

ABB commissions power link between Sweden and Finland

HVDC link strengthens the grid, facilitates power trading and improves security of supply

Zurich, Switzerland, Jan.11, 2012 – ABB, the leading power and automation technology group, has successfully commissioned a power link between Finland and Sweden. The HVDC (high-voltage direct current) Fenno-Skan 2 link is a cable-based power transmission system that enables the exchange of an additional 800 MW of power between the two countries, mitigating transmission bottle-necks in the region. The Fenno-Skan link is owned and operated by Fingrid and Svenska Kraftnät

The installation includes two converter stations, one situated in Rauma, on the Finnish side, and the other in Finnböle, in Sweden. The control system of the original link will also be upgraded. The newly commissioned link will run in parallel with Fenno-Skan 1, delivered by ABB in 1989 providing a bipolar link to enhance the capacity for power trading and improve the security of supply in the region. On the Swedish side, the converter stations for Fenno-Skan 1 and 2 are located 70 km from each other, due to AC grid constraints. This challenge is overcome with the latest control and communication technologies combined with an innovative circuit solution, which enables an integrated bipole despite the geographical separation.

“In addition to enhancing capacity, facilitating power trading and improving security of supply in the region, this link will also help to improve grid reliability,” said Martin Gross, head of the Grid Systems business, a part of ABB’s Power Systems division.

ABB pioneered HVDC technology more than 50 years ago. With over 70 HVDC projects around the world and a combined transmission capacity of around 60,000 MW, ABB continues to drive innovation and remains a world leader in this technology.

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 130,000 people.

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For more information please contact:

Head of Communications
ABB Power Products & Power Systems
Harmeet Bawa
Tel: +41 43 317 6480
Fax: +41 43 317 6482
harmeet.bawa@ch.abb.com