

ABB to deliver advanced asset management solution to Australian electricity companies

Software to optimize asset performance and provide greater business visibility

Zurich, Switzerland, May 10, 2012 – ABB, the leading power and automation technology group, has signed an agreement with SPARQ Solutions, the IT services provider for Australian electricity distributors Energex and Ergon Energy. Under the terms of the agreement, SPARQ has licensed Ellipse 8, the latest release of the Ventyx enterprise asset management (EAM) and resource planning (ERP) solution, which will manage Energex and Ergon Energy's assets, work scheduling, human resources, finance and supply chain.

SPARQ has also adopted the Ventyx business intelligence solution, Focal Point, which will provide greater visibility and efficiency in network management and field-work management activities. These features will be particularly important for Energex and Ergon Energy during summer storm seasons, when there is significant risk of damage to installations and equipment.

"Our comprehensive software and hardware portfolio offers customers a unique competitive advantage," said Jens Birgeron, head of ABB's Network Management business unit, a part of the company's Power Systems division. "We now offer the most complete range of operational and information technologies for the energy sector, to optimize asset performance, integrate business processes and achieve insight into global business operations."

"Energex, Ergon Energy and SPARQ Solutions are committed to delivering a world-class energy distribution capability to Queensland. A key part of this commitment is implementing solutions that deliver maximum benefits to electricity customers," said Peter Effenev, CEO of SPARQ Solutions. "We believe the combined capability of ABB's extended portfolio provides a unique value proposition – pairing industry-leading information technology and operations technology solutions, all under one roof. Just as significantly, ABB's open solution can easily interoperate with our current IT environment."

ABB's Ventyx software portfolio bridges the gap between information technologies (IT) and operational technologies (OT), enabling customers to make faster and better-informed decisions in daily operations and for long term planning.

ABB (www.abb.com) is a leader in power and automation technologies that enable utility and industry customers to improve their performance while lowering environmental impact. The ABB Group of companies operates in around 100 countries and employs more than 135,000 people.

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