General Conditions of Contract for the Supply of Products and Components

1. Scope of Application

These General Conditions apply to the supply of products and components (hereinafter “the Supply”) by ABB.

2. General

2.1 The contract shall come into effect upon receipt of ABB’s written acknowledgement stating its acceptance of the order (“Order Acknowledgement”) provided that, in particular, the necessary permits have been obtained from the authorities and the agreed payment security has been provided. Tenders that do not contain a set period for acceptance are binding for a period of 30 days after dispatch by ABB.

2.2 General conditions of contract of the customer shall only be valid if expressly accepted in writing by ABB.

2.3 All agreements and legally relevant declarations must be in writing.

3. Scope of Supply

The scope of the Supply by ABB is exhaustively set out in the Order Acknowledgement and any appendices thereto.

4. Designs, Technical Documents and Software

4.1 Unless otherwise agreed, brochures and catalogues are not binding. Designs, drawings and technical documents and data contained in software are only binding insofar as they form an integral part of this contract.

4.2 ABB may at any time make amendments for improvement purposes.

4.3 ABB reserves all rights to all documentation, in particular tender offers, designs, drawings, technical documents and software. The customer acknowledges these rights and shall not make such designs, drawings, documents and software available to any third party, either in whole or in part, nor use them for any purposes other than the agreed purposes without prior written authorisation by ABB.

4.3 If the Supply includes software, the customer is hereby granted the non-exclusive and non-transferable right to use the software for the agreed purpose. The customer is not entitled to make copies (except for the purposes of archiving, error searches or for the replacement of defective data carriers) or to update, upgrade or make any other extensions to the software. The customer may not disassemble, decompile, decipher or reverse engineer the software without the prior written consent of ABB. If the customer breaches one of these conditions, ABB is entitled to immediately revoke the right to use the software.

5. Regulations and Standards

5.1 The customer shall, in the request for offer and at the latest when placing the order, refer ABB in writing to the standards and regulations applicable to the provision of the Supply, the mode of the Supply and to health and safety.

5.2 Unless otherwise agreed, the Supply shall comply with those standards and regulations at the place of destination of the Supply of which ABB has been informed by the customer according to Clause 5.1 above.

6. Reservation Notice

Express reservations by ABB personnel regarding instructions, directives or measures by the customer or regarding actual circumstances may be made in writing, orally and are deemed to be reservation notices by ABB relieving ABB of any liability.

7. Prices

7.1 All prices are net, ex works, excluding packing, in freely available Swiss francs without any deduction whatsoever.

Any and all additional costs, such as for freight, insurance, fees for export, transit, import and other permits, and for certifications, shall be borne by the customer.

Prices offered are not binding for tenders.

7.2 Taxes, including, without limitation, value added taxes (VAT), levies, fees, social security contributions and the like, which ABB may charge in connection with this contract or its fulfilment, in particular for supplies and services outside Switzerland as well as the administrative costs connected therewith, shall be borne by the customer.

If taxes, including, without limitation, VAT, levies, fees, social insurance contributions or the like are levied against ABB or administrative costs are incurred, they shall be reimbursed by the customer within 30 days of receipt of a copy of the respective documents.

7.3 ABB reserves the right to adjust the prices in the event that:

- the delivery period is extended for any of the reasons set out in Clause 10.4; or
- the nature or the scope of the Supply is changed; or
- the documents provided by the customer are not in conformity with the actual circumstances or are incomplete; or
- the price was agreed upon in a currency other than Swiss francs (CHF) and the exchange rate CHF/foreign currency at the time of placing the order deviates by more than +/- 3% from the exchange rate that was published at 12 noon Swiss time by Reuters on the day of the submittal of the tender; or
- laws, regulations or generally accepted rules of interpretation are changed after the submittal of the tender.

7.4 Unless otherwise agreed, the current valid price list is binding for orders rendered within a frame contract that has been in effect for more than 12 months. ABB also reserves the right to renegotiate the prices.

8. Terms of Payment

8.1 Payments shall be made by the customer at ABB’s domicile, net with no deduction for cash discount, expenses, taxes, levies, fees, duties, and the like. All amounts owed to ABB are payable within 30 days of the invoice date.

