johannesburg, south africa, 31 july 2023

Making a world of difference with process automation

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* **ABB’s integrated automation and electrical systems are essential to support industries on their sustainability journey**
* **Automation is a significant asset base for producers, often the digital core of the business**

Across societies and economies, many of us take it for granted that we have reliable power at the flip of a switch, that water flows at the turn of a tap, or that goods are available at our fingertips. What we rarely think about are the sophisticated, interconnected processes, systems, technologies, and operations working around the clock to enable everyday life as many of us know it.

ABB’s ‘Making a World of Difference’ programme demonstrates how its automating, electrifying, and digital technologies are making a world of difference by enabling industries to become more efficient and sustainable, from hydrogen and mining to water, shipping, emissions monitoring, and automation. ABB’s involvement also extends to hydrocarbons, pulp and paper, ports, food and beverage, and metals. “Our technologies and experts orchestrate industrial processes, machinery and systems to operate seamlessly and efficiently to enable our everyday,” says **John Manuell**, Local Division Manager, ABB.

At the heart of this seeming ‘magic’ in the background is process automation. For nearly 50 years, automated measurement and control of plants and processes has been central to empowering the industries that provide the basic building blocks of our everyday lives – power, water, metals, minerals, chemicals, transportation – to reliably meet our needs.

Today, fuelled by economic and population growth, these industries are working hard to meet one of their greatest challenges: reducing emissions and increasing the share of low-carbon sources in their energy mix. ABB’s integrated automation and electrical systems are essential to supporting industries on their sustainability journey, helping control production while optimising the use of power and navigating the energy transition.

For more than a century, automation systems have been enabling industries that provide the basic building blocks of our everyday lives. And for over 40 years, ABB has built and maintained a leadership position in Distributed Control Systems (DCS) that are at the heart of some of the largest and most critical operations on our planet.

For many producers, a key action is to electrify processes formerly powered by combustion and fossil fuels, to enable a transition to greener energy sources. Integrated process and electrical control and power management increase energy efficiency of operations, and reliably incorporate renewable energy sources. Digital technologies furthermore allow experts to cost-effectively design and deploy such integrated systems for efficiency, ease-of-use, and energy optimisation.

To maximise economies of scale, many plants today produce single commodities. At the same time, demand for customisation drives smaller, specialised plants that are close to the customer. Automation must scale to address these varying needs. Automation is a significant asset base for producers, and often the digital core of the business. As digitalisation progresses, operational and information technology will converge, allowing value-adding applications to run on the ‘edge’ of the process, or in the cloud.

“The control system of tomorrow will leverage new business models that facilitate change, while conforming to work-place expectations. ‘Automation-as-a-service’, with readily accessible and selectable applications, will provide options alongside traditional business models,” predicts Manuell.

Without the energy, materials and commodities that underpin our lives, and the technologies, systems, and people that automate, electrify, and digitalise the infrastructures that provide them, our world would not be the same. We are proud to contribute to orchestrating industries and society to run safer, smarter, and more sustainably, and help conduct the magic behind our everyday lives – through process automation.

**ENDS**

**ABB’s Process Automation business is a leader in automation, electrification and digitalization for the process and hybrid industries. We serve our customers with a broad portfolio of products, systems, and end-to-end solutions, including our # 1 distributed control system, software, and lifecycle services, industry-specific products as well as measurement and analytics, and marine offerings. As the global #2 in the market, we build on our deep domain expertise, diverse team and global footprint, and are dedicated to helping our customers increase competitiveness, improve their return on investment and run safe, smart, and sustainable operations. go.abb/processautomation**

**ABB (ABBN: SIX Swiss Ex) is a leading global technology company that energizes the transformation of society and industry to achieve a more productive, sustainable future. By connecting software to its electrification, robotics, automation and motion portfolio, ABB pushes the boundaries of technology to drive performance to new levels. With a history of excellence stretching back more than 130 years, ABB’s success is driven by about 105,000 talented employees in over 100 countries. www.abb.com.**

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