

ABB wins \$80 million power order for Itaipu hydroelectric plant

Substations to increase capacity, strengthen transmission grids in Paraguay

Zurich, Switzerland, July 12, 2011 – ABB, the leading power and automation technology group, has won orders worth about \$80 million from Itaipu Binacional, the operator of the Itaipu hydroelectric power plant, to build a new substation in Paraguay and expand an existing installation. The civil works will be carried out by CIE, a Paraguayan construction company. The order was booked in the second quarter.

The Itaipu Binacional hydropower plant is located on the Paraná river bordering Brazil and Paraguay. It is the world's largest hydroelectric plant in terms of continual power generation and has an installed capacity of 14,000 megawatts (MW).

ABB will build a new air-insulated switchgear (AIS) substation rated at 500/220/66 kilovolts (kV) to connect the electricity generated at Itaipu to a new 500 kV transmission line now being built that will help meet increasing demand for electricity in Paraguay. The existing 500 kV substation in Itaipu will also be expanded to enable the connection.

“The new substation and extension will enhance transmission capacity and support the development of Paraguay’s power infrastructure,” said Peter Leupp, head of ABB’s Power Systems division. “In addition to bringing clean hydropower to meet growing electricity demand, it will also strengthen grid reliability and improve power stability in the region.”

ABB will design, engineer, supply, erect, and commission the substations, including the civil works and provide customer training. Major products to be supplied include power transformers, high- and medium-voltage AIS, instrument transformers, surge arresters, cables and auxiliary systems. The new substation will be equipped with a telecommunications system for the existing 220 kV transmission line, including installation of about 100 kilometers of optical ground wire – while the line is in service. ABB will also install the substation automation systems incorporating the latest protection and control equipment, compliant with the global IEC 61850 open communications standard.

The new Villa Hayes substation, located some 350 kilometers from Itaipu, is expected to be completed in 2013 and will be operated by ANDE (Administración Nacional de Electricidad), the national power utility of Paraguay.

Substations are key installations in the power grid that facilitate the efficient transmission and distribution of electricity. They include equipment that protects and controls the flow of electrical power. ABB is the world's leading supplier of air- and gas-insulated substations covering a range of voltage levels up to 1,100 kV.

ABB (www.abb.com) is a leader in power and automation technologies that enable utility and industry customers to improve performance while lowering environmental impact. The ABB Group of companies operates in around 100 countries and employs about 124,000 people.

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