

ABB wins \$40 million order to strengthen power supply in Romania

New substation will ensure reliable electrical power in northeastern region

Zurich, Switzerland, March 19, 2004 – ABB, the leading power and automation technology group, said today it has won a \$40 million order to rehabilitate a vital link in the Romanian national power grid.

The state-owned power grid company Transelectrica S.A. awarded ABB a contract to design and build the 400/220/110 kilovolt Gutinas substation, which will replace an ageing substation and ensure reliable electricity supply in the historic Moldova province of northeastern Romania.

“ABB’s successful track record with Transelectrica has led to another prestigious contract for strengthening the Romanian national grid,” said Peter Smits, head of ABB’s Power Technologies division. “Romania’s investment in its transmission network and infrastructure makes it a key market in eastern Europe.”

The substation is part of the 400 kilovolt transmission ring in Romania, and will supply electricity and support development in one of the poorer parts of the country.

Under the terms of the contract, ABB will design, manufacture, test, erect and commission the substation. ABB’s state-of-the-art substation technology improves power reliability and reduces maintenance, while the compact design creates a much smaller substation footprint.

ABB has won four major transmission contracts in Romania in the last three years, each of them designed to upgrade Romania’s power grid. The most recent was a \$37 million contract in 2002 to engineer and build a high-voltage substation in the south of the country.

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 115,000 people.

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