

ABB opens research and development center in India

First of two centers in Asia to focus on industrial information technology, or Industrial IT

Zurich, Switzerland, February 18, 2002 – ABB today opened a research and development center in Bangalore to focus on software development and industrial information technology, or Industrial IT. With Industrial IT, ABB is integrating its entire power and automation technology offerings to enable utility or industry customers to make their installations more productive.

“This new center for software development is part of our program to make our products more intelligent and also central to our strategy for Asia as a longer-term growth market,” said Jörgen Centerman, ABB president and CEO. “It will reinforce our commitment to increasing the number of products and services we Industrial IT-enable for our customers.”

In 2001, ABB had revenues of US\$ 2.7 billion in Asia, the same level as in 2000. It had 11 percent of its employees working in the region. Industrial IT-enabling ABB products and services is a rigorous process that needs facilitating by dedicated scientists, ABB said. This includes developing software and certifying the company’s products and services for bundling together as an intelligent package for customers.

For example, a pulp and paper customer can use Industrial IT to link together all the products (motors, valves, sensors, actuators, etc.) in its supply chain with the business processes (enterprise resource planning systems, etc.) used to run the plant. This creates greater quality, efficiency and production, ABB said. In early February, the company announced that it had enabled more than 3,000 of its products.

Markus Bayegan, ABB’s chief technology officer, opening the center in Bangalore, said: “With this new R&D facility, we can benefit from India’s strong information technology and software development skills.”

The new ABB center, a fully-owned subsidiary located in the International Technology Park (ITPL) in Bangalore, will initially bring together 30-50 industrial software programmers and engineers.

ABB has 3,800 employees working in India, working across the entire spectrum of products, projects and service solutions. The ABB Group spends some seven percent of its revenues on technology innovation -



US\$ 654 million a year on research and development and US\$ 916 million a year on order-related developments. ABB has four globally networked labs operating in the U.S., Europe and Asia. In total, the ABB Group employs approximately 6,000 scientists.

ABB officials said another research and development center will open in China in mid-2002.

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 impact. ABB has 155,000 employees in more than 100 countries.

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