

ABB wins \$180 million power contract in Canada

New power link will increase transmission capacity

Zurich, Switzerland, Nov. 16, 2006 – ABB, the leading power and automation technology group, said today it has received a \$180 million order from Hydro-Québec to strengthen the electrical transmission grid between the Canadian provinces of Quebec and Ontario.

ABB will deliver a high-voltage direct current (HVDC) converter station that will add 1,250 megawatts (MW) of transmission capacity between Quebec and Ontario by March 2009. In addition to improving grid reliability in both provinces, Ontario will benefit by having substantially more access to emission-free hydroelectric power from Quebec.

Hydro-Québec is one of the largest producers of hydroelectric power in the world, and operates the largest power transmission system in North America.

“We are pleased that Hydro-Québec, as a leading user of HVDC technology, has selected ABB for a project of such importance for the region,” said Bernhard Jucker, head of ABB’s Power Products division. “The project will add to Hydro-Québec’s links with other networks, increasing the exchange of power and helping to isolate faults more easily.”

ABB has supplied more than half of the HVDC converter stations in the world and has more than 50 HVDC projects commissioned or under construction in all parts of the world. HVDC stations convert electricity from alternating current (AC) to direct current (DC) and vice versa, and provide reliable connections between incompatible AC systems.

The new converter station in southern Quebec will create a new interconnection between the 315 kilovolt (kV) grid in Quebec and the 230 kV grid in Ontario. ABB’s scope of supply includes design and manufacture of equipment, installation, commissioning and civil works, using the latest developments in power semiconductor valves and advanced control systems.

ABB pioneered HVDC technology and is leading its development. The company’s achievements include the highest voltage in the world (Itaipu, Brazil) at 600kV; the highest single converter station power rating (Guangdong, China) at 3,000 MW; and the world’s longest underground cable (Murraylink, Australia) at 177 kilometers.

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 107,000 people.

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