World's largest adjustable-speed drive for NASA

ABB Switzerland is currently installing an adjustable-speed drive comprising a synchronous motor, frequency converter, filter, transformer and controls, in *NASA's* National Transonic Facility at Langley in the USA. At 100-MW (135,000 HP), the blower unit is the world's largest adjustable-speed drive to be designed for industrial use. The synchronous motor is also the largest horizontal shaft, salient pole synchronous machine ever to have been built by ABB.

The wind tunnel, which offers aircraft builders all over the world a unique opportunity to test development models at transonic speeds, is scheduled to begin operating in December. The rotor of the drive motor recently underwent overspeed trials in ABB's factory at Birr, Switzerland, where it demonstrated its excellent running properties.

ABB to supply eight 700-MW hydro-generators to China

The China Yangtze Three Gorges Project Development Corporation has awarded ABB a contract to deliver eight 700-MW generators as part of the first batch of power generation equipment for a major hydropower plant, known as the 'Three Gorges' project, situated on the Yangtze River. The remaining 6 generators of the first batch will be supplied by other vendors.

The first generators are scheduled for installation in early 2002, with power deliveries commencing in 2003.

Order for HVDC power link between Sweden and Poland

ABB Sweden has received an order to supply a 600-MW high-voltage DC submarine power transmission system, named the 'SwePol Link', to interconnect the power networks of Sweden and Poland. The order, valued at approximately US\$ 260 million, was placed by SwePol Link AB, Stockholm, the company created to operate the system. *SwePol Link AB* is part-owned by Svenska Kraftnät and Vattenfall in Sweden and PPGC, the Polish state-owned power grid company.

The 230-km link will run under the Baltic Sea from Sweden's south coast to Poland and will operate at 450 kV. It is scheduled to become operational at the end of 1999.

380-kV substation for Saudi Arabia

SCECO East of Saudi Arabia and ABB have signed a contract valued at US\$150 million for the delivery of a 380-kV substation near Jubail on the Arabian Gulf. The substation will integrate a new 2,400-MW power plant into the SCECO East power grid. Completion of the substation is planned for April 1999.

ABB will supply, install and commission 380-kV and 230-kV gas-insulated switchgear comprising 33 circuitbreakers, as well as four 750-MVA transformers. Other ABB deliveries include the associated control, protection and communication equipment. The contract further includes modifications to five neighbouring substations as part of the power grid reinforcement work.

Advanced waste incineration plant for Denmark

I/S Nordforbraending of H\orsholm, Denmark, has signed a contract with ABB Enertech, who will act as general contractor, for the supply of an advanced waste incineration plant to be built near Copenhagen. The value of the contract is approximately US\$35 million.

ABB deliveries include the complete incineration line with heat-recovery boiler, flue-gas scrubber, steam turboset and plant control system, as well as all the electrical equipment.

The new waste incineration plant will burn waste at a rate of 10 t/h. It will go on stream in 1999, and replace three old incineration lines, each with a capacity of 2.5 t/h.



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