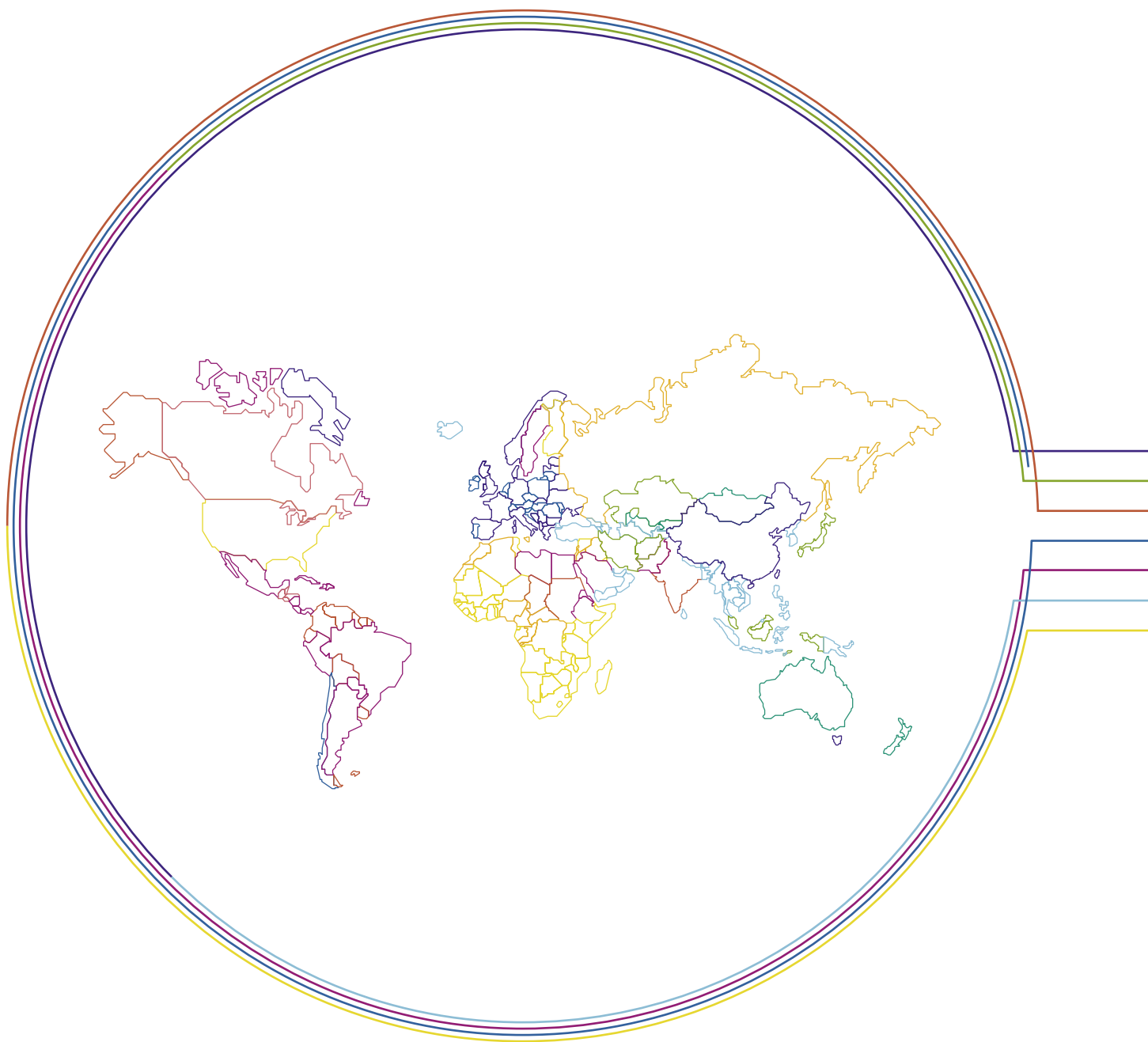


Contributing to a better world
The ABB Group Annual Report 2007
Sustainability review



ABB

This is ABB

For ABB, sustainability is about balancing economic success, environmental stewardship and social progress to benefit all our stakeholders.

Sustainability considerations cover how we design and manufacture products, what we offer customers, how we engage suppliers, how we assess risks and opportunities, and how we behave in the communities where we operate and towards one another. We also strive for excellence in health and safety performance.

ABB is a leader in power and automation technologies that enable utility and industry customers to improve performance while lowering environmental impact. The ABB Group of companies operates in around 100 countries and employs about 112,000 people.

