
A	40A	60A	Equalization V	58.8V
Gen	Charge .	/ Grid Charge		90 days
				2.0 hours
	CAN	ICEL	ОК	

Batt S	Setup		
Batt	Charge	Discharge	Smart Load
Batt C	Capacity	400Ah	Use Batt V charged
Max A	Charge	40A	✓ Use Batt % Charged
Max A	discharge	60A	No Battery
TEMF	СО	-5mV/C/Cell	BMS Lishium Batt 01
C,	ANCEL	ок	Actibate Battery

Grid Param											
Limiter	Sell Control	Gri	d Input	FreqV	olt	PowFac					
Gri	d Sell 8000		Time	power(W)	Batt	GridCharge	GEN				
				8000	Т	9%					
Lim	ited Power to Hor	ne	08:20	8000	Т	9%	1				
Lim	ited power to load		10:00	8000	T	9%					
Tim	e of Use Selling		12:30	8000		9%					
			03:50	8000		9%					
CANC	EL 🛛 OK		08:50	8000	Т	9%					

### Powering on the system:

- 1. Make sure that Sol-Ark 8K is properly connected to the batteries, panels, grid, etc. (see system wiring diagram).
- 2. Turn on grid power breakers.
- 3. Press the power button on the front of the unit.
- 4. Make sure Solar panel inputs are not connected to Ground, then Turn on DC disconnect switch.
- 5. Turn on load breakers.

### Indicator LEDs

- DC
  - Green = Solar Panels are producing
  - Off = Solar Panels are not producing
- AC
- Green = Grid is Connected
- Off = Grid is not Connected
- Normal
  - Green = Sol-Ark 8K is working properly
  - Off = Sol-Ark 8K is not working properly (call us)
- Alarm
  - Red = Alarm, check the alarms menu
  - Off = No alarms

### Selecting your Power Mode:

Sol-Ark 8K will simultaneously use various power sources available in order to meet loads demand. The following power modes allow the user to determine the power sources available to Sol-Ark 8K.

- Limited Load / Self Consumption
  - Sol-Ark will only power loads connected to it. It will not produce more power than the connected loads require. This mode will neither sell back to the home nor grid.
- Limited To Home (zeroing home meter)
  - Pushes power to your whole home without selling back any excess to the grid (no net metering agreement required)
  - This mode requires the use of the limiter sensors
    - 1. Main Menu  $\rightarrow$  System Settings  $\rightarrow$  Grid Setup  $\rightarrow$  Limiter  $\rightarrow$  Limited to Home
  - Power source priority is same as Grid Sell Back
- Grid Sell Back
  - This Mode allows Sol-Ark 8K to sell back any excess power produced by the solar panels to the grid.
  - o If home has a backup generator, this mode requires Limiter Sensors. See "Backup Generator Setup"
    - 1. Main Menu  $\rightarrow$  System Settings  $\rightarrow$  Grid Setup  $\rightarrow$  Limiter  $\rightarrow$  Grid Sell
  - Power source priority is as follows:
    - 1. Solar Panels
    - 2. Grid
    - 3. Generator
    - 4. Batteries (until programable % discharge is reached)
- Time Of Use (using batteries during peak power times)
  - Only available when using Limited To Home mode or Grid Sell Back modes
  - Use your batteries to reduce power consumption from the grid during a user programable peak pricing window of time.
    - 1. Main Menu  $\rightarrow$  System Settings  $\rightarrow$  Grid Setup  $\rightarrow$  Limiter  $\rightarrow$  Time Of Use

- Power source priority is as follows:
  - 1. Solar Panels
  - 2. Batteries (until programable % discharge is reached)
  - 3. Grid (can control when Grid charges)
- Off-Grid (powering loads)
  - This mode does not need to be programmed, Sol-Ark 8K will automatically operate in Off-Grid Mode in the absence of the grid.
  - Power source priority is as follows:
    - 1. Solar Panels
    - 2. Batteries
    - 3. Generator

### Backup Generator Setup:

- Portable Generators (typically less than 10kW)
  - Connect to the generator output to the generator input breakers in the Sol-Ark 8K user panel.
  - Main Menu  $\rightarrow$  System Settings  $\rightarrow$  Battery Setup  $\rightarrow$  Charge  $\rightarrow$  Gen charge (only for Gen breakers)
- Standby Generators
  - Usually large generators have a whole home transfer switch that feeds the home. We suggest not using the generator input breakers in the Sol-Ark but your normal home wiring to distribute the Generator's power (through your existing Gen transfer switch).
  - If off grid, connect the output of the Generator directly to the Grid input on the Sol-Ark 8K. It can then treat the generator as if it were the grid.
  - Under setup for Grid/Sell Control, select General Standard and "GEN connect to Grid Input". Then go to Grid/Grid input to widen the input frequency range to 53-65Hz to work with any frequency generator.
  - Main Menu  $\rightarrow$  System Settings  $\rightarrow$  Battery Setup  $\rightarrow$  Charge  $\rightarrow$  Grid charge (only for Grid breakers)
- Auto Gen Start Signal
  - Automatically start compatible backup generators
  - The threshold at which gen charging is triggered can be set using the input boxes above the checkbox.
  - Main Menu  $\rightarrow$  System Settings  $\rightarrow$  Battery Setup  $\rightarrow$  Charge  $\rightarrow$  Gen or Grid charge (%Batt or V)

### Sensors:

•

- Limiter Sensors (Current Sensors)
  - Placed on the grid side of your home breaker panel and are required to enable limited To Home mode (see diagrams).
  - Battery Temperature Sensor
    - Placed on the battery bank and used to adjust charging voltage and capacity calculations
- PV Shutdown signal
  - Used to accommodate Rapid Shutdown of PV components and discharge onboard capacitors
- CanBus / RS485
  - o Used to communicate with Lithium batteries