Payments shall be deemed made when Swiss francs or the agreed foreign currency have been made freely available to ABB at ABB’s domicile. In the event that payment by letter of credit is agreed upon, the customer shall bear the costs of opening, notifying and confirming such letter.

In special cases, in particular if a collective invoice is required or if customer specific products will be delivered, an advanced payment may be requested as follows:

If 30% as advanced payment within 30 days of receipt of the order acknowledge by the customer,

70% within 30 days of notice of readiness of the supply for dispatch by ABB.

The customer may neither withhold nor reduce payments due to complaints, claims or counterclaims not accepted by ABB in writing.

8.3 The dates for payment shall be complied with even if dispatch, transportation, any installation or acceptance of the Supply is delayed or made impossible due to reasons for which ABB is at fault or if the entry in the public registries in the country of the customer is missing or if post-delivery work, that does not make the use of the Supply impossible, is to be carried out.

8.4 If the advance payment or agreed payment security is not provided in accordance with the terms of the contract, ABB shall be entitled to either adhere to or terminate the contract and shall, in either case, be entitled to claim damages including compensation for loss of profit.

9. Reservation of Title

ABB shall retain ownership of the Supply until receipt of full payment in accordance with the contract.

The customer shall take all measures necessary for the protection of ABB property. It shall keep the delivered items in good order at its own cost throughout the period of reservation of title and insure them against theft, breakage, fire, water and other risks and ensure that the title of ABB is not prejudiced. In particular, the customer shall not sell, mortgage or otherwise transfer the goods without the prior written consent of ABB. If the customer breaches one of these conditions, ABB shall be entitled to immediately revoke the right to the software.

10. Delivery Period

10.1 The delivery period shall commence as soon as the contract comes into effect and the advance payments due on placing the order have been made.

10.2 The delivery period shall be deemed to have been complied with if, before its expiry, the notice of readiness of the Supply for dispatch has been sent.

10.3 Compliance with the delivery period is conditional upon the customer fulfilling all its contractual and non-contractual obligations to ABB.

10.4 The delivery period shall be extended for a reasonable term if:

a) the information required for performance of the contract is not made available to ABB in time or is incomplete, or if the customer subsequently changes such information; or
b) the customer or a third party is in delay with work it has to execute, or the customer is in delay with the performance of its contractual obligations; or

10.5 If delivery is not made within the time agreed, the customer may claim damages for delayed delivery if it can be proved that the delay was caused through the fault of ABB and that the damage was a result of the delay.

11. Damages for delayed delivery

11.1 Damages for delayed delivery shall not exceed 1/2 percent for each full week of delay and shall in no event exceed 5 percent of the contract price of the part of the Supply in delivery. No claim for damages for delayed delivery may be made in the first 2 weeks of delay.

After reaching the maximum damages for delayed delivery, the customer shall grant ABB a reasonable extension of time in writing. If such extension is not complied with for reasons for which ABB is at fault, the customer may reject the delayed part of the Supply. In a partial assistance is economically not justifiable on the part of the customer, the customer may terminate the contract. In such an event, ABB shall refund the payments made for the parts of the Supply affected by the termination.

11.6 If a specific date is agreed instead of a delivery period, such date shall correspond to the last day of a delivery period. Clauses 10.1 to 10.5 shall apply thereto.

11.7 All claims of the customer arising from or in connection with delays in the performance of the contract are regulated expressly and exhaustively by this Clause 10. Other and further claims are excluded. This limitation of liability does not apply in the event of gross negligence or wilful misconduct by ABB.

12. Packing

Packing shall be invoiced separately by ABB and may not be returned. If the packing is expressly designated as ABB’s property, it shall be returned by the customer, carriage paid, to the place of dispatch.