Sustainability highlights

- ABB meets target to reduce its use of energy by five percent per manufactured unit over two-year period
- Major order won in 2007 to supply high-voltage direct current transmission for world's largest offshore wind farm
- New foundation set up to support underprivileged engineering students in several countries
- Human rights policy approved to complement existing environmental, social, health and safety, and business ethics policies
- ABB develops pilot projects to streamline road transport of products and select shipping on environmental criteria
- 35 percent of ABB's major suppliers are now externally verified to ISO 14001
- Sustainability awards received in 16 countries

Total ABB Group (\$ millions unless otherwise indicated)		
	2007	2006
Orders	34,348	27,048
Revenues	29,183	23,281
Earnings before interest and taxes (EBIT)	4,023	2,557
as % of revenues	13.8%	11.0%
Net income	3,757	1,390
Basic earnings per share (\$)	1.66	0.65
Dividend per share in CHF (proposed)	0.48	0.24
Cash flow from operations	3,054	1,939
Free cash flow	2,429	1,598
as % of net income	65%	115%
Return on capital employed	35%	21%
Number of employees	112,000	108,000

Introduction

This report focuses on the seven major issues where ABB has significant sustainability impact and follows the relevant Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Guidelines. This year we have merged our reporting of energy efficiency and climate change since they have much in common, and we have added a new issue: Working in the community.

The GRI standard disclosures most relevant to ABB's operations are presented in the appropriate parts of this report, while the remainder are on www.abb.com/sustainability.

To facilitate comparisons, a table of numerical performance indicators over the last three years is included (pages 42–45). These indicators have been verified by the independent verification body Det Norske Veritas.

The reporting boundaries encompass all manufacturing facilities, comprising approximately 350 sites in the 48 countries where ABB has substantial manufacturing activities. ABB's non-manufacturing organizations are also included, although these have only limited environmental impact.

ABB has a global network of more than 400 sustainability controllers and officers responsible for auditing and reporting performance.

While this report provides certain information with respect to ABB products, services, technologies and standards of conduct, its contents must not be construed as constituting an expressed or implied warranty or representation.

This report is printed on paper made from elementary chlorine-free (ECF) pulp in mills which are certified to ISO 14001. Approximately 50 percent of the wood used comes from forests certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC).

The ABB Annual Report 2007 consists of two volumes, a combined Operational and Financial review, and a Sustainability review. For an additional copy of either volume, please use the contact information at the back of this document, or download copies from www.abb.com.

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CEO's letter to stakeholders

Sustainability is part of our business, part of our success



02

Dear stakeholders,

Michel Demaré,
CEO and CFO

ABB's mission is to improve performance – our own and our customers' – drive innovation, which is essential to success, attract and retain the best people, and act responsibly as a corporate citizen. Sustainability is an integral part of this mission.

One of the key ways in which we improve performance – and help to reduce emissions and mitigate climate change – is by developing energy-efficient products, systems and solutions for our customers. These products strengthen power grids and improve industrial processes, while saving energy and lowering environmental impact.

Energy efficiency is deeply embedded in what ABB produces and how we manufacture. It's part of our DNA. A significant proportion of ABB's revenues now comes from products that increase customers' energy efficiency.

Another part of our mission is to innovate, and here ABB's sustainability commitment is ever present. Our 6,000 researchers and scientists around the world refer to mandatory sustainability guidelines to ensure that every new product being developed passes strict criteria before it can be completed, and that its impact throughout its life cycle is known.

But innovation is about more than technology development. We want our employees to share a broader vision of the company's role in society, our responsibilities and accountabilities to all stakeholders – not only to investors and customers but also their colleagues and local communities.

Another aspect of our mission highlights the need to act responsibly and adopt high governance standards which, in turn, help us to attract and retain dedicated and skilled people.

These different aspects of our mission serve to underline a core message: Sustainability is part of our business; it's not an add-on or a "nice-to-have." It is core to our business performance and success.

However, we still face considerable challenges. We cannot claim to be behaving with full responsibility if people are killed or injured as a result of working for the company.

One area where we must improve is our health and safety performance. A total of 22 employees and contractors died and nearly 50 were seriously injured in 2007 in incidents at the workplace and related to travel. This is unacceptable, and we are taking further rigorous action to improve standards.

Occupational health and safety is one of the seven focus areas we concentrate upon in this report. As in 2006, we report on areas where we have the most significant sustainability impacts and where we believe we can make a difference and effect change. These range from the environmental – energy efficiency, climate change and how we manage our impacts – through to societal issues, including human rights and working with our suppliers.

There have been some significant improvements and achievements in 2007. Our drive for greater energy efficiency was not limited to what we provide to customers; we met a goal to reduce energy use at our own plants and offices by five percent over a two-year period. That process will not stop.

At the end of 2007, we introduced a new human rights policy, designed to complement our existing social, environmental and ethics policies, and we have also strengthened the criteria in the risk review process we use before tendering for projects.


Human rights is not an easy subject for business to address since it is recognized as primarily the responsibility of government. But we are committed to doing our best within our sphere of influence, avoiding complicity in abuses and driving greater awareness of shared responsibilities. ABB is on a learning curve, and we are working hard on these issues.

Externally, ABB continued in 2007 to be actively involved in a number of international initiatives and organizations, which are seeking to raise standards and make progress on key issues. These include the electrical utilities working group of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development and the 3C Climate Change initiative, which have put forward proposals to governments on mitigating climate change, and the United Nations Global Compact and Business Leaders Initiative on Human Rights, which are seeking to embed improved practices in international business.

Our commitments to environmental, social, ethical and human rights goals are not merely reputational issues. They are part of our values and beliefs. They are pillars of a healthy and successful company, and influence the bottom line.