### **Batteries:**

Supported Battery Chemistries (48V configuration required for all chemistries)

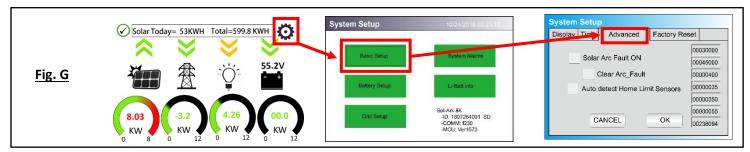
- Lead Acid
  - o AGM, Gel, Wet
- Lithium
  - o NMC, LiPo4
- NiFe (Note: must use a 37 series cell configuration, 44.4V Nominal)
  - Set Absorb and Equalization to 59.0V, 8 hours, and days = 1 (every day). Float = 53.7V

### **Programming Battery Settings**

- f. Battery Size
  - i. This allows Sol-Ark to know the size of the battery bank
  - ii. Main Menu  $\rightarrow$  System Settings  $\rightarrow$  Battery Setup  $\rightarrow$  Batt  $\rightarrow$  Batt Capacity
- g. Battery Type
  - i. Navigate to the charge menu and set the values appropriate to your battery chemistry. The chart on page (15) is good reference for lead acid batteries.
  - ii. Main Menu  $\rightarrow$  System Settings  $\rightarrow$  Battery Setup  $\rightarrow$  Charge
- h. Battery Discharge percentage
  - i. Allows the user to define the depth of discharge the system will allow before using the grid/generator to the charge the battery bank. Solar is always the first priority in charging the battery bank.
  - ii. Main Menu  $\rightarrow$  System Settings  $\rightarrow$  Battery Setup  $\rightarrow$  Discharge

### Limiter Sensor Automatic Setup

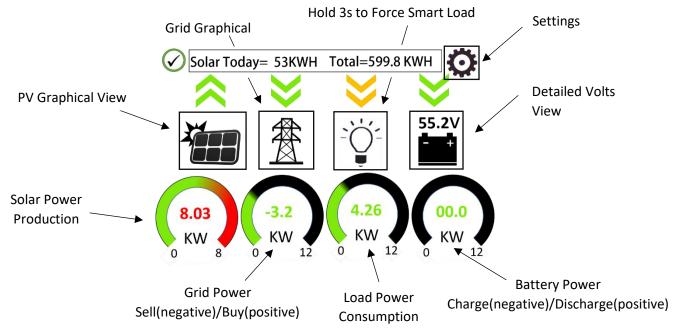
- 1) Install limiter sensors as described on page 25 (shown on page 11 as well). Battery and grid connections also required before starting auto-setup.
- 2) Navigate to the "Advanced" Tab of the Basic Setup screen (follow the directions below to get there).
  a) Touch the gear icon → Touch the Basic Setup button → Select the Advanced tab (see Fig. G).
- 3) Select "Auto detect Home Limit Sensors" and press ok.
- 4) Wait for the Sol-Ark to finish its learning process (Sol-Ark will alternate sell back between legs and magnitude automatically determining the correct settings for the sensors).
- 5) Verify sensors were correctly configured (see Fig. H).



		Solar	Grid	INV	Load	Batt	
		0W	0W	0W	0W	69W	Possible Limiter Sensor issues:
	In Limited To Home		50.0Hz	50.0Hz		87%	Sensors are facing wrong direction
	Mode HM values will	L1: 0V	117V	116V	116V	51.13V	sensors are racing wrong an eetion
Fig. H	be close to zero. HM	0.0A	HM: 0W	0.2A		1.36A	Sensors are on the wrong wire(s)
<u>רוק. ח</u>	values should never be	OW	LD: 0W	ow	ow	0.0C	
	negative. If negative,	L2: 0V	117V	116V	116V		Sensors are not fully closed on wire(s)
	the Limiter Sensors are	0.0A	HM: 0W	0.2A		DC:50.1C	Sensor Polarity is wrong (White = + BLK = -
	not installed properly.	OW	LD: 0W	ow	ow	AC:40.3C	

### Screens

### Home Screen (Touchscreen)



### • Detailed Volts View

- Top row = Total power for column
- Middle Row = Line 1/PV1 voltage, Amps, and Watts (note: PV Voltage not to exceed 500)
- Bottom Row = Line 2/PV2 voltage, Amps, and Watts (note: PV Voltage not to exceed 500)
- Batt Temperature will show -20°C if temperature sensor is not connected.
- Batt SOC % = % batteries are charged
- DC Temp = Temperature of DC conversion electronics
  - Batt → AC
  - PV → Batt
  - AC → Batt
- AC Temp = Temperature of AC conversion electronics
  - Batt  $\rightarrow$  AC
  - $PV \rightarrow AC$
- o Grid Column
  - If selling to grid, Grid Watts = negative
  - If buying from grid, Grid Watts = positive
  - Note: If these values are reversed, current sensors may have been installed incorrectly (reverse polarity).
  - HM = Power detected by the external current sensors on entire home L1 & L2
  - LD = Power detected using internal sensors on AC grid in/out breaker

### • PV Graphical View

- Displays power production over time for the PV array
- Use up/down buttons to navigate between days
- Month view, Year view, and Total view

### • Grid Graphical View

- o Displays power drawn from and sold to the grid over time
- o Bars above the line indicate power bought from the grid
- o Bars below the line indicate power sold back to the grid
- This view can be helpful in determining when the most power is used in the home and for time of use programing

### • System Setup Menu

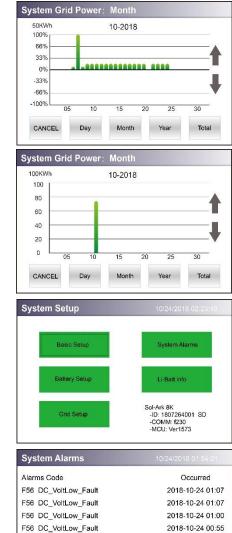
- ID = LCD serial #. But we use the WIFI serial #.
- COMM = LCD software version
- MCU = Inverter software version

