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ABB and sustainability

Sustainability is a topic that is very much on people's minds today. A growing world population with rising demands on their standards of living is increasingly coming into conflict with the Earth's limited resources. Just as technologies and processes have over the years been optimized for greater productivity, present day optimization processes are increasingly taking environmental impact and limited resources into account. Sustainability can be achieved through a shift to regenerating resources, and ABB is supporting that trend through many of its technologies, for example in the domains of solar or wind energy. Dependence on traditional energy sources can however also be reduced by making more efficient use of the energy that has already been harnessed. This can take the form of more intelligent deployment of energy through better control strategies. An

example would be the optimization of power transmission and adaptation of the grid to better cope with the changing generation and consumption patterns that the shift to greener energies is causing. It can also be achieved locally through better use of technology, such as drives or turbochargers, or measures to reduce waste in manufacturing.

Besides the strictly environmental aspects, the theme of sustainability also encompasses such topics as human safety and working practices. These can range from avoiding hazardous working situations to ergonomics in the workplace.

The upcoming edition of *ABB Review* will focus on sustainability-related aspects of the company's activities and products.