

Press Release



For your business and technology editors:

Integration of electrical equipment and automation

ABB offers one-stop solutions for complex industrial projects

Hanover, April 20th 2009 – In the past the automation and power engineering systems for (large-scale) industrial projects have usually been acquired via the (plant) engineering company (EPC) as individual systems depending on price and quality. The increasing complexity of such projects frequently led to increased project and operation costs caused, for instance, by unclear project responsibilities or extra costs for the integration of products, which were actually incompatible.

What has been standard in the sector of power generation and supply is now also coming to effect in the process automation sector. The international standard IEC 61850 allows the integration of automation and electrification as well as energy distribution and management, thus providing operators and other users with essential information on the overall system. If, for example, the targeted productivity of a plant does not tolerate process interruptions, the integrated communication allows to implement optimized failure scenarios for load shedding. The operator can quickly respond and optimally use the energy available. Particularly for industries with high energy demand, the production capacities can be geared towards optimized consumption – costly peak loads can thus be avoided.

The ABB control system 800xA platform, to be featured at Hannover Messe, offers harmonized operation of process and electrical automation, thus significantly increasing the productivity of the systems and the reliability of the power supply. Furthermore, combining two systems in one offers distinct cost savings and rationalization potentials in terms of money and staff.

System 800xA supports IEC 61850, the global communication standard for power distribution and station automation. The new IEC 61850 interface defines the communication between the so-called IEDs (Intelligent Electronic Devices) resulting in faster response times between low and medium voltage circuit-breakers, medium voltage motors, drives and transformers. Additional data, such as diagnostic messages or alarms can be accessed through one common plant network. The extended automation system 800xA is capable of managing these extensive data flows and displays them appropriately to all authorized users.

Embedding the IEC 61850 standard is another element of ABB's MAV/ MEV concept for process automation, where ABB acts as Main Automation Vendor (MAV) also supplying instrumentation and analytical equipment and / or as Main Electrical Vendor (MEV). This includes the coordination of the whole automation / electrical/analysis engineering of a project including the integration of third-party components. That saves our customers costs and minimizes project risks. Thanks to ABB's international orientation, customers can benefit from the globally accessible Centers of Excellence offering proven solutions for a multitude of projects.



Less risks – lower costs

Plants equipped in this way significantly lower potential risks and reduce total investment costs. Even the effort for engineering in an early phase of invitation to tender, vendor selection and order placement can be distinctly reduced. Using pre-configured packages eventually simplifies the system design.

Cooperation with only one contractual partner lowers the costs for deadline monitoring and verification. Even during assembly and commissioning, only one contact assigned will provide perfect support. Operator training costs can also be reduced because all training sessions are held in the same place and are tailored to the needs of the customer. Moreover, ABB's uniform technology platform facilitates maintenance and thus lowers operating costs over the entire life cycle of the plant.

Integrated solutions by ABB provide the customer with electrical engineering and automation from a single source. ABB bears the full responsibility, which ultimately lowers risks, reduces interfaces and increases standardization. The result: shorter project lead times, lower investment and operating costs, minimized training effort and optimal life cycle concepts.

MAV/ MEV solutions are easily scalable and allow to tailor the extent of supplies and services to the needs of the customer and the size of the project.

Picture:

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