### • System Alarms

- Lists all system alarms
- Basic Setup
  - o Display
    - Brightness adjustment
    - Auto dim (must be enabled for LCD screen to be covered by warranty)
  - o Time
    - Set date and time for the system
  - Alarms & Safety
     Arc fault
    - Arc fault detects if a poor connection in the PV wires

### • Batt Setup

- o Batt
  - Batt Capacity: enter the size of the battery bank connected to the system
  - Max A charge: set the max charge rate for the batteries (This also sets PV → Battery charge rate)
  - Suggest 20%-30% of battery capacity for lead acid
  - Max A discharge: set max discharge for battery bank (this value will be ignored in off-grid mode to allow for constant power to loads)
  - TEMPCO: Temperature coefficient used in conjunction with the batt temp sensor to adjust optimal voltages for lead acid batteries
  - Use Batt V charged: displays battery charge in terms of voltage
  - Use Batt % charged: Battery voltage can be misleading for determining the % Charged. So, we use algorithms measuring power in and out to measure a true value for % Charged. It compensates for aging batteries also.
- Charge
  - Float V: Set value appropriate for the batteries connected to the system using chart (Page 15/32)



Syste	m Setup		
Displa	y Time	Alarms&Safety	/ Factory Reset
Bright		 	Beep
Auto [	Dim 6	500S	L
	CA	NCEL	
Batt S	etup		
Batt	Charge	Discharge	Smart Load

F56 DC\_VoltLow\_Fault

F56 DC\_VoltLow\_Fault

F56 DC\_VoltLow\_Fault

F56 DC VoltLow Fault

Batt S	etup		
Batt	Charge	Discharge	Smart Load
Batt C	apacity	400Ah	Use Batt V charged
Max A	Charge	40A	🗸 Use Batt % Charged
Max A	discharge	60A	No Battery
TEMF	со	-5mV/C/Cell	BMS Lishium Batt 01
[ <b>c</b> /	ANCEL	ок	Actibate Battery

2018-10-24 00:43

2018-10-24 00:10

2018-10-24 00:08

2018-10-24 00:07

- Absorption: Set value appropriate for the batteries connected to the system using chart (Page 15)
  - Absorption will stop at 1% of the capacity of the battery bank and drop to float
  - Ex: 400Ah battery would be 4A
- Equalization: Set value appropriate for the batteries connected to the system using chart (Page 15)
- Days: period of time between equalization cycles
- Hours: period of time taken to equalize batteries
  - Note if Hours = 0 system will not equalize the batteries
- Gen Charge: uses the gen input of the system to charge battery bank from an attached generator.
  - Start V: voltage at which system will AutoStart a connected generator to charge the battery bank
  - Start percentage: Percent S.O.C at which system will AutoStart a connected generator to charge the battery bank
  - A: charge rate from the attached generator in Amps
    - Note: size this value appropriately for your given generator size
- Grid Charge
  - Start V: voltage at which system will charge the battery bank from the grid. If grid is on, batteries will stay at float voltage.
  - Start percentage: Percent S.O.C at which system will AutoStart a connected generator to charge the battery bank
  - A: charge rate from the grid in Amps

### o Discharge

- Shutdown V: battery voltage at which the inverter will shut down (batt symbol on home screen will turn red)
- Low Batt: Low battery voltage (batt symbol on home screen will turn yellow)
- Restart: battery voltage at which AC output will resume
- Batt Resistance: used in % SOC batt calculations
- Batt Charge Efficiency: used in % SOC batt calculations

### • Smart Load (Gen Load)

- This mode utilizes the Gen input connection as an output which only receives power when the battery is above a user programmable threshold.
- The Gen input breaker in the user area of the system becomes an output to high power loads such as a water heater, irrigation pump, ac unit, pool pump.
- Smart Load OFF Batt
  - Battery voltage at which the Gen load will stop being powered
- Smart Load ON Batt
  - Battery voltage at which the gen load will start being powered
- Note: If using Gen load for a water heater, it is recommended that only one leg (120V) be connected to the bottom element. This significantly reduces the power consumption of the water heater while retaining core functionality (it will heat water, only slower).
- Note: Gen Load is limited to 40A at 240V (Do not exceed!)

att C	harge	Discharge	Smart Load	
Start V	49.0V	49.0V	Float V	55.2V
Start %	30%	30%	Absorption V	57.6V
A	40A	60A	Equalization V	58.8V
Gen	Charge .	/ Grid Charge		90 days
	enarge V	dina dinange		2.0 hours

Batt S	Batt Setup										
Batt	Charge	Discharge	Smart Load								
Shutdo	own 41.0V	/ 20%	Batt Resistance	25mOhms							
Low B	att 41.0\	/ 30%	Batt Charge								
Restar	Restart 41.0V 80		Efficiency	96%							
	CAN	CEL	ок								

Batt S	Setup				
Batt	Charge	Discharg	je Sma	rt Load	
If sele with 0 Smar	Use Gen inpu ected, Use Gr Grid Limiter so t Load OFF I t Load ON B CAN	id Input for C et to Load or Batt 51.0V	Gen chargin	ig Solar	inverter input Power(W) rid Connected

- Solar Watts is for on grid.
  - System waits to turn on smart load until sufficient PV power is produced (when on grid).

