REFERENCE CASE STORY

PowerWave 33 for Munich Re
Product excellence and lowest total cost of ownership deciding factors

With annual revenues of over 50 billion Euro, Munich Re is the world’s largest reinsurer. When Munich Re wanted to modernize and extend their computing center they chose ABB uninterruptible power supply (UPS) systems to do so. Munich Re had done their sums carefully: ABB’s PowerWave 33 provided them with the performance that they needed and the total cost of ownership, calculated over 15 years, was the most attractive available.

The Munich Re computer center was equipped with a Masterguard 8 x 120 kVA single-block UPS that no longer fulfilled requirements. ABB replaced this with a 2 x 3 x 300 kVA PowerWave 33 system. In addition, for additional power security, the existing single power bus was replaced by a dual-feed system.

The work was carried out in two phases: first, a new power bus was installed in parallel with the existing bus. In the second step, the existing bus was replaced by the second of the new dual feeds and the existing UPS (including batteries) was replaced by the new PowerWave 33. The customer requested the option of adding an additional four units to each power bus at a future date; the present configuration makes this simple.

ABB close cooperation between planners, the project manager, engineers and those responsible for the eventual running of the installation ensured a smooth project delivery.” Alongside the technical excellence of the product, deciding factors were the exceptional energy efficiency, low maintenance costs and the operational savings these will deliver over the next 15 years. The operating costs formed a central part of the client’s cost calculation.