

## Editorial Board

### Claes Ryttoft

Chief Technology Officer  
Group R&D and Technology

### Clarissa Haller

Head of Corporate Communications

### Ron Popper

Head of Corporate Responsibility

### Eero Jaaskela

Head of Group Account Management

### Andreas Moglestue

Chief Editor, *ABB Review*

### Publisher

*ABB Review* is published by ABB Group R&D and Technology.

ABB Technology Ltd.

*ABB Review*

Affolternstrasse 44

CH-8050 Zurich

Switzerland

[abb.review@ch.abb.com](mailto:abb.review@ch.abb.com)

*ABB Review* is published four times a year in English, French, German, Spanish, Chinese and Russian. *ABB Review* is free of charge to those with an interest in ABB's technology and objectives. For a subscription, please contact your nearest ABB representative or subscribe online at [www.abb.com/abbreview](http://www.abb.com/abbreview)

Partial reprints or reproductions are permitted subject to full acknowledgement. Complete reprints require the publisher's written consent.

Publisher and copyright ©2012

ABB Technology Ltd.

Zurich/Switzerland

### Printer

Vorarlberger Verlagsanstalt GmbH

AT-6850 Dornbirn/Austria

### Layout

DAVILLA AG

Zurich/Switzerland

### Disclaimer

The information contained herein reflects the views of the authors and is for informational purposes only. Readers should not act upon the information contained herein without seeking professional advice. We make publications available with the understanding that the authors are not rendering technical or other professional advice or opinions on specific facts or matters and assume no liability whatsoever in connection with their use. The companies of the ABB Group do not make any warranty or guarantee, or promise, expressed or implied, concerning the content or accuracy of the views expressed herein.

ISSN: 1013-3119

[www.abb.com/abbreview](http://www.abb.com/abbreview)



Preview 3|12

# Software

Most readers of *ABB Review* associate ABB with its various products and services for the power and automation sectors. Very few would consider ABB a software company. The latter perception is becoming increasingly inaccurate as the role of software within the company is growing.

Starting on the embedded level, software is an important component in such products as drives, meters and protection devices, where it enhances functionality and flexibility. Moving up to the system level, software is a central part of control and automation systems: It permits numerous individual devices to join forces and exchange data in real time with the whole becoming much more than the sum of its parts. In addition to the individual sensors and actors, such systems have control devices for coordination, often executing sophisticated algorithms. As a third category, ABB also creates standalone software packages for higher level control and optimization tasks.

Besides examples illustrating all these categories, edition 3/2012 of *ABB Review* will look at some more general aspects of software, such as how ABB assures quality in its software development cycle, or how cybersecurity threats can be mitigated.