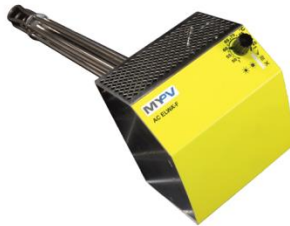






**AC ELWA<sup>®</sup>-F**  
**Electric PV Excess Energy Water Heater for**  
**frequency-controlled AC coupled off-grid PV systems**



**Assembly- and Operation Manual**

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## 1. Intended use

The electric PV excess-energy hot water device AC ELWA-F is intended for stationary installation in hot water storage tanks or buffer storage tanks. The device operates in combination with frequency-shift inverters and uses excess energy for hot water production as soon as the battery gets fully charged.

Any other use than described above may damage the product, moreover, this involves dangers such as short circuit, fire, electric shock, etc. The safety instructions and the information on handling in this manual and in the assembly instructions must be observed!

The product complies with the applicable National and European requirements. Company name and product name are trademarks of my PV GmbH. All rights reserved.

## 2. Scope of delivery

- Electric photovoltaic hot water system AC ELWA-F
- IP21 cover
- Assembly- and Operation Manual

## 3. Safety instructions

The installation must be carried out exclusively by the authorized expert.

Always comply with local regulations for mounting and connection.

Any damage caused by ignoring the installation and user manual is not covered by the manufacturer's warranty.

Permanent equipotential bonding of the device and the storage tank is mandatory.

Never switch on the device if the heating rod is not fully immersed.

The device is intended for use in a dry environment, the enclosure must not get wet or moist.

Danger of electric shock!

Never use the device where ammonia is present.

Never use the device in a dusty environment.

Never cover the ventilation holes of the enclosure.

Always mind the mounting position: heating rod horizontal, power cord bottom.

Avoid high (>40 °C) and low (<5 °C) ambient temperatures during storage and operation of the device. Avoid direct sunlight.

The thermal fuse blows at 98 +/-3 °C and deactivates the device permanently.

AC supply must be fused 13 to 16 A.

In commercial facilities electrical installations have to comply with all local regulations.

This unit shall not be used by children persons with reduced physical, sensory or mental capabilities or lack of experience and knowledge. Cleaning and user maintenance shall not be undertaken by such individuals. Children should not play with the appliance.

## 4. Exemption of Warranty and Liability

Any warranty or liability is exempted for:

- Injury to persons and/or damage to property caused by unintended use or in disregard of safety- and user instructions
- Consequential damage
- Unauthorized modification, disassembling or other conversion of the device
- Defects caused by lime scale deposits on the heating rod

## 5. Mounting and Installation Instructions

The installation of the device must only be carried out by authorized technical staff.

The storage tank must be drained properly.

AC ELWA-F is intended for horizontal mounting in hot water or storage tanks with 1 ½ inch standard female threads.

The unheated section of the heating rod is 90 mm from sealing face, the length of the thread pipe must not exceed 80 mm.

Use the O-ring seal supplied. Do not use any grease or lubrication agents. The plastic thread must not be sealed with the help of hemp or other sealing material.

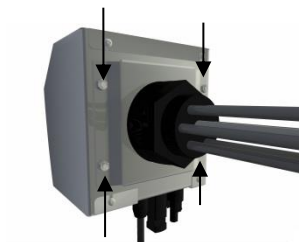
Do not apply force when screwing in the entire device until the seal is slightly pressed. Make sure that the O-ring is properly placed in its groove. Then tighten the heating rod with a 60mm spanner. Never exceed a torque of 80 Nm.



Never tighten the heating rod by turning the metal case of the device!

If the device is not upright (power cord bottom) after the thread has been tightened, it can be turned gently left or right.

Then tighten the 4 lock nuts to fix the device:



Make sure that the heating rod is fully immersed when filling the water tank. Check for leakage.



After mounting, the IP21 cover supplied has to be attached!



## 6. ⚡ Electrical Connection

AC ELWA-F has to be connected to an earthed socket that is protected by a 13 A or 16 A circuit breaker.

⚠ Earthing must be provided!

⚠ Use only in systems with protective earthing and leakage current detection!

Take care of other appliances connected to the same circuit breaker, this may trigger it!

## 7. ⚡ Operation with frequency-shift inverters

Frequency-shift inverters control battery charging in AC coupled off-grid PV systems by changing the AC frequency.

The AC ELWA-F measures this frequency and detects if excess power is available. It controls its heating power linearly between 0 and max. 3000 W.