These pillars need to be supported by credible data. That is also why we continue to support and follow the Global Reporting Initiative Guidelines in this report, and why we have key performance elements independently verified.

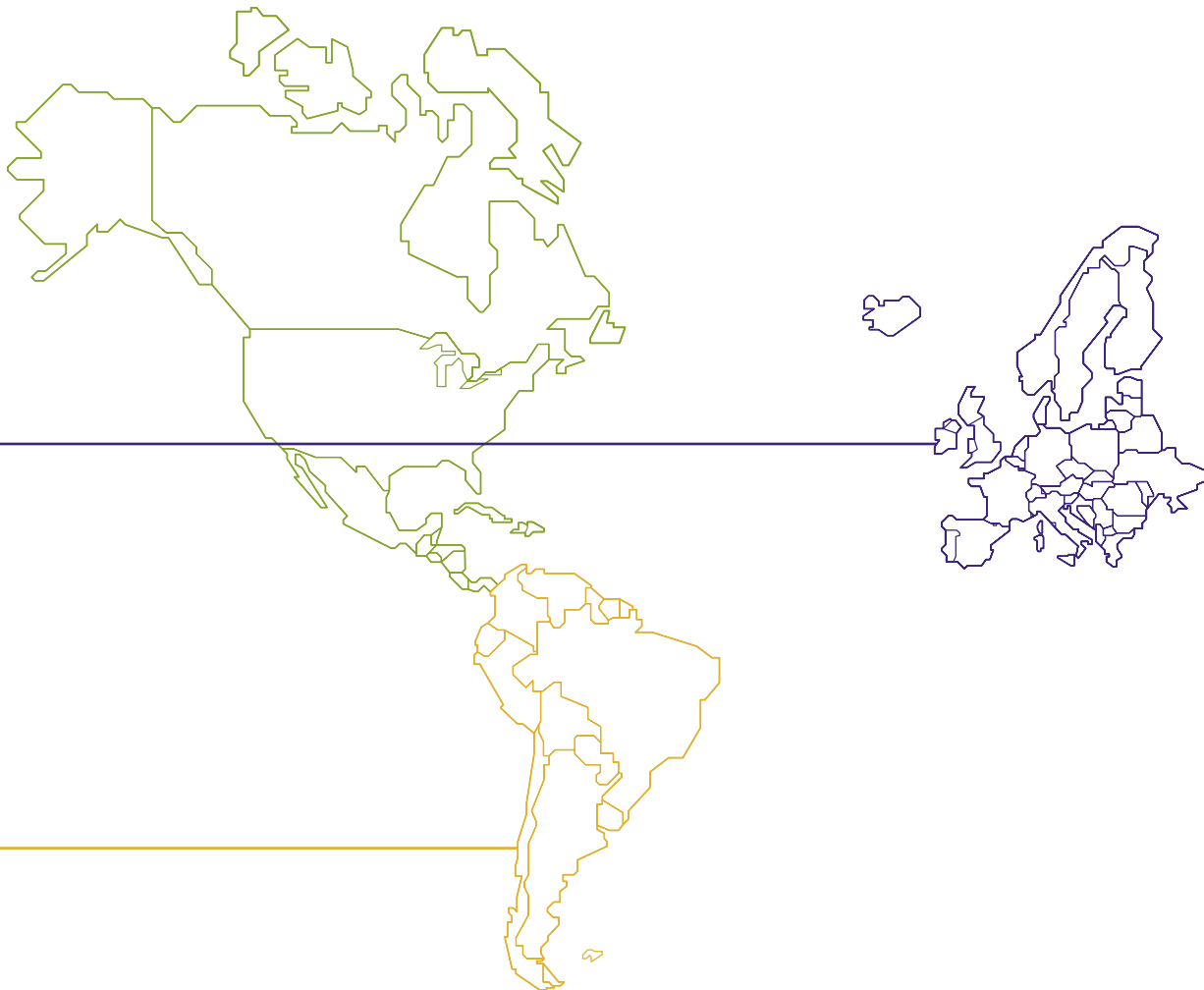
ABB will continue to follow the so-called triple bottom line approach to business, seeking a balance between economic success, care for the environment and a commitment to social progress. We know that acting responsibly as a corporation helps us to do better business and is good for business. And we know that sustainability is part of our success.