12. Passing of Risk

12.1 Unless otherwise agreed, risk shall pass on delivery EXW (INCOTERMS 2002).

If dispatch of the Supply is delayed at the request of the customer or due to reasons for which ABB is not responsible, the risk shall pass to the customer at the time or for the reason for the Supply to be dispatched from ABB’s premises. From this time on, the Supply shall be stored and insured on the account of and at the risk of the customer.
13. Inspection and Acceptance of the Supply
13.1 Insofar as it is normal practice, ABB shall inspect the Supply before dispatch. If the customer requests further testing, such as an acceptance test, this shall be carried out in writing and paid for by the customer.
13.2 The customer shall inspect the Supply within 10 days and shall immediately notify ABB in writing of any defects. If the customer fails to do so, the Supply shall be deemed to be in order.
13.3 To the extent that ABB is responsible for the notified defects, ABB shall remedy such defects as soon as possible, and the customer shall give ABB sufficient opportunity to do so. After remedy of such defects, an acceptance test shall be carried out at the request of the customer by ABB, provided that such acceptance test has been agreed upon in accordance with Clause 13.1.
13.4 Acceptance shall also be deemed as having taken place:
  - if the customer or its representative does not participate in a possible acceptance test;
  - if the acceptance test cannot be carried out on the date arranged for reasons for which ABB is not responsible;
  - if the customer refuses to sign the acceptance report;
  - as soon as the customer puts the Supply to use, puts the Supply in its warehouse or imploids the Accept the Supply in any other way.
13.5 All claims by the customer arising from or in connection with defects in the Supply are regulated expressly and exhaustively by this Clause 13. Other and further claims are excluded. This limitation of liability does not apply in the event of gross negligence or willful misconduct by ABB.
14. Warranty
14.1 Warranty Period
The warranty period is 12 months (5 years for Levit products). The warranty period commences when the Supply leaves the works or upon the acceptance of the Supply or, if ABB also undertakes the installation of the Supply, upon completion thereof. The warranty period shall be extended for a period equal to such delay up to a maximum of 6 months after ABB's notification that the Supply is ready for dispatch.
The warranty period for repaired or replaced parts of the Supply commences anew and lasts for 12 months (5 years for Levit products) after remedy of the defects. The acceptance test shall be carried out no later than the expiry of a period which is double the warranty period stipulated in the preceding paragraph of this Clause. The warranty period shall expire prematurely if the customer or a third party undertakes inappropriate modifications or repairs to the Supply or if the customer, in the event of a defect, does not immediately take all appropriate steps to mitigate the damage and give ABB the opportunity to remedy such defect.
14.2 Liability for Defects in Material, Design and Workmanship
Upon written request by the customer, ABB shall remedy within a reasonable period any parts of the Supply which, before the expiry of the warranty period, are proved to be defective or unusable due to defective material, faulty design or poor workmanship, provided that the customer has notified ABB in writing of the defects during the warranty period and immediately after discovery. The customer shall give ABB sufficient opportunity to carry out such remedial works. Replaced parts shall become ABB's property.
ABB shall bear the costs of remedying the defective parts at its premises. If, at the customer's request, the repair is carried out outside ABB's premises, the customer shall bear all related costs such as transportation, travel and accommodation expenses as well as taxes, levies and fees incurred outside of Switzerland.
14.3 Liability for Warranted Qualities
The warranted qualities of the Supply are only those qualities which have been expressly specified as such in the Order Acknowledgement. Such warranties are valid until the expiry of the warranty period. Evidence of the warranted qualities shall be provided by any possible acceptance test. If the warranted qualities are not achieved or only partially achieved, the customer may initially only require ABB to carry out the necessary remedial works. The customer shall give ABB the necessary time and opportunity to do so.
If such remedial works fail completely or in part, the customer may claim such compensation as was agreed upon for such event, or, if such an agreement was not made, a reasonable reduction in price. If, however, the defects are so major that they cannot be remedied within a reasonable time and provided the Supply cannot be used for its specified purpose, or if such use is considerably impaired, the customer may refuse acceptance of the defective part of the Supply or, if partial acceptance is economically not justifiable, terminate the contract. In such event, ABB is only liable for reimbursement of the sums paid to it for the parts of the Supply affected by the termination.
14.4 Exclusions from the Liability for Defects
ABB is not liable if the Supply does not comply with the provisions of the contract and that non-compliance is caused by the customer itself. If the Supply does not comply with the contract, that non-compliance is deemed to be caused by the customer itself, in particular, if it was the result of defective maintenance, failure to observe the operating instructions, excessive use, use of any unsuitable operating means, chemical or electrolytic influence or work not undertaken by ABB.
