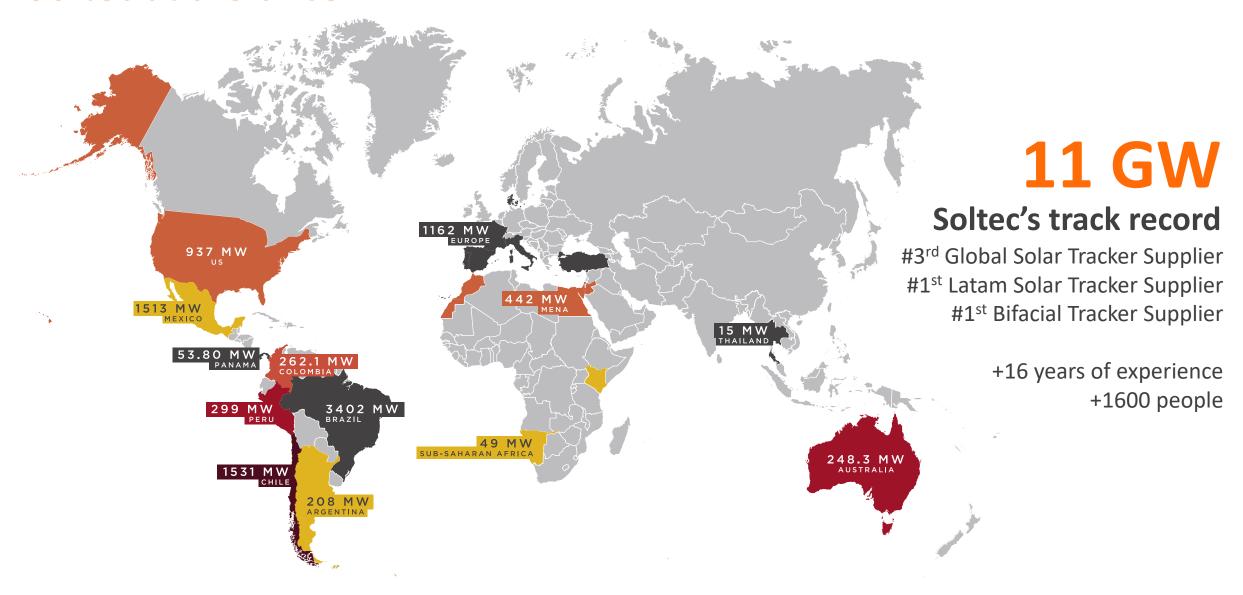


# Striving for lowest LCOE with the new 2P linked tracker design

Miguel Pozuelo, Key Account Manager Soltec Eduardo de San Nicolás, CSO and Corp. Dev Soltec