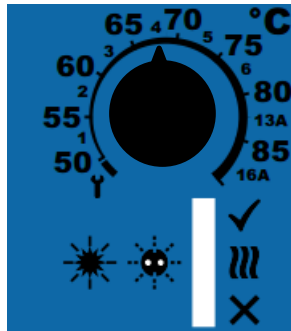
It is recommended to set maximum power of the AC ELWA-F not more than half the power of the battery inverter. The lowest adjustable maximum power limit of the AC ELWA-F is 500 watts. Correspondingly, a power of at least 1 kW is recommended for the battery inverter.

Regarding the minimum capacity of the battery, follow the battery manufacturer's instructions! The smaller the internal resistance of the battery, the less it can withstand load.

A minimum voltage of 24 V is recommended to limit the current. However, operation at lower voltages is possible.

No control wire between the AC ELWA-F and the inverter is required.

## 8. Controls and Indicators



Rotary knob for temperature adjustment

1-6 ... AC ELWA number (setting not required)

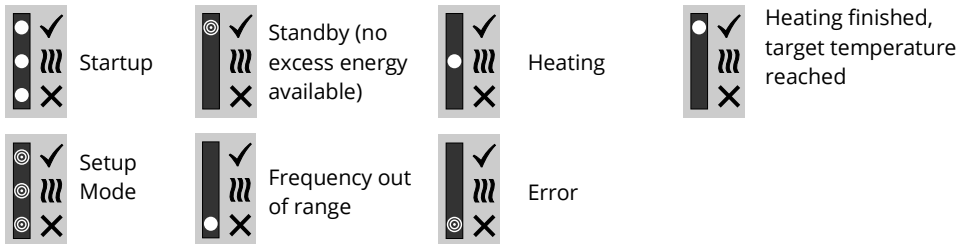
13 A / 16 A ... fuse setting

LED green Target temperature reached (flashes at Standby)

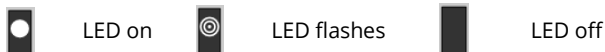
LED yellow Normal heating mode

LED red Error condition

## 9. Operating status indicator



Legend:




## 10. Factory preset

- Frequency control reaction: 50.00Hz  $\pm$  0 W, 51.00Hz  $\pm$  3,000 W (2,500 W with 13 A fuse), linear power curve in between
- 16 A fuse setting
- AC ELWA-F Number 1 (not relevant for frequency operation)

## 11. Fuse setting with rotary knob (13 A / 16 A)

At factory preset, AC ELWA-F can take up to 3,000 W from the grid (16 A fuse). For 13 A fused sockets, the maximum power consumption can be reduced to 2,500 W.

Procedure:

1. Unplug device
2. Turn rotary knob left to spanner position 
3. Plug in device
  - ▶ all 3 LEDs are flashing after some seconds to indicate setup mode
4. Turn rotary knob to 13 A setting
  - ▶ LEDs “run” from top to bottom
5. After 5 seconds of no knob turn, LEDs flash fast for 2 seconds, setting is saved in non-volatile memory.
6. Set knob to desired cut-off temperature
7. Setting may be changed by following the procedure again (e.g. to 16 A position)

## 12. Adjusting the frequency behaviour



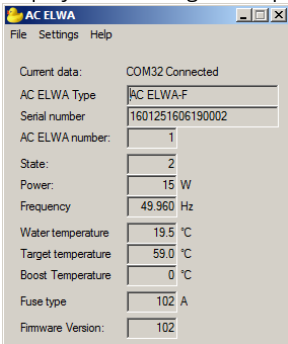
Check the settings of the frequency response of the battery inverter and the PV inverter!



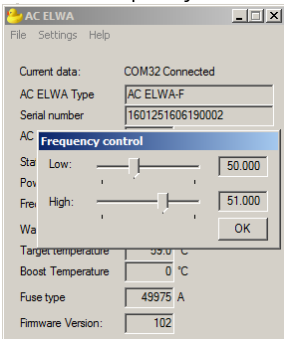
To change the frequency response of the AC ELWA-F the my-PV USB-Interface is required! This is not included in the scope of supply.

1. Install the USB interface according to the enclosed mounting and operating instructions on the AC ELWA-F.
2. Download „Software Package AC ELWA-F.zip“ at [www.my-pv.com](http://www.my-pv.com)  
Use program “AC ELWA V1\_XX.exe”
3. Unzip and run program (no further installation required)

4. Choose language and correct COM port under Settings Menu  
AC ELWA Software connects automatically with AC ELWA-F. Current data of the device are displayed, including AC frequency:



