



## PRESS RELEASE

### Wattpilot

### New Fronius charging solution for electric cars

(Wels, 27/04/2021) The Austrian expert in energy solutions is launching the Fronius Wattpilot in May 2021. The Wattpilot is aimed at all electric car drivers, regardless of whether they have their own photovoltaic system or not. It is particularly easy to install and is one of the few products on the market which can switch between single-phase and three-phase surplus charging, allowing customers to get the most out of their PV system.

*“The Fronius Wattpilot is an intelligent charging solution which allows electric car drivers to enjoy maximum independence and to always charge their car at the lowest possible cost,”* explains Martin Hackl, Global Director of the Business Unit Solar Energy, Fronius International GmbH. *“Our aim was to develop an installer-friendly and customer-friendly e-mobility solution and that is what we’ve done – the Fronius Wattpilot is easy to install, commission and use,”* he adds.

Even if an electric car driver doesn't yet have a PV system, it is advisable to start thinking about the right charging solution now, since not all devices can be operated intelligently in combination with a PV system. *“The Fronius Wattpilot already enables customers to fill up their electric car with self-generated PV current,”* notes Martin Hackl.

#### User-friendly operation via app

The Solar.wattpilot app makes it easy to commission and operate the charging solution. It also offers users a visually appealing overview of the status of the charging operations. The app runs on iOS and Android and is the only user interface needed to operate all functions clearly and easily.

#### The cheapest reliable charging

You can charge an electric vehicle very cheaply on a variable electricity tariff<sup>1</sup>. These are based on the current electricity exchange prices and are passed directly to customers with very little surcharge. Users simply define the maximum electricity price for charging their electric car using the Solar.wattpilot app. As well as the variable electricity tariff, there are two other measures you can take to fill up your car as cheaply as possible: use the Next Trip Mode charging mode and the option of only using surplus PV for charging.

#### Charging an electric vehicle with as much solar energy as possible

Charging solutions must be able to follow the sun. If there's a lot of solar energy available, more charging takes place, when there is little solar energy available, less charging takes place. The Fronius Wattpilot is excellent at utilising the surplus PV and controls in 1-ampere increments up to the maximum charging power. *“This brings as much solar energy to your vehicle as possible,”* says Martin Hackl, delighted.

The Fronius Wattpilot is one of just a handful of products on the market that can switch between single-phase and three-phase charging. This means that all the surplus PV from 1.38 kW to 22 kW is used. Charging takes place in ampere increments and the single/three-phase switchover is fully automatic. Unlike conventional solutions, this prevents brief but expensive load peaks.

### Intelligent charging modes for every situation

The Wattpilot also has two different charging modes: Eco and Next Trip Mode. Depending on the situation, the electric vehicle is either charged highly economically or up to a specified charge level for the next planned trip. Eco Mode is ideal for owners of PV systems, as it combines the surplus PV charging with the variable electricity tariff. Next Trip Mode allows users to charge the vehicle with energy for a specific journey. This ensures that there is at least enough energy for the upcoming trip, using the cheapest available power.

### Combining e-mobility and photovoltaics brings an array of advantages

*“The Fronius Wattpilot is aimed at all electric car drivers, whether they have a PV system or not,”* explains Leonhard Peböck, Product Marketing Solar Energy, Fronius International GmbH. *“But the main advantages come from combining e-mobility and photovoltaics.”* The cost effectiveness of PV systems, as well as of electric cars, is improving. The reason is that self-generated solar energy is being used for charging, meaning that less power is needed from the grid. *“You produce the electricity for your mobility yourself, sustainably and at the lowest cost,”* reports Peböck.

The Wattpilot rounds off the Fronius range of solutions. Its introduction means that there is now a product with proven Fronius quality available not only for the PV and heat sectors, but also for the mobility sector<sup>2</sup>. The Fronius Wattpilot comes in two versions: a permanently mounted Wattpilot Home for home and the mobile Wattpilot Go for on the move.

<sup>1</sup> This function is available in Germany and Austria from May 2021. Availability in other countries to follow.

<sup>2</sup> The Fronius Wattpilot is available in the following countries from May 2021: Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Sweden, Switzerland, Slovakia, Spain, Czech Republic, UK, Hungary.

