

ABB wins first Smart MinePower™ order to cut costs, boost electrical control at Kankberg Mine

Zurich, Switzerland, June 9, 2015: Intelligent power management solution for complete underground mine power distribution will optimize and strengthen the power supply while accelerating maintenance and boosting safety

ABB, the leading power and automation technology group, has been awarded its first order for the newly developed ABB Smart MinePower™ system from Boliden for its Kankberg Mine in Sweden, enhancing remote monitoring and control of electricity to cut costs, boost safety and ease maintenance.

The order, including an energy-saving Resibloc EcoDry transformer, MNS switchgears with TMax XT distribution groups and mSpeed VSD groups with ACS850 drives, was booked in January 2015, with commissioning by the end of June. In addition to upgrading one of Kankberg's 11 substations with this new equipment, ABB is responsible for its integration into the mine-wide 800xA control system.

Should a fault occur in a cable feeding the substation, ABB Smart MinePower™ technology allows mine operators to quickly locate the problem and adjust protection settings to accommodate power from a second feeding route, reducing downtime and boosting safety until normal operations can be restored.

Via ABB's System 800xA, power distribution can be remotely monitored and controlled, an extension of the "Internet of Things, Services and People." Operators can not only respond to failures without entering the mine but will have more data to make proactive decisions about circuit-breaker maintenance.

"ABB's new Smart MinePower™ technology is an ideal power management solution for underground mines, facilitating energy measurement and optimization," says Peter Terwiesch, President of ABB's Process Automation division. "It will help to solve many efficiency-related challenges in existing mines and will increase safety for the entire operation, setting the standards for future projects."

The system is based on a modular concept whose durable design and pre-manufactured dockable units are built for mobility, flexibility and easy expandability as the mine advances to exploit new ore bodies.

Functions include supervision and control of protection settings, alarm management, dynamic selectivity planning, selectivity supervision, improved maintenance and operator assistance, fault tracking and localization. ABB Smart MinePower™ system also uses fuseless technology and safe-with-earth fault protection and arc guard.

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

About ABB

ABB (www.abb.com) is a leader in power and automation technologies that enable utility, industry, and transport and infrastructure customers to improve their performance while lowering environmental impact. The ABB Group of companies operates in roughly 100 countries and employs about 140,000 people.

About Boliden's Kankberg mine

Five-hundred meters deep, Kankberg is located in the mineral-rich Skellefte field, within the Boliden Area. It is Boliden's fifth gold mine. The mine was reopened in 2012 after being closed down in the 1990s, which is when gold and tellurium were discovered in the area. About 250 kilograms of gold were produced during Kanberg's first year of restored mining. The mine applies the cut-and-fill method and uses waste rock as backfill material. It employs about 100 people.

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