### • AC Coupling Settings (For Micro Inverter Input)

- To use the Grid input breaker as a micro inverter AC coupled input, check the "For Micro inverter Input" box (this feature will also work with "Grid-Tied" Inverters)
  - 13kW = Maximum combined input to Sol-Ark (AC+DC)
    - Best: 3kWAC + 10kWDC
    - Good: 4kWAC + 9kWDC
    - OK: 2kWAC + 11kWDC
    - OK: 5kWAC + 8kWDC
    - OK: 6kWAC + 7kWDC
    - OK: 7kWAC + 6kWDC

### Grid Setup

- o Limiter
  - Grid Sell: maximum watts sold to grid
  - Limited To Home: Limits power produced by the system to match the demand of the home
  - Limited To Load: Limits power produced by the system to match the demand of connected loads
  - Time Of Use:
    - Time: When the system will sell batt/PV power to the grid or home

Batt	Charge	Discharg	e Sma	art Load
	Use Gen inpu	it as load out	out	For Micro inverter input
	ected, Use Gr Grid Limiter se		Second and the second secon	ng Solar Power(W) When Grid Connected
Smar	t Load OFF E	Batt 51.0V	95%	
Smar	t Load ON Ba	att 54.0V	100%	500W
	CAN	CEL	Ĺ	ок

Grid Pa	aram						
Limiter	Sell Control	Gri	d Input	FreqVo	It I	PowFac	
Gri	d Sell 8000	_	Time	power(W) B	att	GridCharge	GEN
		_	01:00	8000		9%	
	Limited Power to Home			8000		9%	
Lin	nited power to load	I	10:00	8000		9%	
Tin	Time of Use Selling			8000		9%	
			03:50	8000		9%	
CANC	CEL   OK		08:50	8000		9%	

- Power(W): Max watts to be sold from the battery at each time
- Batt: The battery voltage or % at which the system will limit selling to the grid or home from the battery. The system will drain the battery until that percent/voltage is reached.
- Charge: Enables grid charging during a selected period. PV will always charge to 100%.
- For Examples: See Page 37
- Note: This mode requires Grid sell / limited to home be enabled.
- Note: If you need the batteries to never charge from the grid, uncheck the "Grid Charge" box under the charge tab of the battery menu (see page 29).

### • Sell Control

- General Standard: uses Protect Parameters in table
- UL 1741 & IEEE1547: Enables sell compliant functionality
- UL1741SA: Enables wider Freq, Voltage, and PowerFactor
- GEN connect to Grid Input: Must be set if Generator is connected to AC Grid breaker

### • Grid Input

- Grid Frequency: Select the frequency of the grid connected to the system
- Grid Type:
  - 220V Single Phase (Call us before using)

Grid Param									
Limiter Sell Control	Grid Input	FreqVolt	PowFa	с					
General Standard		Grid Reconne	ect Time	60s					
UL 1741 & IEEE1547		Powe	r Factor	1.000					
CA Rule 21	G	EN connect	t to Grid i	nput					
UL 1741SA									
		CANCEL	) o	ĸ					

- 120/240 Split Phase (North America)
- 120/208V 3 Phase
- Note: If 120/208V, the L1 and L2 are phase specific. So, you may have to swap Grid L1 L2 for 208V applications.
- Note: Inverter power cycle is required each time the input/output voltage is changed
- Protect Parameters (when
  - Settings when the system will connect/disconnect from grid
  - This is not used when UL 1741 & IEEE1547 is enabled
  - You may need to widen the frequency range when using a generator (53-65 Hz)

### • FreqVolt

Puerto Rico Grid Compliance Settings (UL 1741SA must be enabled in "Sell Control" tab):

Grid Pa	aram							
Limiter	Sell C	Control	Grio	d Inp	ut	FreqVol	t PowFac	;
<ul> <li>U</li> </ul>	HVRT				$\checkmark$	L	HFRT	_
HV2:	288V	0.16S			HF:	2:61.5Hz	10S	
HV1:	264V	1\$			HF	:60.5Hz	300S	
LV1:	211. 2V	25			LF'	:59. 2Hz	300S	
LV2:	144V	15			LF:	2:57.5Hz	105	
LV3:	108V	0.16S						
,	CANCEL							

• Kauai Grid Compliance Settings (UL 1741SA must be enabled in "Sell Control" tab):

Grid Pa	aram							
Limiter	Sell C	Control	Gri	d Inp	ut	FreqVo	lt	PowFac
L/I	HVRT				$\checkmark$	l	./H	FRT
HV2:	288V	0.16\$			HF2	2:61.5Hz	0	. 16S
HV1:	285. 6V	15			HF 1	:60.5Hz	3	S
LV1:	122. 4V	25			LF1	:59.2Hz	3	S
LV2:	122. 4V	2\$			LF2	2:57.5Hz	0	. 16S
LV3:	120V	0.16S		1				
'	CAN	CEL				Oł	<	

- PowFac
  - Power Factor is programmable from 0.9 1.0.

Grid Param					
put FreqVolt PowFac					
Protect Param					
Grid Vol High 264.0V					
Grid Vol Low 211.0V					
Grid Hz High 60.5Hz					
Grid Hz Low 45.0Hz					
CANCEL					

### **Battery Charging Information**

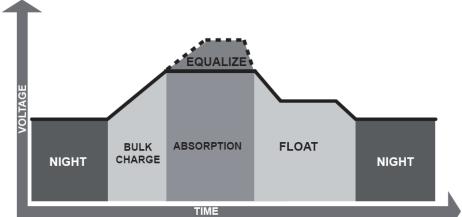
### 4-Stage Charging

The MPPT has a 4-stage battery charging algorithm for rapid, efficient, and safe battery charging. The figure below shows the stage sequence.

MPPT Charging Algorithm

**Bulk Charge Stage** 

In Bulk Charge stage, the battery is not at 100% state of charge and battery voltage has not yet charged to the Absorption voltage setpoint. The controller will deliver 100% of available solar power to recharge the battery.



