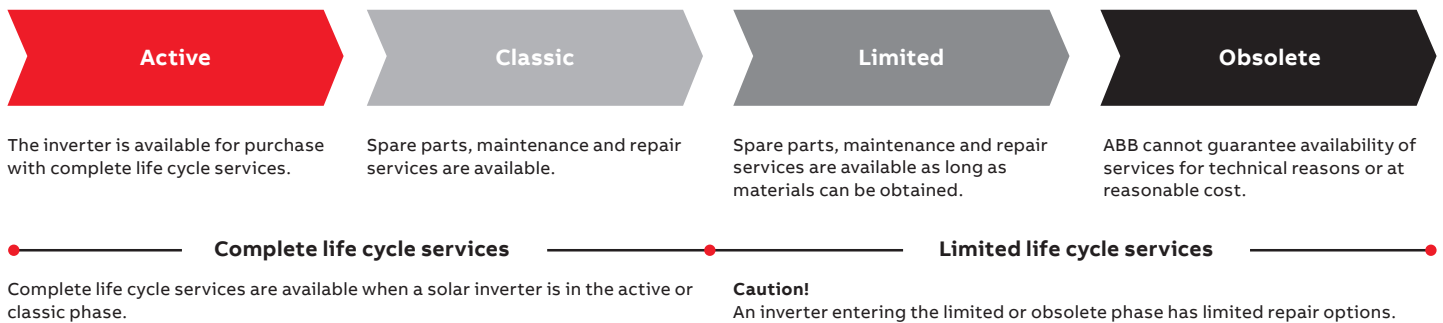


## Service note

# ABB solar inverter life cycle management

ABB has developed a solar inverter life cycle management model aimed at providing proactive services to maximize availability and performance. This model not only provides optimum support to end users but also a smooth transition to a new solar inverter when the inverter has come to the end of its lifetime.



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01 ABB follows a four-phase model for managing life cycles of its solar inverters. The aim is to enhance customer support and improve plant efficiency.

**The model divides a product's life cycle into four phases: active, classic, limited and obsolete. Each phase has different implications for the end user in terms of services provided.**

### Benefits of life cycle management

Life cycle management maximizes the value of the solar inverter and its maintenance investments by:

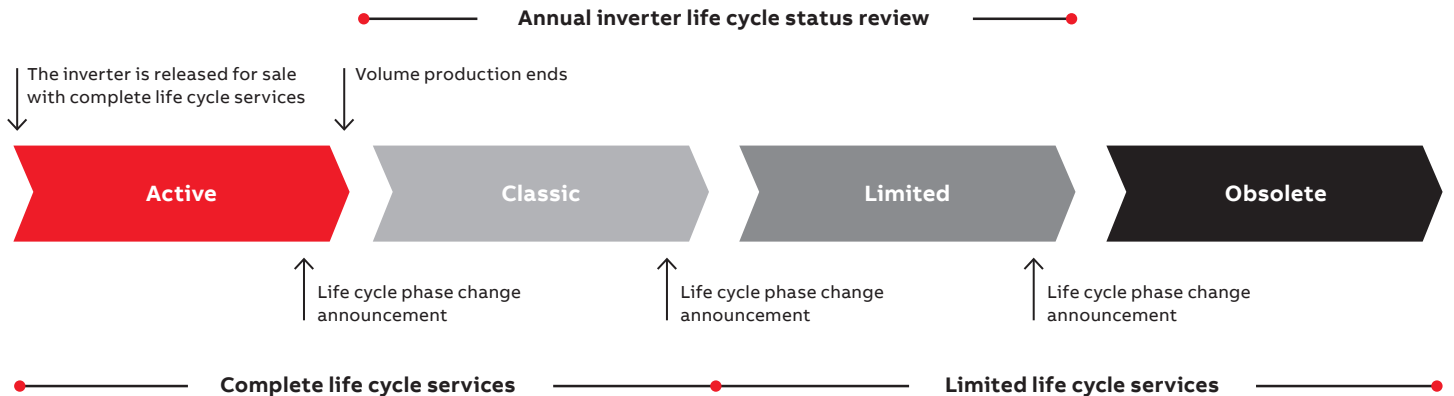
- ensuring spare parts and ABB competence availability throughout the lifetime
- enabling efficient product support and maintenance for improved reliability
- adding functionality to the initial product by upgrading or retrofitting
- providing a smooth transition to new technology at the end of the product lifetime

### Active phase

The active phase starts when the inverter is launched. In the active phase the end user benefits from different warranty options and other services such as training and technical support, including inverter adjustment for optimum performance. Complete life cycle services from spare parts and preventive maintenance to repairs and service contracts are also provided. The active phase ends when the volume production of the inverter ceases. ABB issues an announcement of the life cycle phase change.

### Classic phase

ABB solar inverter users continue to benefit from complete life cycle services throughout the classic phase.



Even though ABB solar inverters are no longer marketed in the classic phase, spare parts, maintenance and repair services remain available.

ABB solar inverter maintenance is straightforward. By following ABB's maintenance schedules, life cycle costs can usually be minimized. Maintenance schedules, which are available for every solar inverter, are based on ABB's four decades of experience in inverter and power converter technology. Throughout the classic phase, ABB reviews the availability of services. Should there be any changes in the availability of services for the inverter, ABB issues a life cycle announcement. This keeps end users fully informed.

**Limited phase**

In the limited phase, services gradually become obsolete. Spare parts are available as long as components and materials can be obtained. In addition to the annual life cycle status reviews, ABB issues a life cycle phase change announcement half a year prior to the product becoming obsolete. This is the last opportunity to transfer to new technology before product services end.

**Obsolete phase**

The ABB solar inverter is transferred to the obsolete phase when it is no longer possible to provide services at reasonable cost, or when ABB can no longer support the product technically, or the old technology is not available.

For more information please contact your local ABB representative or visit:  
[www.abb.com/solarinverters](http://www.abb.com/solarinverters)  
[www.abb.com](http://www.abb.com)

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