### Soltec at a Glance





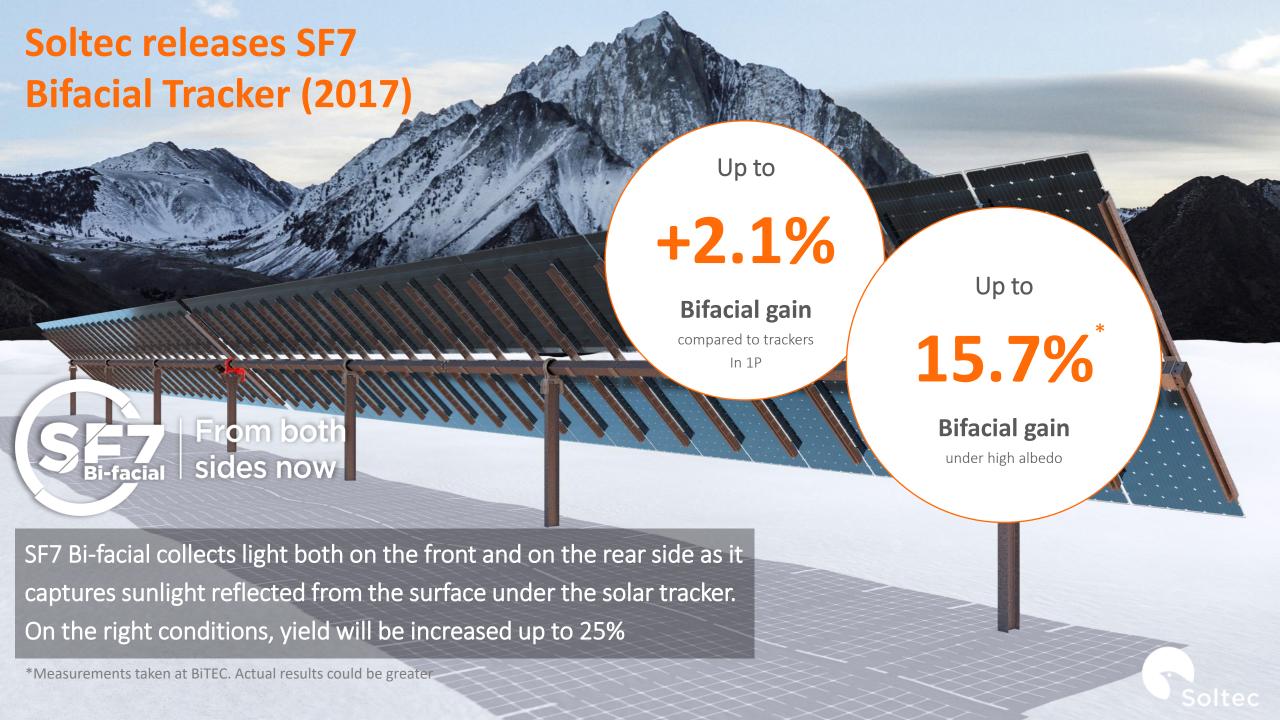
# 'La Silla' PV Solar (2015, Chile)

- 5 years since the first commercial Bifacial Tracker: La Silla Plant, BG = 13.3%
- Soltec produced the first solar tracker specifically designed for bifacial modules installed in a utility scale solar plant











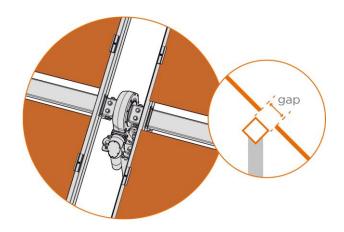
The SF7 standard configuration enables cost-effective installation, operation, and innovation

# Albedo Bifacial Gain

# **No Shading**

### **2P** module mounting:

no backside shading from torque tube.

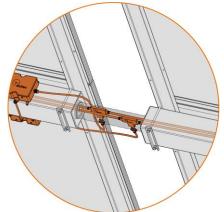


15 cm gap (6 inches) between modules and torque-tube

# No hanging wires

Manages DC cable through torque-tube with no shading interference over the back-side of the panels.

**83%** Total wire savings **75%** Installation labor savings





# Bifacial Tracker Evaluation Center -BiTEC (July 2018 -2020)

Bifacial testing in Livermore (CA), founded in 2018

- 2 FULL YEARS of BiTEC performance data
- Bifacial Gain of 15.7% for SF7 Bifacial with albedo 55% and 7.3% under seasonal albedo
- Bifacial Gain for 2P SF7 Bifacial is 2.1% higher than 1P tracker → 1,6\$ million benefit for a 100 MW plant – 25 years





Figure 3. Trackers under different albedo conditions at BiTEC. Dirt test

Modules used for measurements		Aisle Pitch in meters: 2P - 12.0, 10.0 and 8.7 meters equivalent to a GCR of 0.33, 0.40 and 0.46 respectively			
In White, Brown and Green: White, Gravel and Seasonal albedos respectively					
Albedo		Ground Coverage Ratio			
		0.46	0.40	0.33	
White	49-65%		2P/1P		
Gravel	24-36%	2P	2P	2P	
Seasonal	16-23%		2P/1P		

Table 1. Scenarios analyzed at BiTEC. Source: Soltec

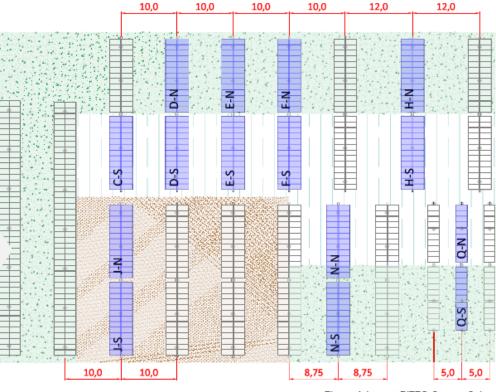


Figure 4. Layout BiTEC. Source: Soltec



# **Expertise in Bifacial Trackers' Design (2017 – 2020)**

## **4+ GW** SF7 Bifacial in projects worldwide

Sao Gonçalo I-Brazil (475 MW), Potrero (296MW), Cluster MG-Brazil (118MW), Tlaxcala Mag II-Mexico (219,6 MW), and many others.