### Absorption Stage

When the battery has recharged the absorption voltage setpoint, constant-voltage regulation is used to maintain battery voltage at the absorption setpoint. This prevents heating and excessive battery gassing. The battery is allowed to come to full state of charge at the absorption voltage setpoint. Absorption lasts until batteries charge at 2% of programmed Ah size.

### Float Stage

After the battery is fully charged in the Absorption stage, the MPPT reduces the battery voltage to the float voltage setpoint. When the battery is fully recharged, there can be no more chemical reactions and all the charging current is turned into heat and gassing. The float stage provides a very low rate of maintenance charging while reducing the heating and gassing of a fully charged battery. The purpose of float is to protect the battery from long-term overcharge.

Battery Type	Absorption Stage	Float Stage	Equalize Stage (every 90 days 3hr)	
AGM (or PCC)	14.2v ( <b>56.8v</b> )	13.4v ( <b>53.6v</b> )	14.2v ( <b>56.8v</b> )	Default
Gel	14.1v ( <b>56.4v</b> )	13.5v ( <b>54.0v</b> )		
Wet	14.7v <b>(59.0v)</b>	13.7v <b>(55.0V)</b>	14.7v <b>(59.0v)</b>	
Lithium	14.1v ( <b>58.0v</b> )	13.2v ( <b>56.0v</b> )		

Battery Charging Setpoint (48V)

How to calculate Amp Hours for your battery bank (PCC 230):

Battery Count	Voltage per Battery	Amp Hours per Battery	Total Amp Hours @48V	Max Charge/ Discharge Amp
4	12V	230Ah	230Ah	100A
8	12V	230Ah	460Ah	185A
12	12V	230Ah	690Ah	185A
16	12V	230Ah	920Ah	185A

Note:
-------

When batteries are in series, the voltages add to each other.

When batteries are in parallel the Amp hours add to each other.

# Warranty: Sol-Ark 8K Hybrid Inverter

5-Year Limited Warranty for SOL-ARK (Portable Solar LLC) Products. Sol-Ark provides a Five-year (5) limited warranty ("Warranty") against defects in materials and workmanship for its Sol-Ark products ("Product"). The term of this Warranty begins on the Product(s) initial purchase date, or the date of receipt of the Product(s) by the end user, whichever is later. This must be indicated on the invoice, bill of sale from your installer. This Warranty applies to the original Sol-Ark Product purchaser and is transferable only if the Product remains installed in the original use location. Please call Sol-Ark to let us know if you are selling your home and give us name and contact of the new owner.

# 10 Year Extended warranty if purchased bares same rules, except for the Time the warranty is in effect; which will be 10 years from date of purchase or the date of receipt of the Product(s) by the end user, whichever is later.

The warranty does not apply to any Product or Product part that has been modified or damaged by the following:

- Installation or Removal (examples: wrong voltage batteries, connecting batteries backwards, damage due to water/rain to electronics, preventable damage to solar wires.)
- Alteration or Disassembly
- Normal Wear and Tear
- Accident or Abuse
- Unauthorized Firmware updates/software updates or alterations to the software code
- Corrosion
- Lightning; unless using EMP hardened system, then Portable Solar will repair product
- Repair or service provided by an unauthorized repair facility
- Operation or installation contrary to manufacturer product instructions
- Fire, Floods or Acts of Nature
- Shipping or Transportation
- Incidental or consequential damage caused by other components of the power system
- Any product whose serial number has been altered, defaced or removed
- Any other event not foreseeable by Portable Solar, LLC

Sol-Ark (Portable Solar LLC) liability for any defective Product, or any Product part, shall be limited to the repair or replacement of the Product, at Portable Solar LLC discretion. Sol-Ark does not warrant or guarantee workmanship performed by any person or firm installing its Products. This Warranty does not cover the costs of installation, removal, shipping (except as described below), or reinstallation of Products or parts of Products.

THIS LIMITED WARRANTY IS THE EXCLUSIVE WARRANTY APPLICABLE TO SOL-ARK (PORTABLE SOLAR LLC) PRODUCTS. SOL-ARK EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS ANY OTHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF ITS PRODUCTS. SOL-ARK ALSO EXPRESSLY LIMITS ITS LIABILITY IN THE EVENT OF A PRODUCT DEFECT TO REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THIS LIMITED WARRANTY AND EXCLUDES ALL LIABILITY FOR INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION ANY LIABILITY FOR PRODUCTS NOT BEING AVAILABLE FOR USE OR LOST REVENUES OR PROFITS, EVEN IF IT IS MADE AWARE OF SUCH POTENTIAL DAMAGES.

**Return Policy** - **No returns will be accepted without prior authorization** and must include the Return Material Authorization (RMA) number. Please call and talk to one of our engineers to obtain this number at 972-575-8875.

Any product that is returned must be brand new, in excellent condition and packaged in the original manufacturer's carton with all corresponding hardware and documentation. Returns must be shipped with prepaid freight and insured via the carrier of your choice to arrive back at Portable Solar within 30 days of your initial delivery or pick-up. **Shipping charges will not be refunded**.

All returns are subject to a 35% restocking fee. **No returns will be accepted beyond 30 days of original delivery.** The value and cost of replacing any items missing (e.g. parts, manuals, etc.) will be deducted from the refund. If you have any questions regarding our return policy, please email us at <u>sales@sol-ark.com</u> or call us at the number above during regular (M-F) business hours.

Sol-Ark 8K Install Operational Verification Checklist Questionnaire must be filled out, signed, and dated to secure full warranty coverage.

