

ABB launches annual sustainability report

Social dimension added to environmental and economic performance

London, June 5, 2002 - ABB, the global power and automation technology group, today reported on its sustainability performance in 2001, using for the first time the “triple-bottom-line” approach to present its economic, environmental and social achievements.

“Sustainability is at the heart of our business. With our power and automation technology products and solutions, we help our customers use less energy, cut their consumption of raw materials and reduce waste,” said ABB president and CEO Jörgen Centerman. “Sustainability helps improve our competitiveness.”

ABB is aiming to raise its sustainability performance in four ways: by improving its economic achievements, extending its Environmental Management Systems, implementing its new social policy, and supporting electrification projects to promote economic development.

The environmental management standard ISO 14001 has now been implemented in 98 percent of ABB’s 550 manufacturing and service sites worldwide. Environmental Product Declarations, detailing the eco-efficiency of ABB products and services, help customers benchmark their environmental performance against competition.

ABB said it is well ahead of its target, set in 1999, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from its own activities by a rate of one percent per year over five years.

In 2001, ABB launched its social policy, conducting 45 stakeholder dialogue sessions in 34 countries to test it and seek ways to implement it and measure its performance.

ABB launched an “Access to Electricity” program in 2001, which aims to provide sustainable electricity supplies to people in remote areas.

During 2002, new group-wide guidelines for occupational health and safety will be implemented at all ABB sites. The guidelines include a “zero-target” policy for serious and fatal incidents, as well as improved reporting procedures.

ABB continues to score well in sustainability indexes. ABB topped its industry group in the Dow Jones Sustainability Index for the third consecutive year in 2001, and is rated by the Tata Electrical Research Institute among the top five corporate environmental performers in India. ABB also led the General Industrial category of the Business in the Environment Index for the second year running.



The “triple bottom line” framework used in the ABB Sustainability Report has been guided by the Global Reporting Initiative, an organization funded by, among others, the United Nations and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

ABB (www.abb.com) is a global leader in power and automation technologies that enable utility and industry customers to improve performance while lowering environmental impacts. ABB has 152,000 employees in more than 100 countries.

The ABB Sustainability Report can be downloaded from the ABB Web site at 11.00 Central European Time.

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