Words: 803

Character: 5,072

### Photographs – overview:



The Fronius Wattpilot is an intelligent charging solution. It allows drivers of electric cars to enjoy maximum independence and charge up their cars at the lowest price, every single time.



The practical plug-and-play function means that the mobile Fronius Wattpilot Go can be taken anywhere and charged.



Combining photovoltaics and e-mobility brings an array of additional advantages.



The Solar.wattpilot app offers a visually appealing overview of the status of the charging operations.



It's all about independence. The adapter set for the Fronius Wattpilot lets you charge anywhere.

Copyright to photos: Fronius International GmbH, reproduction free of charge

### **About Fronius Solar Energy**

The Fronius Business Unit (BU) Solar Energy has been developing photovoltaic energy solutions and distributing its products through a global network of expert installation, service and sales partners since 1992. More than 24 Solar Energy subsidiaries, an export ratio of over 93 percent and a total output of more than 21 Gigawatts from installed inverters are testament to this. Its mission is to achieve 24 hours of sun. Day after day Fronius is hard at work turning this vision of a future in which 100% of the world's energy needs are covered by renewable sources into a reality. With this in mind, Fronius develops energy solutions to generate, store, distribute and consume solar energy economically and intelligently.

### **About Fronius International GmbH**

Fronius International is an Austrian company with headquarters in Pettenbach and other sites in Wels, Thalheim, Steinhaus and Sattledt. Founded by Günter Fronius in 1945, this long-standing company with a rich tradition will be celebrating its 75th anniversary in 2020. What began as a local one-man venture has grown into a global player with more than 5440 employees worldwide working in the areas of welding technology, photovoltaics and battery charging systems. Its export ratio of around 93 percent is achieved with 34 international Fronius subsidiaries and sales partners/representatives in more than 60 countries. Moreover, its



innovative products and services and its portfolio of 1264 registered patents make it an innovation leader on the world market.

**Enquiries:**

Andrea SCHATNER, +43 664 88536765, [schartner.andrea@fronius.com](mailto:schartner.andrea@fronius.com), Froniusplatz 1, 4600 Wels, Austria.

Natalie WOODFORD, +44 1908 512 301, [woodford.natalie@fronius.com](mailto:woodford.natalie@fronius.com), Maidstone Road, Kingston, Milton Keynes, MK10 0BD, United Kingdom.

Kathryn BROOKES, +61 3 8340 2945, [brookes.kathryn@fronius.com](mailto:brookes.kathryn@fronius.com), 90-92 Lambeck Drive, Tullamarine VIC 3043, Australia.

Richard BALDINGER, +1 219 734 5617, [baldinger.richard@fronius.com](mailto:baldinger.richard@fronius.com), 6797 Fronius Drive, Portage, IN 46368, USA

Ted CLIFFORD, +1 905 288 2128, [clifford.ted@fronius.com](mailto:clifford.ted@fronius.com), 2875 Argentia Road, Units 3-6, Mississauga, ON L5N 8G6, Canada

Rajeev NAIR, +91 7391095704, [nair.rajeev@fronius.com](mailto:nair.rajeev@fronius.com), GAT no 312, Nanekarwadi 410501 Pune, INDIA

Laura NACHBAUER, +43 664 677411572, [nachbauer.laura@fronius.com](mailto:nachbauer.laura@fronius.com), Froniusplatz 1, 4600 Wels, Austria.

Elfriede HIRSCH, +43 664 6213775, [hirsch.elfriede@fronius.com](mailto:hirsch.elfriede@fronius.com), Froniusplatz 1, 4600 Wels, Austria.

Nicole FRIEDWAGNER, +43 664 88825931, [friedwagner.nicole@fronius.com](mailto:friedwagner.nicole@fronius.com), Froniusplatz 1, 4600 Wels, Austria.

**Copies:**

a1kommunikation Schweizer GmbH, Rüdiger KEMPA, [rke@a1kommunikation.de](mailto:rke@a1kommunikation.de)  
Oberdorfstraße 31 A, 70794 Filderstadt, GERMANY

If you no longer want to receive press releases from Fronius International, Business Unit Solar Energy, please reply with [UNSUBSCRIBE](#).