5. Choose „Frequency Control“ in Settings Menu.



6. Choose desired setting, press OK. Values are stored in non-volatile memory. Readjustment is possible anytime.

## Indication for Frequency setting

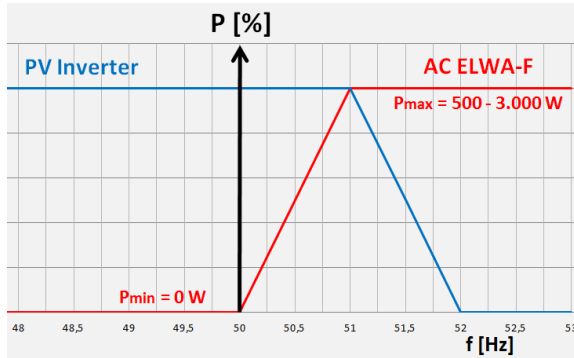



Figure: relative power of the AC ELWA-F

The frequency control range of the AC ELWA-F should be set as follows:

- Low setting should be at least 0.1 - 0.5 Hz above lowest frequency of the battery inverter to avoid cut-in of AC ELWA-F at non-fully charged battery
- High setting should be equal to derating start frequency of PV inverter
- Difference between low and high frequency should be at least 0.5 Hz to ensure smooth regulation behavior.

## 13. Adjusting the maximum power

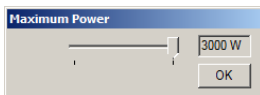
 To change the maximum power limit of the AC ELWA-F the my-PV USB-Interface is required! This is not included in the scope of supply.

In addition to adjusting the fuse setting, the AC ELWA-F's maximum power can be reduced to fit to smaller battery inverters.

My-PV recommends to set maximum power of the AC ELWA-F not more than half the power of the battery inverter. This recommendation applies in the event that loads are connected with which the discharge capacity of the battery inverter is exceeded.

For this purpose steps of 100 watts are possible in the range between 500 and 3,000 Watts .

Choose „Maximum Power“ under Settings Menu.



The frequency curve is linear from 0 to this setting between the chosen low and high frequency.

## 14. Using multiple AC ELWA-F in a system

You can use multiple AC ELWA-F in a system, either on the same phase or on different phases. The battery inverter's power must be sufficient.

By choosing different frequency windows on the AC ELWA-F's, heating priorities are achievable.

## 15. Red LED error displays

- No LED: Check supply voltage.  
Check circuit breaker.  
Check for parallel loads on the same circuit that may have overloaded the circuit breaker.
- 1x flash ► Over temperature fuse (98°C) blown. Unit must be serviced by authorized staff.
- 2x flash ► Water temperature over 90°C. Unit switches off and reconnects after temperature reduction  
Remark: Water temperature is close to temperature fuse cut out point.  
Check if water has been heated by external heating source, reduce cut out temperature of this source.
- 3x flash ► Over temperature of internal electronics. Device stops and reconnects after cool-down.
- 4x flash ► Hardware fault. Unit must be serviced by authorized staff.
- 6x flash ► Temperature probe fault. Unit must be serviced by authorized staff.

## 16. Maintenance

Use in hard water can lead to lime scale deposition at the heating rod especially if the target temperature is set above 60°C. We recommend an annual check. Dismantle device from storage tank and remove lime deposition. Never scratch the heating rod surface (corrosion might arise).

A damaged mains cord shall be changed immediately by authorized staff.

## 17. Troubleshooting

The device does not contain any user serviceable parts. Call your installer for service.

## 18. Disposal



Keep packaging box or dispose properly.

Dispose the device according to legal regulations at the end of lifetime.



## 19. EU Declaration of Conformity

my-PV GmbH, Teichstrasse 43, A-4523 Neuzeug, hereby declares that the device



### AC ELWA-F

complies with the following standards and regulations:

EN 55014-1, EN 55014-2, EN 60335-2-21, EN 60730-2-9, EN 61000-3-2, EN 61000-3-3, EN 62233

The above mentioned company holds documentation to proof the compliance with safety requirements.

Neuzeug, 24.2.2017

Dr. Gerhard Rimpler, Managing Director

## 20. Technical data

AC ELWA-F

Mains Voltage	200 - 250 V AC
Heating power max.	3,000 W at 230 VAC
Power control	Linear frequency curve
Frequency range	47 Hz to 54 Hz
Low frequency setting 0 W	49.000-51.900 Hz
High frequency setting	49.100-52.000 Hz, 0.1 Hz above low frequency setting
Mains connector	Single phase, earthed connector, 230 V, 50 Hz
Line circuit breaker	13 A or 16 A
Power cord	2.8 m
Standby-consumption	<1.4 W
Water pressure	max. 10 bar (1 MPa)
Efficiency	>99 % at nominal power
Protection class	IP21
Operating temperature range	5 ° C to 40 ° C
Display	3 LED's
Dimensions (LxWxD)	130 x 180 x 600 mm including heating rod
Heating rod length	45 cm
Heating rod thread	1 ½ Inch
Weight	2 kg including cable, without packaging

Subject to change.

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