Press Release



ABB services will help optimize production at Codelco's Andina copper mine

Long-term lifecycle service agreement to strengthen production processes and minimize equipment shutdowns in Chilean copper mine

Baden, Switzerland, July 30, 2012 – ABB, the leading power and automation technology group, has won an order for a three-year service agreement from Codelco (Corporacion Nacional del Cobre de Chile), the world's largest copper producer. ABB will maintain and optimize the installed gearless mill drive system and related equipment at Codelco's Andina copper mine in northern Chile. The order was booked in March 2012.

Codelco is the world's largest copper producer, with an annual production capacity of 1.76 million tons of copper. With this enormous output, any unplanned plant downtime or equipment failure can result in high costs and production losses. Codelco decided to invest in a sustainable service plan by signing a three year term service agreement (Long-term service agreement) with ABB. This will keep production running at an optimal level and to reduce the risk of unscheduled downtime.

"Customers in all industries are looking at ways to reduce overall life cycle costs and make these costs more predictable, while continuing to improve equipment performance," said Veli-Matti Reinikkala, head of ABB's Process Automation division. "Our skilled service teams provide our customers with a long-term maintenance strategy that will keep production running efficiently well into the future."

The agreement with Codelco includes life cycle management, scheduled maintenance services, as well as remote diagnostic services for a gearless mill drive (GMD) system supplied by ABB in 2010. Lifecycle management services will help keep the systems running smoothly at all times and maximize their productive life over time by providing upgrades, technical assistance, training and spare parts supply. Proactive preventative maintenance will minimize any potential equipment issues well before any production problems occur, and remote diagnostic services will enable service teams from anywhere in the world to quickly solve any issues via a secure remote connection.

With this comprehensive scope of services, ABB will ensure that the equipment in Andina will operate at the highest possible production and energy efficiency levels. Dedicated ABB expert teams in Chile and Switzerland will manage this service contract.

ABB (www.abb.com) is a leader in power and automation technologies that enable utility and industry customers to improve their performance while lowering environmental impact. The ABB Group of companies operates in around 100 countries and employs about 145,000 people.

For help with any technical terms in this release, please go to: www.abb.com/glossary

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Gearless mill drive



ABB remote control room

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