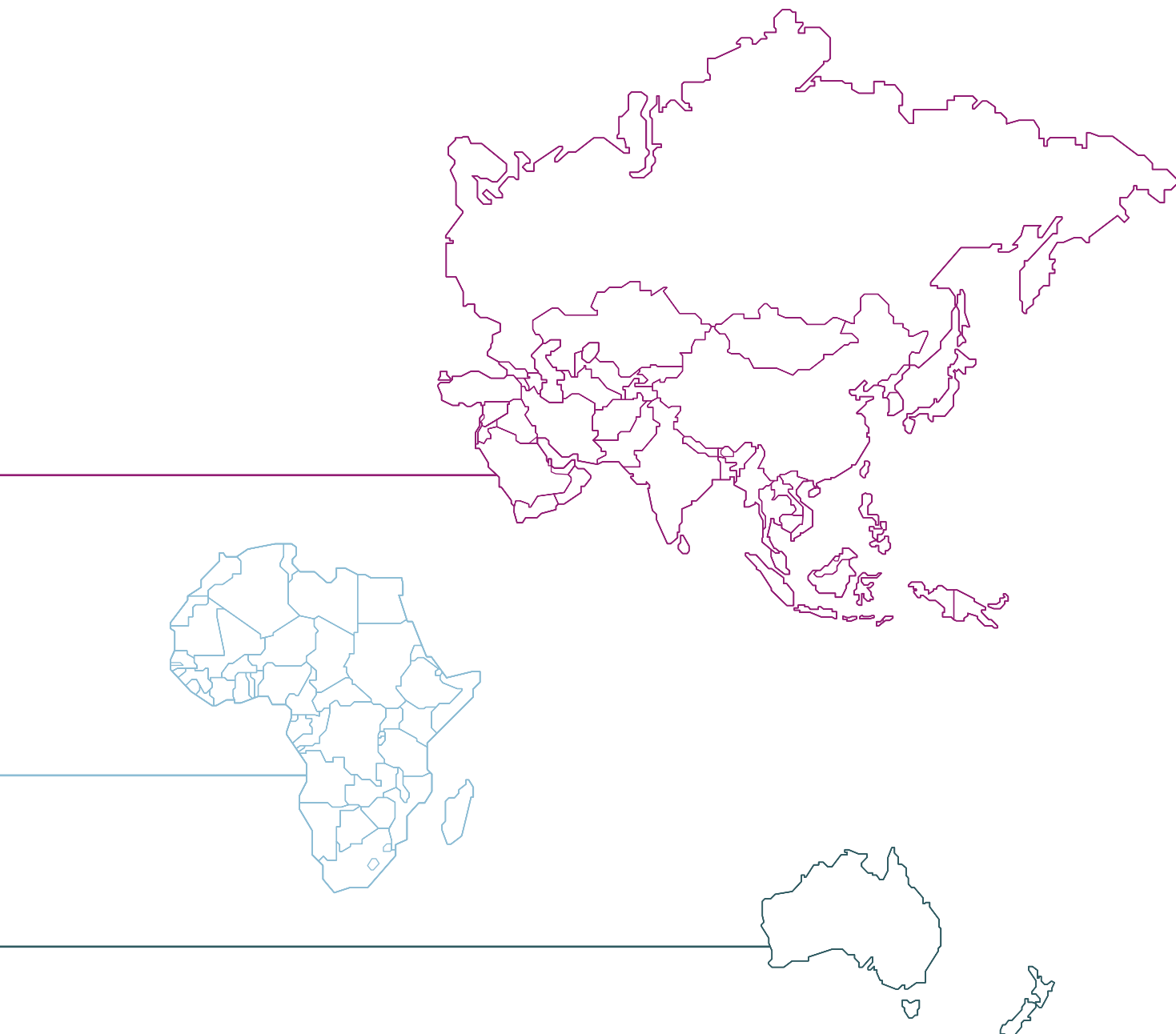
Michel Demaré
CEO and CFO

Contributing to a better world

ABB's products, systems and solutions save energy, cut emissions and reduce costs – for customers and in the company's manufacturing plants. Here are some examples of how ABB is working to save energy and mitigate climate change, fulfilling its slogan of "Power and productivity for a better world."



- **United States:** An ABB cable link allows large ships in port to draw power from the Seattle grid rather than from diesel engines on board. Up to 35 tons of fuel as well as emissions are saved each stay.
- **Sweden:** A wide range of ABB automation and power products and systems help a customer eliminate 170,000 tons of CO₂ emissions a year at a huge paper mill.
- **Argentina:** Greenhouse gas emissions have been significantly reduced and productivity increased at the largest oil and gas field thanks to ABB's power and automation solutions.
- **Switzerland:** Improvements to production processes, alternative transportation methods and energy efficiency measures have cut ABB's CO₂ emissions by about 50 percent since 1990.
- **Germany:** ABB is to supply the power equipment to connect the world's largest offshore wind farm in the North Sea to the German grid, saving 1.5 million tons of CO₂ emissions a year.
- **Ireland:** ABB participates in the first sustainable energy zone in Dundalk, which aims to ensure that 20 percent of electricity and heat used by 2010 is generated from renewable sources.



- **South Africa:** Energy efficiency measures at ABB's motor factory in Alrode have cut electricity use by nine percent since 2004 while production has risen by 75 percent.
- **UAE:** ABB supports the government's green building initiative in Dubai to cut water and energy use, and supplies automation control technology for houses to reduce power consumption and emissions.
- **Turkey:** The installation of ABB's variable-speed drives and motors at two factories of the biggest polyester textile manufacturer helped to raise energy efficiency by 36 percent.
- **China:** ABB completed the delivery of one of the largest district heating projects, which will ensure clean and energy-efficient heat and eliminate 500,000 tons of greenhouse gas emissions a year.
- **Japan:** Nearly 70,000 tons of CO₂ emissions have been saved each year after two ferries were fitted with ABB's Azipod podded propulsion technology.
- **India:** ABB's power and network management solutions are enabling Delhi's metro rail network to run efficiently and are also helping to cut traffic congestion and pollution.
- **Australia:** High-efficiency motors and drives will be supplied to the largest desalination plant on the east coast, helping to secure water supplies, save the customer money and cut emissions.