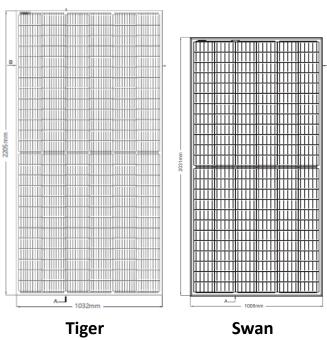




# What is changing at the PV market?

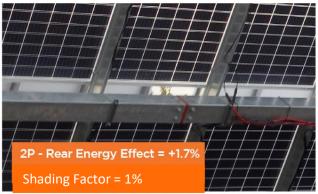
### If SF7 Bifacial tracker works: Why launching a new tracker?

- Panels are getting bigger and so structure is becoming more expensive (both 1P and 2P)
- Unexperienced and ultra-conservative simulations from advisors and EPC contractors end up minimizing 2P bifacial yield boost and lead the focus on the upfront cost





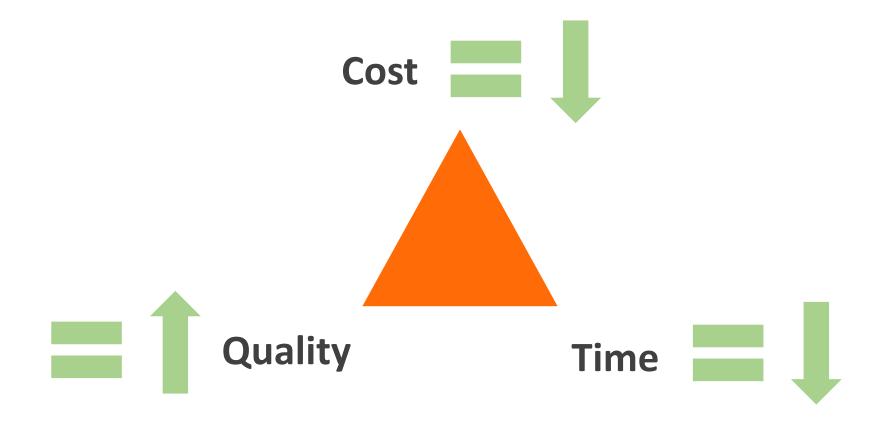




1P vs. 2P

# Which is the challenge?

Designing and offering a tracker that improves price while maintaining competitive advantages in quality and service









# 3 main characteristics

Cost-Effectiveness: SF7 Tandem reduces Capex and Opex

 Quality: SF7 Tandem is winddesigned and boosts bifacial yield

 Service: SF7 Tandem full-serviced solution to optimize installation and O&M works

