Main Facts
Customer: ACEA
Segment: utility
Commissioning: 2008-2009
ABB products: customized engineered switchgear solutions.

Customer Need
ACEA is the metropolitan utility of the most unique city in the world, Rome. Its services cover the demand of 2.7 million inhabitants and 20 million tourists per year. Top quality level is maintained by applying continuous improvements and one working area has been found in the automation of the secondary distribution electrical network. How to make it on old phased-out gas insulated ring main units was the question.

ABB Response
A complete review of the existing manually operated drive mechanisms was not an option and therefore revamping kits have been designed for applying them on directly.

Customer Benefits
- Fit for purpose application kits
- Stock order and freely programmable site work
- Fully automated ring main units
- Improved service quality level.

The Story
ACEA is one of the largest Italian utility groups focused on two main activities: energy and water. It has been incorporated in 1909 as utility of the city of Rome to provide energy for public and private lighting. It is today focused on energy, environmental and water services: production, sales and distribution of electricity, development of renewable energy resources, urban waste management, public lighting and integrated water services.

ACEA took over the metropolitan distribution grid from the national utility ENEL in 2001 becoming the second electricity player. About 600 ABB ring main units CSFU type are installed in the city. They were specifically selected by the original owner because of the compact dimensions which allow the installation in very small rooms as required by a historical city such as Rome.

After design, prototyping and testing activities, ACEA released a bulk order to ABB for all the kits, splitting the delivery in several portions. ACEA maintenance staff has been trained at ABB premises for performing the site upgrade. All the above has given to ACEA the full flexibility to schedule hundreds of interventions in all different city locations.

The complete secondary distribution network is going to be fully automated by 2009.
For more information please contact Service department at:

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