Energy efficiency and climate change

Lowering emissions and raising performance

- Energy efficiency is a market driver for ABB. A significant proportion of revenues comes from sales of energy efficiency products
- The Group successfully reached its target of reducing energy use per manufactured unit by five percent by the end of 2007
- ABB products such as motors and variable-speed drives lead to huge energy savings and lower emissions

Energy efficiency is part of ABB's DNA. It's a core element of ABB manufacturing processes and the products that are sold to customers. In this way ABB helps customers to use electrical power effectively and to increase industrial productivity in a sustainable way.

The link between energy efficiency and mitigating climate change is clear. According to a recent study by the International Energy Agency, 80 percent of projected CO₂ emission reductions by 2030 will be delivered through energy efficiency.

ABB recognizes the issue's importance: A significant proportion of ABB's revenues comes from products that increase customers' energy efficiency. And ABB's strategy through to 2011 identifies environmental concerns as a key driver of market growth.

As an example, ABB's motors and variable-speed drives already contribute to large energy savings and CO₂ emission reductions. The global installed base of ABB low-voltage drives alone saves about 130 million megawatt-hours of electricity a year, equivalent to the annual consumption of about 32 million households in developed countries. This saving avoided

CO₂ emissions of about 109 million tons – that's more than the yearly emissions of Finland.

Another important means of reducing CO₂ emissions is through a wider use of renewable energy. Wind power farms, for example, tend to be offshore, a long way from the grid and consumers. But ABB's high-voltage direct current Light technology brings that renewable power "to market" by linking offshore wind turbines to mainland grids. This represents a key opportunity for ABB with clear societal benefits.

ABB's industrial robots also save energy and the environment by reducing the amount of material that is spoiled in the manufacturing process.

Within ABB, the company met its target of reducing the use of energy per manufactured unit by five percent over two years. Savings have been impressive: The motor factory in Alrode, South Africa, cut the power used to produce a motor by 50 percent; electricity use per employee in China decreased by 25 percent; and a fund for energy-saving projects was created in Sweden, financed by a surcharge on the price of all air tickets purchased.



Using wind power effectively

One of the key power challenges is how to transport renewable sources of energy, often from remote areas, to the grid efficiently and in a cost-effective way. ABB's technology and products enable this to take place in an environmentally friendly way.

ABB won an order in 2007 worth more than \$400 million from the German utility E.ON to supply the power equipment that will connect the world's largest off-shore wind farm in the North Sea to the German grid.

ABB will connect the 400-megawatt Borkum-2 park – the most remote wind farm in the world – using its high-voltage direct current (HVDC) Light transmission technology. Most of the transmission system will be laid underwater and underground, minimizing environmental impact.

Scheduled to be operational in 2009, the wind farm is expected to save carbon dioxide emissions of 1.5 million tons per year by replacing fossil-fuel generation.

ABB is the world's largest supplier of electrical products and services to wind turbine manufacturers.

Energy efficiency begins at home

When ABB set a two-year target to reduce energy use at offices and factories by five percent, specialists in Sweden leapt at the opportunity, focusing on behavioral and institutional changes, as well as improved technical solutions.

The result: 120 projects were launched, partly funded by a 1.8 percent surcharge on every airline ticket used by employees. The surcharge – a first for the ABB Group – is expected to bring in up to \$400,000 a year for use on energy efficiency projects.

A wide range of projects has been introduced. An investment in multiple adaptors to encourage staff to switch off all electrical equipment saved 1,000 kilowatt-hours in the first six months, while a heat recovery scheme at Karlskrona cable factory cut electricity consumption by 25 percent.

Energy efficiency and climate change

Key GRI indicators

EN3 Direct energy use (gigawatt-hours – GWh)

Primary fuel	2007*	2006	2005
Oil (11.63 MWh/ton)	103	117	134
Coal (7.56 MWh/ton)	0	8	8
Gas	437	435	460
District heat	223*	239	217
Electricity	1,264*	1,265	1,304
Total energy used	2,027	2,065	2,123

* The figures are based on reported data from 85 percent of employees and an assumed energy use of 3 megawatt-hours (MWh) per employee for district heat and 12 MWh per employee for electricity for the remaining 15 percent of employees.

Due to a heterogeneous product mix comprising thousands of different-sized products, ABB does not report energy consumption per unit of production. Instead, ABB monitors the use of energy per employee.

