

For your business and technology editors

ABB signs rail consortium agreement in U.K.

Upgrade of rail power supply system is worth US\$ 60-80 million in first year

Zurich, Switzerland, April 2, 2003 - ABB, the leading power and automation technology group, and Mowlem Railways, a world leader in railway construction, have signed a seven-year framework agreement with a British rail operator, Network Rail, to upgrade power supply systems on commuter routes in southeast England. The agreement is worth between US\$ 60-80 million in the first year.

“This agreement confirms our position as the supplier of choice for rail power systems and a reliable, long-term partner for railway operators,” says Peter Smits, head of ABB Power Technologies division.

The agreement is essential to allow the operation of modern rolling stock and to phase out existing carriages on the busiest commuter lines in the country.

ABB said its strength in substation project management, engineering, construction and power technology products would be combined with Mowlem’s experience in major civil and electrical construction projects.

ABB’s share of the work includes design, supply, construction and commissioning of new and upgraded substations and high-voltage cables for transmission lines.

The ABB Mowlem consortium will work alongside Network Rail and other stakeholders including the Strategic Rail Authority (SRA) and the Train Operating Companies (TOCs) on the complex project.

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 139,000 people.

For more information please contact:

Media Relations:
ABB Corporate Communications, Zurich
Wolfram Eberhardt
Tel: +41 43 317 6512
Fax: +41 43 317 7958
media.relations@ch.abb.com

Investor Relations:
Switzerland: Tel. +41 43 317 3804
Sweden: Tel. +46 21 325 719
USA: Tel. + 1 203 750 7743
investor.relations@ch.abb.com