- LCD is not powering on
  - Check all connections
    - At least one of the following power sources is required: PV/Grid/Battery
  - Try pressing the power button. Or touchscreen or navigation button.
- Panels are connected but DC Light is not on
  - PV voltage must be 150V-500V
  - o It's night
- Panels are not producing
  - Check all solar panel connections are wired properly
  - Turn on PV disconnect
  - Check that the PV input voltage is not greater than 500V
  - If system says PV=0V, check PV polarity
- Panels are not producing much power
  - PV Wire Strip Length: 5/8". Try setting system to Grid Sell.
- System not keeping batteries charged
  - Check the charge setting in the Charge Menu
- Auto Gen-Start not working
  - $\circ$   $\;$  Check to make sure your generator is compatible with Auto Start  $\;$
  - o Make sure that the Auto Gen Start wire is connected properly to the Sol-Ark 8K and the generator
- Normal LED isn't on
  - Sol-Ark 8K is not working properly (Call us)
- Alarm Light is on
  - Check the system alarms menu to see which alarm has been triggered
- Grid HM value is negative when it should be positive (only applies in limited home mode)
  - o Limiter Sensors are installed backwards or L1/L2 sensors are swapped or L1/L2 sensors mis-wired
- AC Overload Fault or Bus Unbalance Fault
  - Check Transfer Switch/Subpanel wiring
  - Check for large loads that pull more than the inverter is rated for (EX: AC units over 4 tons)
- System connects to grid and quickly disconnects
  - With a DMM, verify your Neutral wire is connected (should be 0Vac referenced to GND)
  - Check your Freq is set to 60Hz and the 8K see's 120V on L1 & L2 to N.
  - If overloading: verify 120/240V grid input and load output wires are not swapped.
  - o If 120/208V, the L1 and L2 are phase specific. So, you may have to swap Grid L1 L2 for 208V applications.
- DC Overload Fault
  - Check PV voltage
  - Make sure you have not wired more than 2 solar stings in parallel
- System is beeping
  - Check the system alarms menu to see which alarm has been triggered. Most alarms will self-reset.
  - $\circ$   $\;$  There is no battery connected. If not using a battery, select no battery in the setup Batt menu.
    - To fully reset system, turn off center button, remove AC Grid and PV Power for 30s (screen is dead), then power up.
- Battery cable is sparking when connected
  - Use included resistor to connect the batteries (for the first time) to charge inverter capacitors before fully connecting to batteries (see installation guide)
- Battery symbol on home screen is red
  - Battery is under voltage or over voltage

### • Battery symbol on home screen is yellow

o Battery is low or charge/discharge current is close to the programmed limit (which is ok)

### • Grid symbol on home screen is yellow

- $\circ\quad$  Grid parameters are out of specified range or grid is down
- System has restarted
  - Happens if: System is overloaded, Battery voltage is greater than 61V, or Software update
- Batteries were connected backwards
  - Battery fuse has blown (Call us)
  - Why is LCD screen still on when power button is off?
    - If PV or Grid power, LCD stays on but inverter and loads are off.

### • The Batt % meter is not reaching 100%

- o System needs to go through a small discharge/charge cycle to first calibrate battery
- Generator setup is reading 0Hz
  - Select "General Standard" instead of UL1741. Then widen the voltage range to 53Hz-65Hz.

### • Color Touchscreen is Frozen

• Press and hold the escape button [ $\leftarrow$ ] for 7-10 seconds

### Fault information Instruction Common Cause/Remedy F01 DC Inversed Failure Battery Input Polarity is reversed, Turn off system & correct F02 DC Insulation Failure Check DC wiring for damage to the insulation GFDI Failure F03 Ground Fault, check wiring F04 GFDI\_Ground\_Failure Ground Fault, check wiring F05 **EEPROM Read Failure** Contact Sol-Ark.com EEPROM\_Write\_Failure F06 Contact Sol-Ark.com F07 GFDI\_Fuse\_Failure Ground fault, check wiring F08 GFDI Relay Failure Contact Sol-Ark.com F09 IGBT\_Failure Contact Sol-Ark.com F10 AuxPowerBoard Failure Contact Sol-Ark.com F11 AC MainContactor Failure Contact Sol-Ark.com F12 AC SlaveContactor Failure Contact Sol-Ark.com F13 Working\_Mode\_change Can happen when not using batteries F14 DC OverCurr Failure Usually caused by Loads that are too large (ex: 5 Ton AC Unit) F15 AC OverCurr Failure Usually caused by Appliances that are too large F16 GFCI\_Failure Ground fault, check wiring F17 Tz\_COM\_OC\_Fault Contact Sol-Ark.com Tz\_Ac\_OverCurr\_Fault Overloaded the Load Output, reduce loads. Wiring Short on F18 the AC Side can also cause this error. F19 Tz Integ Fault Contact Sol-Ark.com F20 Tz Dc OverCurr Fault Usually caused by Loads that are too large (ex: 5 Ton AC Unit) F21 Tz\_GFDI\_OC\_Fault Contact Sol-Ark.com F22 Tz EmergStop Fault Contact Sol-Ark.com F23 Tz\_GFCI\_OC\_Fault Contact Sol-Ark.com F24 DC\_Insulation\_Fault Contact Sol-Ark.com