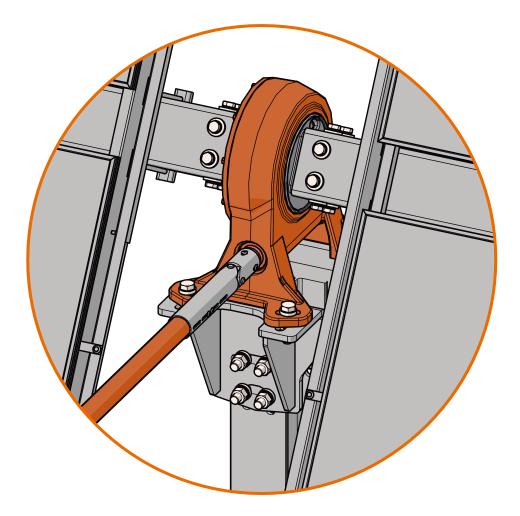




## **Tracker CAPEX**

# Fewer parts, simpler tracker: Higher Efficiency

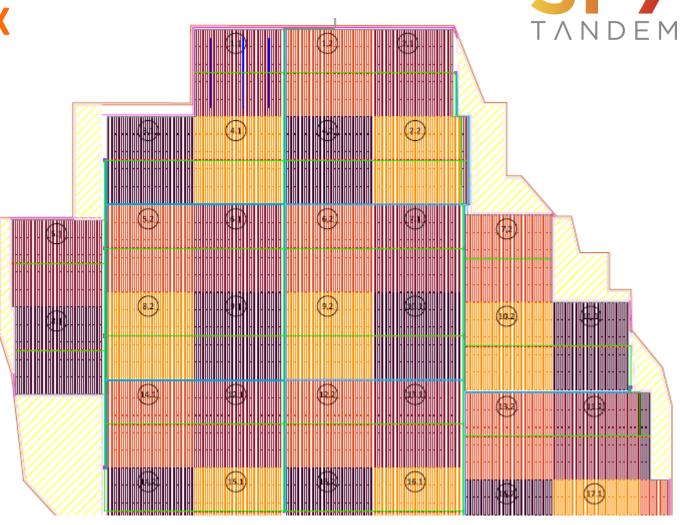
- CAPEX: Optimized simplicity
- ✓ Higher MW installation rate
- ✓ Easier and faster installation, similarly to the SF7
- ✓ Lower material cost, installation and reduced BOP costs
- ✓ Fewer parts: **50% fewer motors** and **50% fewer Tracker Controllers** than the conventional SF7
- ✓ Fewer components: 46% fewer piles, 60% fewer screw connections, 20% fewer parts-count than other 1P dual-row competitors





**BoP** related to tracker CAPEX

- CAPEX: Optimized simplicity.
- ✓ Less predrilling
- ✓ Less pile-ramming
- ✓ StringRunner allows for in-tube cable management and low voltage trenching minimization
- ✓ Higher adaption to terrain
- ✓ Reduction of civil works





**Cost-effectiveness: OPEX** 

(5.9 ft)

# SF7 TANDEM

### Face-2-Face

Face-2-Face positioning helps washing vehicles cover twice the array-area per vehicle pass, thus proportionately reducing the hoursper-MW washing rate



Cardan shaft conveniently located at **1.8 m** (**5.9 feet**) eases O&M and ensures system functionality under any weather or terrain circumstances



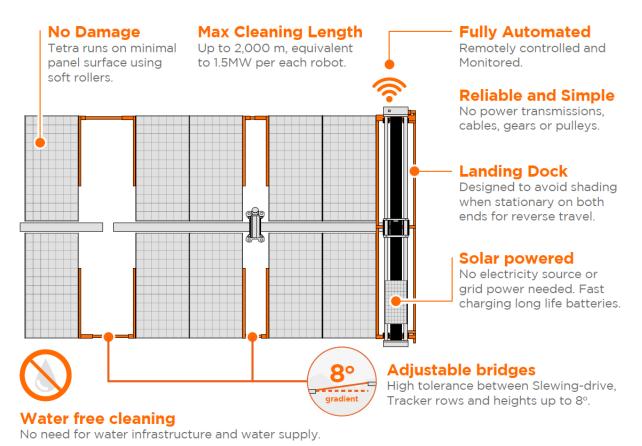
### **Cost-effectiveness: OPEX**

# SF7 TANDEM

# Allows for easy integration of robot cleaning solutions

### Key focus from tracker perspective:

- Allowing for wide tolerances of design
- **Minimising cost** of integration elements: dock stations, bridges and reverse stations
- Ensuring reliable communication and safe cleaning to reduce OPEX
- Minimising the number of robots per MWp by:
  - Avoiding gaps or interferences that robots could not undertake
  - Optimising layout to maximise number of trackers cleaned by a single robot



### Real time analytics

Connectivity to weather real time and forecasted data ensuring cleaning performed in optimal time.



