Team Catalyst
Project: 1st Step Solar

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE REQUEST

Unique needs which a national lab, private facility, and/or member of the American-Made Network could potentially help us resolve are:

- Custom-built reporting smartphone app that is better, simpler, and easier to use than current options, and which builds brand loyalty to 1stStep Solar. <u>At present all solar production apps are tied to microinverter manufacturers.</u> ShineMonitor keeps microinverter data in a cloud service, but a smartphone app geared toward the customer is needed in order to keep solar easy to understand for the average American.

- Access to service to install meter interbase adapters, which creates an outdoor 220V circuit; in NY this is a option free to install. (CleanTechnica, Con Edison Working with ConnectDER to Simplify Installation of Solar and EV Chargers, May 9, 2019)

- Ultra-low-cost power monitor which will connect to a smartphone app.

- Tool to detect whether one is using a dedicated 120V circuit.

- Lower-cost microinverter with zero-export options. Could work with a microinverter manufacturing company OR a third party whose software communicates with the microinverter (such as the communications format PLC).