

ABB inaugurates new power products plant in Czech Republic

New high voltage components facility to strengthen manufacturing footprint

Zurich, Switzerland, June 26, 2014 – ABB, the leading power and automation technology group, today, inaugurated a new manufacturing unit for high-voltage components in Brno, Czech Republic. The new unit will employ around 200 people and shall be part of the company's global gas-insulated switchgear (GIS) factory network. The campus is spread over 12,500 square meters and incorporates engineering, assembly, and testing facilities.

“This latest unit will further strengthen our regional and global manufacturing footprint. It will also enable us to ensure a steady supply of high quality components and in turn help us to serve our customers more efficiently” said Giandomenico Rivetti, head of ABB's High Voltage business within the company's Power Products division.

Switchgear is used to control, protect and isolate electrical equipment, thereby enhancing the reliability of power supplies and regulating the flow of electrical power in a transmission or distribution network. With GIS technology, key components including contacts and conductors are protected with insulating gas. Compactness, reliability and robustness make this a preferred solution where space is a constraint, for instance busy cities or harsh environmental conditions.

ABB pioneered high-voltage GIS in the mid-1960s and continues to drive technology and innovation, offering a full range product portfolio with voltage levels from 72.5 kilovolts (kV) to 1,200 kV. ABB's GIS are designed to enhance grid reliability with minimized footprint, lifecycle costs and environmental impact. As a market leader in high-voltage GIS technology, ABB has a global installed base of more than 23,000 bays.

ABB products and services have a long history in Czech Republic dating back more than four decades. The company currently employs 3,300 people in eight locations across the country and has a strong production base which includes seven manufacturing facilities in Prague, Brno, Ostrava, Trutnov and Jablonec and Nisou, four R&D centers and two engineering centres.

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 150,000 people.

For help with any technical terms in this release, please go to: www.abb.com/glossary

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