ABB is furthermore not liable if the Supply does not conform with the provisions of the contract as a result of, in particular, normal wear and tear, improper use by third parties, use of spare parts or material belonging to the customer or third parties, maintenance by third parties, natural disasters or accidents.
14.5 Subcontractors
ABB's liability for defects in respect of supplies and services provided by subcontractors nominated by the customer shall be no greater than such subcontractors' liability for defects.
14.6 Exclusivity of Warranty Claims
Any warranty claims of the customer are expressly and exhaustively regulated by this Clause 14. Other claims and further claims are excluded. This limitation of agreement applies even in the event of gross negligence or willful misconduct by ABB.
14.7 Liability for Additional Obligations
ABB shall only be liable to the customer for faulty advice and the like or for breach of any additional obligations in the event of gross negligence or willful misconduct.
15. Contract Performance
15.1 In all cases where contractual performance is not duly effected and where not expressly covered by these General Conditions, the customer shall grant ABB a reasonable additional period to remedy its performance. If such additional period lapses and is unused due to fault on the part of ABB, the customer may terminate the contract with respect to the part of the Supply not in conformity with the contract or which is anticipated not to be in conformity with the contract. In such an event, ABB is only liable for reimbursement of sums paid to it for the parts of the Supply affected by the termination.
15.2 In the event of a contract termination by the customer in accordance with Clause 15.1 above, the provisions of Clause 19 shall apply with regard to any liability of ABB.
16. Termination of the Contract by ABB
The contract shall be amended as appropriate if unforeseen events substantially change the economic effect or the content of the Supply or substantially affect the fulfilment of the contract by ABB, or if provision of the Supply subsequently becomes entirely or partially impossible. Insofar as such amendment is not economically justifiable, ABB may terminate the contract or the individual provisions affected thereby.
If ABB intends to terminate the contract, it shall, after having recognised the consequences thereof, immediately inform the customer even if an extension of the delivery time has previously been agreed. In the event of a termination of the contract, ABB shall be entitled to payment for those parts of the Supply which have already been made. Claims for damages by the customer are excluded.
17. Export Control
The customer acknowledges that the Supply may be subject to Swiss and/or foreign statutory provisions and regulations regarding export control and, without export or re-export permits from the competent authorities, may not be sold, leased or otherwise transferred or used for a purpose other than that agreed upon. The customer agrees to comply with such provisions and regulations. The customer acknowledges that such provisions and regulations may change and are applicable to the contract according to the wording valid at the time. The Supply may neither directly nor indirectly be used in any way in connection with the production, use or storage of chemical, biological or nuclear weapons or carrier systems.
18. Data Protection
ABB may, whilst performing the contract, process personal data of the customer. The customer agrees in particular that ABB may disclose such data to third parties in Switzerland and abroad for the development and cultivation of business relationships.
19. Limitation of Liability
19.1 All claims by the customer for damages not affecting the Supply itself, such as damages for production interruption, loss of usage, loss of orders, loss of profits, claims by third parties or claims for indirect or consequential damage, irrespective of the legal basis for such claims, are excluded. The total liability of ABB arising from or in connection with the contract or breach thereof is limited to the sums paid by the customer for the Supply provided.
19.2 Claims by the customer arising out of or in connection with the contract or breach thereof are expressly and exhaustively regulated by these conditions. Other and further claims are excluded.
19.3 This limitation of liability shall not apply in the event of gross negligence or willful misconduct by ABB.
20. Right of Recourse by ABB
In the event of injury to persons or damage to property of third parties as a result of accidents or omissions by the customer or its personnel for which ABB is held liable, ABB shall have a right of recourse against the customer.
21. Installation of Plant and Machinery
If ABB carries out the installation or the supervision of the installation of the Supply, the General Conditions of Installation of Plant and Machinery of ABB are applicable to such installation.
22.1 Amendments to the contract must be in writing to become effective.
22.2 If a provision of these General Conditions should prove to be wholly or partially ineffective, the parties shall replace such provision with a new provision that comes as close as possible to the legal and economic effect of the original provision.
23. Jurisdiction and Applicable Law
Place of jurisdiction shall be Baden/Switzerland. ABB may, however, also bring an action before the courts at the customer's domicile.