Megawatt-hours (MWh) per employee

2007	18
2006	19
2005	20

Direct energy use by type for 2007

Oil	5%
Gas	22%
District heat	11%
Electricity	62%

EN16 Greenhouse gas emissions (kilotons)

	2007	2006	2005
CO ₂ from use of energy	835*	833	870
SF ₆ (in CO ₂ equivalents)	398***	558	295
CO ₂ from transport by own fleet**	350	350	350

* The figure is based on reported data from 85 percent of employees and an assumed energy use of 3 megawatt-hours (MWh) per employee for district heat and 12 MWh per employee for electricity for the remaining 15 percent of employees.

** Estimated figures.

*** For the first year, this figure is based on site-specific information of ABB's gas inventories instead of a global estimate used previously. Figures from previous years are therefore not comparable.

EN4 Indirect energy use (gigawatt-hours – GWh)

	Used by ABB			Losses at utilities			Total use of energy		
	2007	2006	2005	2007	2006	2005	2007	2006	2005
District heat	223*	239	217	33	36	32	256	275	249
Electricity	1,264*	1,265	1,304	1,746	1,747	1,801	3,010	3,012	3,105

* The figures are based on reported data from 85 percent of employees and an assumed energy use of 3 megawatt-hours (MWh) per employee for district heat and 12 MWh per employee for electricity for the remaining 15 percent of employees.

District heat and electricity are the main categories of indirect energy used by ABB.

Indirect energy use is defined in this table as the energy losses incurred by the utilities supplying ABB's energy.

Carbon dioxide (CO₂) emission calculations are based on in-house energy use for production, lighting, heating and air-conditioning, and include indirect emissions at utilities where ABB buys power.

The total amount of ABB's greenhouse gas emissions, based on the WBCSD/WRI Greenhouse Gas Protocol (Scope I and II), is about 1.6 million tons for the whole ABB Group.

Greenhouse gas emissions by type for 2007

CO ₂ from use of energy	53%
SF ₆ (in CO ₂ equivalents)	25%
CO ₂ from transport by own fleet	22%



EC2 Financial implications of climate change

Climate change is of strategic importance for ABB's customers in the utility and industry sectors, and ABB is in a strong position to help. The company's greatest contribution to the reduction of greenhouse gases is through the products it supplies to them. This business opportunity has a positive influence on ABB's financial results and examples are described in this report. ABB's own climate risks are small since its facilities are not located in areas expected to be significantly affected, and its CO₂ emissions are low.

EN18 Greenhouse gas reduction initiatives

In 2006, ABB set a target to reduce its energy use at each site by five percent per output unit over two years. ABB successfully met this target by the end of 2007. Examples of energy savings achieved are published in this report.

ABB executives take part in global initiatives on climate change such as the electrical utilities working group of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, the World Economic Forum's G8 Climate Change roundtable and the 3C (Combat Climate Change) initiative launched by the Swedish utility Vattenfall.

Managing environmental impact

Seeking continuous improvement

- More than 90 percent of manufacturing and service sites are managed in accordance with ISO 14001, resulting in less use of hazardous materials, energy and other resources
- Approximately 200 manufacturing sites have integrated environmental, quality, and health and safety management systems
- ABB regularly sets new environmental objectives as part of efforts to improve performance

All industrial activities have varying degrees of environmental impact caused by emissions, waste, and the use of energy and materials that result in pollution and depletion of natural resources. ABB has been working for many years to reduce its impacts, both within its own plants and offices, and those caused by its products.

As part of these efforts, ABB now uses less material and energy, streamlines its means of transportation and is making increased efforts to design products that can be recycled.

To ensure continual improvement, ABB requires all manufacturing facilities to comply with the requirements of ISO 14001 and OHSAS 18001 standards, and has integrated these standards, as well as those covering quality, into everyday business activities.

But management systems alone are not enough. ABB has therefore developed intranet-based tools and procedures to make these systems more effective. One example is the company's list of prohibited and restricted substances, supported with guidelines on the phasing out of these substances.

Improving performance starts in the design phase of new products and processes. Tools and training are provided for design engineers to carry out environmental Life Cycle Assessments (LCAs) to assess a product's environmental impact throughout its life cycle. An LCA indicates where improvements can be made, for example in areas relating to material selection, energy efficiency and recycling.

To foster continual improvement as required by ISO 14001, ABB regularly sets Group-wide environmental objectives which address significant environmental aspects of its operations. Results are monitored continually and the objectives redefined annually.

A multinational company such as ABB benefits from the economy of scale, which permits the sharing of best practices between approximately 350 sites in 48 countries. For example, water-based painting systems have been developed at one site and then transferred to others to reduce emissions of organic solvents.

Overall, transfers of best practices have resulted in lower emissions, less waste, significant cost savings and safer working environments, leading to cleaner production processes.



Raising efficiency, cutting emissions

ABB manufacturing units around the world have improved their energy efficiency and cut their emissions in a wide variety of ways – through improved industrial processes and improvements to plants.

One of the most spectacular successes is to be found in Switzerland, where ABB has reduced carbon dioxide emissions by 50 percent compared to 1990 levels. “We have clearly beaten the targets of the Kyoto Protocol by reducing emissions by about 10,000 tons of CO₂, and we hope to improve on that by another few percent by 2010,” says Remo Kuery, country sustainability controller.