# Cost: Comparison SF7 2P Tandem vs 1P Dual Row



### **TRACKER**

Component	SF7 Tandem 2x 2P45	Dual Row 2x 1P60	
N trackers	2	3	
N tables	4	6	
N strings	12	12	
N piles	28	57	+103%
N torque-tubes	16	45	+180%
N torque-tube joints	8	36	+350%
N Slewing Drives	4	3	-25%
N Motors	2	3	-33%
N Tracker-Controllers	2	3	-33%
N Dampers	0	12	-

### **BOP RELATED TO TRACKER**

### 100MWp BoP related to tracker Comparison

	Dual Row 1x60	SF7 Tandem2x45	Difference	Unitary cost	Unit	Savings
Solar cable (km)	726	365	-361	0,5	USD/m	- 180.353,78 USD
SB-Conv.Unit cable (km)	134,7	77,8	-57	2,7	USD/m	- 153.561,60 USD
RS485 cable (km)	0	0	0,0	1,5	USD/m	- USD
Aisles (m)	3.927	4.815	888	75	USD/m	66.600,00 USD
Solar area (ha)	176	171	-6	2.000	USD/ha	- 11.555,56 USD
DC trenches (km)	15,6	12,7	-3	20	USD/m	- 56.311,11 USD
AC trenches (km)	3,7	4,8	1,2	20	USD/m	23.391,11 USD
Pile-ramming	38.889	19.444	-19.444	10	USD/pt	- 194.444,44 USD
Predrilling 50%	19.444	9.722	-9.722	15	USD/pt	- 145.833,33 USD

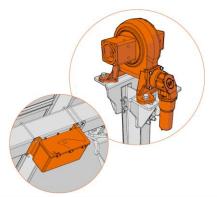
Total Savings SF7 Tandem 2x45 vs Dual Row 1x90 - 652.068,71 USD -0,0065 USD/Wp

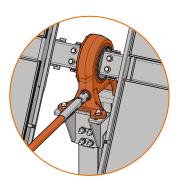


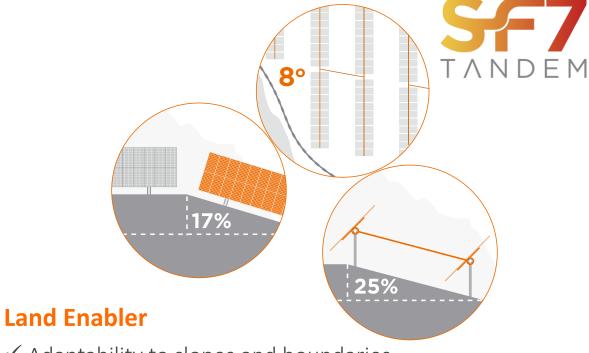
# **Quality: SF7 Tandem**

# Same robustness and reliability, wider tolerances

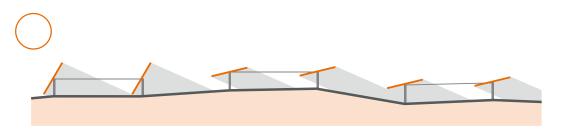
- ✓ Self-stow at high tilt angle
- ✓ SPD: Surge Protection Device
- ✓ TMS: Tracker Monitoring System
- ✓ Engineered with the innovative Dy-Wind design
- ✓ 2 drives double torque-blocking capacity for a more safe and robust structure







- ✓ Adaptability to slopes and boundaries
- ✓ Wide construction tolerances



**TeamTrack® Backtracking enabled** 



# **Quality: Dy-WIND system**







# Dy-WINDE

**Dynamic Wind Analysis in Tracker Array Design** 

Wind tunnel (rigid models)





2013/2014

Static + Dynamic modelling

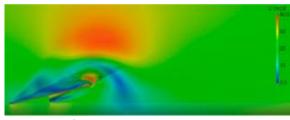




Dy-Wind is the innovative wind load analysis method the structural dimensioning of Soltec PV trackers is based on

