ABB has won a $70 million order from Transport for London, the body responsible for the city’s public transport, to build a new Bulk Supply Point (BSP) substation supplying the underground rail system.

The Background
London Underground’s Circle, District, Hammersmith, City and Metropolitan lines are currently receiving new trains that will replace ageing rolling stock, increase capacity and introduce improvements such as air conditioning and electronic signage.

The Edgware Road BSP substation is part of a plan to upgrade the power supply to the underground’s railway lines to support the introduction of new rolling stock.

The Response
ABB will design, supply, install and commission the substation and will also supply products that include 22kV and 11kV switchboards and coupling transformers. Power quality studies will also be undertaken to establish if harmonic filters are required. In addition, ABB will install about 20 kilometres of 22kV and 11kV power cable in the tunnels and ducts.

ABB’s part of the project is due to be completed in 2012.

“Modern urban rail systems rely on efficient and reliable power supplies,” said Peter Leupp, head of ABB’s Power Systems division. “ABB has the technologies and a global track record of successfully designing and managing such projects, including work with the London underground, and we are delighted to help strengthen this rail network.”

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