

ABB to upgrade Abu Dhabi water supply system

Group wins US\$ 27 million order to help increase amount of drinking water

Zurich, Switzerland, January 21, 2003 - ABB, the leading power and automation technology group, said today it has won a US\$ 27 million order to provide electrical and control equipment for a project to increase Abu Dhabi's water supply.

"ABB is the market leader for fully integrated electrical and automation systems for pumping equipment in the Gulf," said Peter Smits, head of Power Technologies division. "This contract demonstrates ABB's technological leadership – both in power and automation – in the utility industry."

Under the terms of the contract, ABB will provide electrical systems and components for two pumping stations and a new water pipeline for Abu Dhabi Water and Electricity Authority in the United Arab Emirates. A 250-kilometer-long pipeline will deliver around 400 million liters of water per day from the Shuweihat desalination plant, and help meet the emirate's growing need for drinking water. The project is due to be completed in October 2004.

The contract package includes 33 kilovolt, 11 kilovolt and low-voltage switchgear, power transformers, instrumentation, process automation systems, cabling, DC and uninterruptible power supplies, as well as motors and variable speed drives for the freshwater pumps.

ABB will also use water-cooled variable frequency drives to ensure precise speed regulation for the freshwater pumps operating at high power and under extreme climate conditions. The solution is based on new semiconductor technology developed by ABB. ABB is also engineering, installing and commissioning the equipment.

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 more than 100 countries and employs about 146,000 people.

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