### Sol-Ark 8K Error Codes

F25	DC_Feedback_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F26	BusUnbalance_Fault	Too much load one leg (L1 or L2) Vs the other leg
F27	DC_Insulation_ISO_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F28	DCIOver_M1_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F29	AC_AirSwitch_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F30	AC_MainContactor_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F31	AC_SlaveContactor_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F32	DCIOver_M2_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F33	AC_OverCurr_Fault	Usually caused by Loads that are too large
F34	AC_Overload_Fault	Usually caused by Loads that are too large
F35	AC_NoUtility_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F36	AC_GridPhaseSeque_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F37	AC_Volt_Unbalance_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F38	AC_Curr_Unbalance_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F39	INT_AC_OverCurr_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F40	INT_DC_OverCurr_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F41	AC_WU_OverVolt_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F42	AC_WU_UnderVolt_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F43	AC_VW_OverVolt_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F44	AC_VW_UnderVolt_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F45	AC_UV_OverVolt_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F46	AC_UV_UnderVolt_Fault	No Battery and PV Disconnect is Turned OFF
F47	AC_OverFreq_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F48	AC_UnderFreq_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F49	AC_U_GridCurr_DcHigh_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F50	AC_V_GridCurr_DcHigh_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F51	AC_W_GridCurr_DcHigh_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F52	AC_A_InductCurr_DcHigh_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F53	AC_B_InductCurr_DcHigh_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F54	AC_C_InductCurr_DcHigh_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F55	DC_VoltHigh_Fault	Check battery voltage, should not be above 59V
F56	DC_VoltLow_Fault	Batteries are overly discharged
F57	AC_BackFeed_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F58	AC_U_GridCurr_High_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F59	AC_V_GridCurr_High_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F60	AC_W_GridCurr_High_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F61	AC_A_InductCurr_High_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F62	AC_B_InductCurr_High_Fault	Contact Sol-Ark.com
F63	ARC_Fault	Can be a false alarm or bad PV connection
F64	Heatsink_HighTemp_Fault	Check the built-in fans, ambient temp may be to high

### **Common Battery Application Notes**

### Sol-Ark PCC-230 Battery

Batt Capacity: 230Ah x #Parallel Batteries (1 parallel = 4 Batt in series, 2 = 8 Batt, 3 = 12 Batt, 4 = 16 Batt) Max A Charge: 100A x #Parallel Batteries Max A Discharge: 100A x #Parallel Batteries Max A Grid Charge: 50A x #Parallel Batteries TEMPCO: -5mV/C/Cell Float V: 53.6V Absorption V: 56.8V Equalization V: 56.8V Equalization Days: 90 **Equalization Duration: 3 Hours** Recommended Shutdown V / Percentage: 41.0V & 20% Recommended Low Batt V / Percentage: 45.0V & 35% Recommended Restart V / Percentage: 52.0V & 50% Battery Resistance: 6mOhms (8 Batt) or 3mOhms (16 Batt) Battery Charge Efficiency: 99%

### **Generation 2 Fortress Battery-eVault16.5**

Batt Capacity: 360Ah x #Parallel Batteries Max A Charge: 150A (100A for life) x #Parallel\_Batteries Max A Discharge: 160A x #Parallel Batteries Max A Grid Charge: 100A x #Parallel\_Batteries TEMPCO: 0mV/C/Cell **BMS Lithium Batt: Not Selected** Float V: 54.4V Absorption V: 54.6V Equalization V: 56V Equalization Days: 30 Equalization Duration: 1 Hours (tops off battery) Recommended Shutdown V / Percentage: 51.3V & 20% Recommended Low Batt V / Percentage: 51.7V & 30% Recommended Restart V / Percentage: 51.9V & 40% Battery Resistance: 5mOhms Battery Charge Efficiency: 99%

### Simpliphi Power: PHI 3.5 Battery 48V

Batt Capacity: 69Ah x # Batt Max A Charge: 34A x # Batt (20A for better lifespan) Max A Discharge: 60A x # Batt (34A for better lifespan) Max A Grid Charge: 20A x # Batt TEMPCO: 0mV/C/Cell BMS Lithium Batt: Not Selected Float V: 49.5V Absorption V: 54.4V Equalization V: 56V Equalization Days: 30 Equalization Duration: 1 Hours (tops off battery) Recommended Shutdown V / Percentage: 50.2V & 20% Recommended Low Batt V / Percentage: 50.6V & 30% Recommended Restart V / Percentage: 51.0V & 40% Battery Resistance: 8mOhms Battery Charge Efficiency: 98%

Time	Watts	SOC	GridCharge
1:00AM	1500*Par_Batts	50%	
5:00AM	1500*Par_Batts	50%	
9:00AM	1500*Par_Batts	50%	
1:00PM	1500*Par_Batts	100%	
4:00PM	1500*Par_Batts	50%	
9:00PM	1500*Par_Batts	50%	

These settings will charge the batteries off solar only. Discharge the batteries down to a maximum of 50% full.

Limited To Home mode will not sell to the grid from the batteries (only the home will use battery power). The 100% time slot is to ensure that the batteries are properly cycled each day.

Time	Watts	SOC	GridCharge
1:00AM	6000*Par_Batts	40%	
5:00AM	6000*Par_Batts	40%	
9:00AM	6000*Par_Batts	40%	
1:00PM	6000*Par_Batts	40%	
5:00PM	6000*Par_Batts	40%	
9:00PM	6000*Par_Batts	40%	