There have been significant improvements to industrial processes, such as steel plating, and greater emphasis on heat recycling and transporting more deliveries by rail rather than road. Energy has been saved in offices through better insulation, greater use of natural lighting and many small steps such as replacing computer screens with flat screens.

Cleaning up contamination

As part of efforts to manage environmental impact, ABB has cleaned up sites where soil and groundwater were contaminated by past manufacturing processes.

In Chico, California, the company has taken responsibility for cleaning up a site – even though the contamination occurred some 30 years ago at a subsidiary of a now-divested ABB company. About 225 acres of land and drinking wells attached to 63 homes were polluted by solvents used for cleaning aluminum products.

ABB agreed to remediate the water after being identified as a “successor of interest” by the California Department of Toxic Substance Control, and is working with state agencies and the community to restore the environment.

ABB is paying \$2 million for the affected residents to be connected to Chico’s water supply mains rather than using their own private wells. The company’s behavior was dubbed “a remarkable example of corporate responsibility” by local media.

Managing environmental impact

Key GRI indicators

EN1 Use of hazardous substances (tons)

	2007	2006	2005
Phthalates – softener for PVC	43	42	19
PBB and PBDE – flame retardants in plastics	0	3.1	9
Lead in submarine cables	4,750	6,900	4,306
Lead in other products, e.g. backup batteries and counterweights in robots	346	222	316
Cadmium in rechargeable batteries	21*	4	20
Cadmium in industrial batteries delivered to customers	0.4	22	26
Cadmium in lead alloy	3.5	5	3
Mercury in products delivered to customers	0.013	0.009	0.014
SF ₆ insulation gas (inflow to ABB)	909*	815	481
SF ₆ insulation gas (outflow from ABB)	892*	596	441

* Increase due to higher business volume.

EN2 Percentage of materials used that are recycled input materials

The lead used as counterweights for robots and the cadmium used in industrial batteries are recycled materials.

EN8 Water consumption (kilotons)

	2007	2006	2005
Purchased from water companies	3,186*	3,431	3,432
Groundwater extracted by ABB**	2,800	2,700	2,500
Surface water extracted by ABB**	2,300	2,500	1,700

* The figure is based on reported data from 85 percent of employees and an assumed water consumption of 10 tons/year/employee for the remaining 15 percent of employees.

** Estimated (rounded) figures.

EN20 Emissions of NOx and SOx (tons SO₂ and NO₂)

	2007	2006	2005
SOx from burning coal	0	6	6
SOx from burning oil	76	86	97
NOx from burning coal	0	4	4
NOx from burning oil	57	65	73
NOx from burning gas	94	89	99

These figures are for fossil fuels consumed on ABB premises for heating and process purposes.

Emissions of Volatile Organic Compounds (tons)

	2007	2006	2005
Volatile organic compounds (VOC)	850	992	981
Chlorinated volatile organic compounds (VOC-Cl)	13	29	13.5

The major constituents of VOCs and VOC-Cl are xylene, thinner and perchloroethylene.

EN22 Waste (kilotons)

	2007	2006	2005
Waste sent for recycling	126	112	85
General waste sent for disposal	38*	31	29
Hazardous waste	6	4	6

* The figure is based on reported data from 85 percent of employees and an assumed waste output of 0.28 tons/year/employee for the remaining 15 percent of employees.

The main waste streams at ABB organizations are wood, paper, oil and plastic. ABB's aim is to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill and to increase its use of materials which are recycled or made available for reuse.

EN23 Numbers of significant spills

	2007	2006	2005
Oil spills	6	3	8
Chemical spills	1	0	7
Emissions to air	2	1	3
Others	3	0	1

Adequate decontamination procedures were implemented to prevent any permanent contamination of soil and water due to these spills. Corrective actions, such as improved control systems, have been taken to reduce the risk of future spills.

EN28 Significant fines for non-compliance

One penalty was reported during 2007, which related to the lack of a fire prevention certificate in Italy. The amount of the fine is still to be decided.

Product innovation

Sustainability is key to success

- 6,000 ABB researchers and developers work worldwide to produce innovative and sustainable technology
- Sustainability guidelines, covering environmental issues and health and safety, are built into the development of all new products
- New advances in frequency conversion, multivariable process control and ultrahigh-voltage transmission technologies save energy and boost performance

Understanding and meeting customer needs with cutting-edge product innovation while lowering environmental impact is a key strength of the company.

ABB's research and development departments worldwide employ some 6,000 highly skilled people in different businesses and at seven corporate research centers. Spending on research and development in 2007 was \$1.2 billion, up nearly nine percent compared to the previous year.

When developing new products, the ABB designer follows strict sustainability guidelines applicable to each phase of the process.

These guidelines include, for example, standardized Life Cycle Assessment procedures, a handbook for environmentally aware design, a health and safety checklist to identify potential risks; and a list of prohibited and restricted substances to ensure the company's sustainability objectives are also embedded into product development.

Furthermore, a mandatory seven-step approvals process requires documented assessment at each

step of the development to ensure the new product's sustainability objectives and performance throughout its working life are met. For core products, ABB produces and publishes environmental product declarations based on formal Life Cycle Assessments.

