

For your business and technology editors

ABB wins contracts worth \$24 million in Norway

Automation and power systems will support aluminum plant upgrades.

Zurich, Switzerland, May 31, 2005 -- ABB, the leading power and automation technology group, said today it has won contracts totaling \$24 million from Hydro Aluminum Ltd. of Norway, for power electronics and power supply systems for two smelting plants.

“Our technology will play a significant role in Hydro Aluminum’s upgrade plans,” said Dinesh Paliwal, head of ABB’s Automation Technologies division and group operations in North America. “Our cross-divisional expertise in the metals industry, combined with strong local resources, means we are well positioned to help the company meet its targets.”

ABB will supply two rectifier groups to convert alternating current into direct current, each rated at 40kA (kilo amperes) and 1150 volts DC (direct current), plus automation and control systems for upgrades to the Hydro Aluminum Årdal plant in southern Norway.

ABB’s scope of supply includes design, manufacture, installation and commissioning of the equipment, with work scheduled for completion during 2006.

Hydro Aluminum has also ordered an expansion of a 132 kV (kilovolt) substation, two 60 kA (kilo ampere) transformer/rectifier groups and automation systems for its smelting plant in Sunndal. The latest order follows previous ABB contracts totaling about \$100 million at the same site. The Sunndal work will be finalized in summer of 2006.

In addition to the equipment contract, ABB has been awarded a service and maintenance agreement at the Sunndal facility, covering all equipment and systems supplied to the new smelter SU4. The work is intended to raise uptime in the potline, where electric current is passed through a series of cells filled with raw alumina to reduce it to primary aluminum.

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 102,000 people.

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