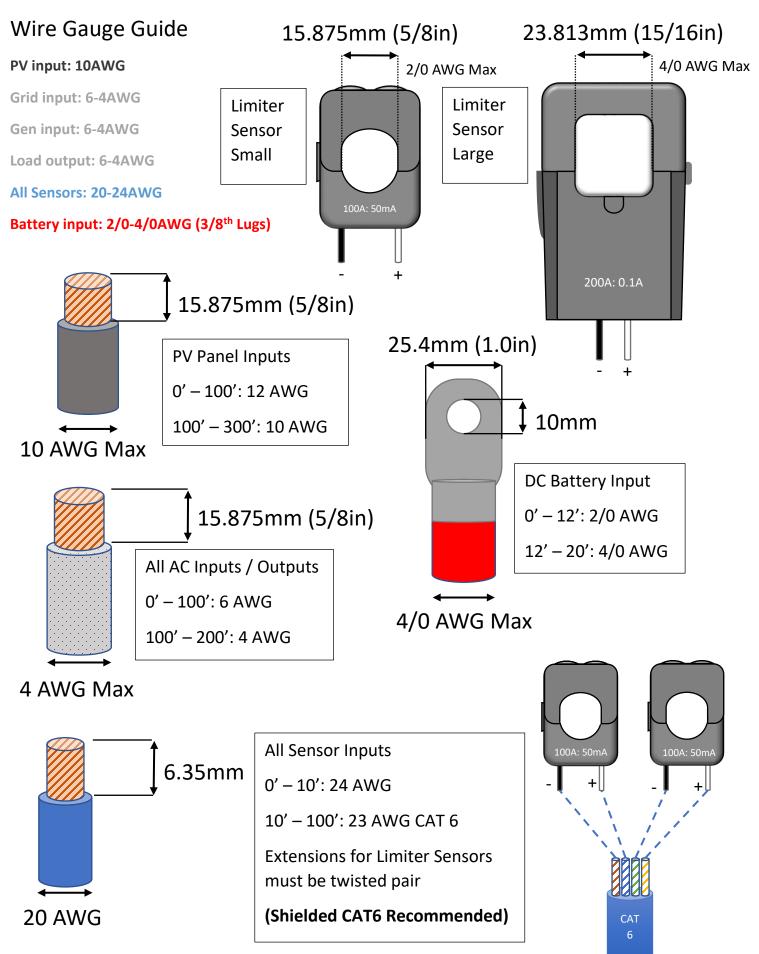
These settings will charge the batteries off solar only. Discharge the batteries down to a maximum of 40% full.

Limited To Home mode will not sell to the grid from the batteries (only the home will use battery power).

Time	Watts	SOC	GridCharge
1:00AM	1000*Batts	40%	
5:00AM	1000*Batts	40%	
9:00AM	1000*Batts	40%	
1:00PM	1000*Batts	40%	
5:00PM	1000*Batts	40%	
9:00PM	1000*Batts	40%	

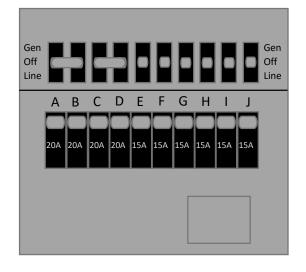
These settings will charge the batteries off solar only. Discharge the batteries down to a maximum of 40% full.

Limited To Home mode will not sell to the grid from the batteries (only the home will use battery power).



### For installer to complete after system is operational. Purpose is to protect installer, homeowner, and inverter.

- 1. Is the 8K installed in a location protected from water and has 6" clearance left and right for cooling? Y/N
- 2. Are all the battery lugs tightened? Y/N
- 8K should be connected to Grid, 8K 50A load/Grid breakers on, batteries connected, PV input on and ON button on. Leaving all 10 transfer switches on Line/Grid, test circuit only one at a time to Gen/Solar and then back to Line. Wiring should be correct if you do all 10 to verify no breakers pop or inverter overload.
  - a. Did any breakers trip? Y/N
  - b. Did inverter overload? **Y/N**
  - c. Set all switches to Gen/Solar.



- 4. If you have problems, please take pictures of these and email to: sales@ Sol-Ark.com
  - a. Battery icon screen, showing detailed voltages (the screen shown below)
  - b. Sol-Ark 8K with batteries and of user wiring area
- 5. Load and solar test
  - a. Did you do this entire section with the customer to explain the home screen and the detailed voltages screen? **Y/N**
  - b. Press the battery icon for the detailed voltages screen.
  - c. Is batt temp sensor working? Y/N
  - d. Turn on many loads for the critical circuits. Are solar panels producing enough power to match the load (provided there is enough sun)? **Y/N**
  - e. Verify screen in limited power to loads mode (default). Are both Grid Home measurements positive? Y/N
  - f. Program Full Grid sell mode. If there are enough panels and sun or light loads in the entire house, the Grid HM measurements will be negative on both L1/L2. Are they negative (solar selling back to grid)? **Y/N**
  - g. Program limited power to home mode. The Grid HM sensors will be near zero or slightly positive. Are they both near zero and cancelling out the whole home power? **Y/N**
  - h. You have verified the limit sensors are correctly installed. If MCU Software is 1664 or higher, an auto learn function corrects any mistakes in limiter wiring. Program in the correct Grid mode the customer will use.
- 6. Did you program the correct Ah for battery bank and ~20% max Amps charge/discharge? Y/N
- 7. Did you program the correct battery charge voltages for your battery type? Y/N
- 8. Turn off the AC breaker so 8K is operating in off grid mode for several minutes. Are appliances still powered? Y/N
- 9. Turn off PV input, running only on batteries for several minutes. Are appliances still powered? Y/N

		Solar	Grid	INV	Load	Batt
	1	0W	ow	0W	0W	69W
In Limited To Home Mode			50.0Hz	50.0Hz		87%
HM values will be close to		L1: 0V	117V	116V	116V	51.13V
zero. HM values should		0.0A	HM: 0W	0.2A		1.36A
never be negative. If		OW	LD: 0W	0W	0W	0.0C
negative, the Limiter		L2: 0V	117V	116V	116V	
Sensors are not installed		0.0A	HM: 0W	0.2A		DC:50.1C
properly.		0W	LD: 0W	0W	0W	AC:40.3C
F - F - 7						

10. Turn on PV input and AC Grid inputs.

11. Did you setup Wi-Fi plug to the customer's internet? Y/N

12. Absolutely important for software updates. Did you help customer register system on Monitoring App? Y/N

13. Does customer have a standby generator or small portable generator? Y/N

- a. Did you turn off UL1741/IEEE1547 (use General Standard) and reprogram grid freq range to 53-65Hz? Y/N
- b. If standby generator, are the current limit sensors on the Grid side of the generator transfer switch? Y/N
- c. If small gas generator using Gen inputs, did you enable Gen charging and properly set charge current? Y/N

14. If EMP protected, did you install EMP Suppressors on critical appliance cords? Y/N

Installer Name

Installer Signature

Date

Customer Name

Customer Signature

Date