### Wind tunnel (sectional models)

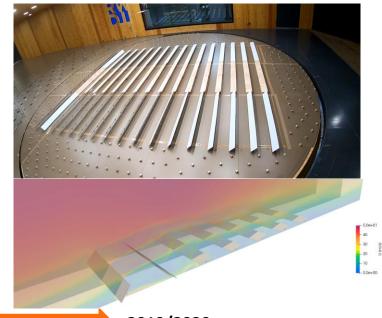




2017/2019

**Instability + Aeroelastic modelling** 

### **Aerolastic wind tunnel (flexible models)**



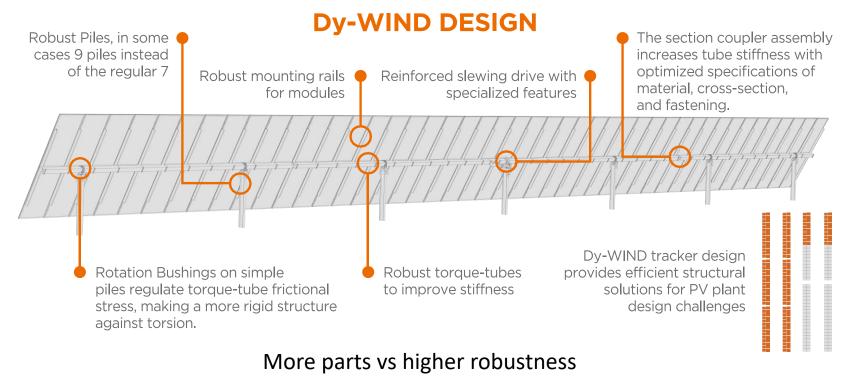
2019/2020

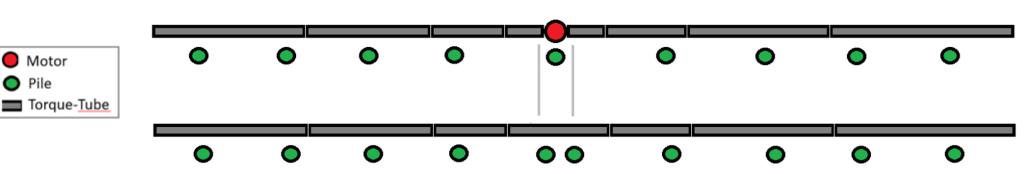
Aeroelastic + Full PV Plant CFD calibration



# Quality: Comparison SF7 2P Tandem vs 1P Dual Row









Motor Pile

### **Timer & Service: Overview**



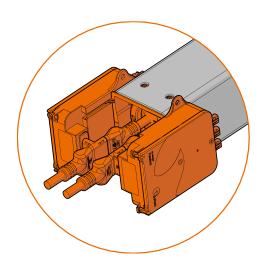
### **SOLTEC SERVICES**

Construction Plan, Onsite Advisory, Solmate...



### **SOLTEC SOLUTIONS**

DC-Harness, String Runner, TeamTrack...



### **SOLHUB**

Quick delivery times & experienced installation provided by Soltec



Soltec has installed 5.6+ GW of its trackers in projects around the globe

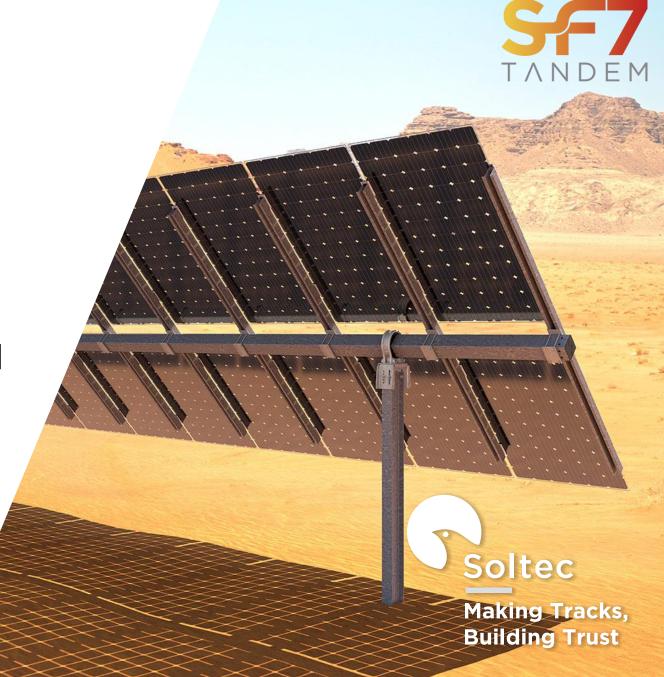


# **Summarizing**

Cost-Effectiveness: SF7 Tandem reduces Capex and Opex

 Quality: SF7 Tandem is winddesigned and boosts bifacial yield

 Service: SF7 Tandem full-serviced solution to optimize installation and O&M works



## **Any questions?**

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