A sustainability support group within ABB's corporate research organization develops and maintains sustainability tools and conducts training to ensure sustainability requirements are fully understood and integrated into business activities. This has resulted in cleaner production processes with lower emissions, less waste, streamlined transportation, safer working environments and significant cost savings.

Sustainable product development translates into business success. New advances in frequency conversion, multivariable process control and ultrahigh-voltage transmission technologies save energy and improve customers' performance while lowering environmental impact.

The development of such products is key to ABB's efforts to build on its market leadership positions and to ensure its success in the future.



Transporting bulk power with low losses

ABB has developed equipment for the ultrahigh-voltage transmission of bulk electrical power – a technology that has strong environmental benefits.

In December 2007, ABB won orders in China to provide new 800-kilovolt ultrahigh-voltage direct current technology (UHVDC) for the world's longest power transmission link – some 2,000 kilometers from western China to Shanghai. The link will have a record capacity of 6,400 megawatts, enough to meet the needs of about 31 million people.

The technology improves efficiency, reduces electricity losses in transmission over long distances, and uses less land compared to lower-voltage alternatives.

Transmission losses will be less than seven percent, significantly lower than the losses from conventional 500-kilovolt high-voltage direct current (HVDC) transmission schemes. The savings from using UHVDC compared with HVDC are equivalent to the annual power consumption of more than 900,000 people in China.

Cutting motors – and energy use – down to size

Motors account for 65 percent of the world's energy consumption. But most motors are oversized, and consume far more energy and emit more pollutants than necessary.

Industrial users tend to buy a motor that far exceeds their needs to give the motor a protective buffer from power spikes and uncontrolled overload.

With ABB's low-voltage power distribution and motor control centers, customers can install smaller, energy-efficient motors that are correctly dimensioned, consume less energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The MNS Motor Management INSUM and the recently launched MNSiS control centers protect, control and monitor motors, individually and throughout a plant.

For example, the MNS systems make it possible to drop down in size from an excessively dimensioned 37-kilowatt motor to a smaller 30-kilowatt motor. For a typical medium-sized plant with 200 motors, that means a total saving of about 180,000 kilowatt-hours a year and reduced annual CO₂ emissions of 140 tons.

Product innovation

Key GRI indicators

PR1 Health and safety impacts of our products

ABB products generally help improve users' health and safety. They do this, for example, by improving industrial environments (automation control products), reducing exposure to aggressive and hazardous operations (robotics), and reducing potential explosions, fire risks and oil pollution (oil-free capacitors and cables). Products with a potentially negative impact are those which could contribute to global warming (leak of SF₆ gas from substations), require deforestation and present a visual impact (transmission lines), cause losses of energy (most electrical products) or cause electrocution if misused.

PR2 Number of non-compliance incidents relating to product health and safety

All countries in ABB's sustainability management program are asked to give details of any non-compliance incidents, including those concerning health and safety impacts of products and services. During 2007 no such incidents were reported.

PR3 Product and service information

ABB's objective is to produce environmental product declarations (EPDs) for its core products. They describe and quantify the environmental impact and performance of ABB products over all phases of their life cycles, covering material extraction, component manufacture, transportation and use over their full operating lifetime. They also contain recovery, recycling and disposal instructions for when the product has completed its useful life. The EPDs are published on ABB's Web site, and help customers to select products that will raise their own environmental performance.

PR5 Customer satisfaction

ABB compiles, validates, tracks and analyzes all customer complaints in a single, global system that helps resolve problems quickly and efficiently. This system – the Customer Complaints Resolution Process (CCRP) – gives a basic indicator of customer satisfaction. It also provides valuable pointers for improvement. The CCRP system is applied in 45 out of 48 countries and regions.

In addition, most ABB companies carry out customer surveys every one to three years. For example, ABB in Denmark conducted 102 interviews with customers in 2007 and presented a summary of customer satisfaction to its management for review. ABB in Australia regularly participates in a national system where results are analyzed and published quarterly. Results for 2007 gave ABB an overall score of customer satisfaction of 81 percent.

In many countries, ABB also carries out satisfaction surveys with other stakeholder groups, such as suppliers, authorities and trade unions.

PR6 Adherence to marketing communication regulations

This is not an issue for ABB, which works in the field of advanced technologies and does not supply to the consumer product market.

EN26 Initiatives to mitigate environmental impacts of products and services

ABB has Group-wide mandatory sustainability checks in place, to be applied in conjunction with the development of new products and projects to mitigate their environmental impacts. Detailed information is given under GRI indicator 4.11 in this report.

EN27 Percentage of products reclaimable after use

ABB products contain mostly steel, copper, aluminum, oil and plastics. Approximately 90 percent of the material is reclaimable after the end of a product's useful life. ABB enhances the ability to recycle by designing products that can be dismantled more easily, and by providing users with recycling instructions.

Occupational health and safety

Working to meet tough challenges

- Improving occupational health and safety performance is a Group-wide priority
- Further fatal incidents occurred especially in developing countries
- Security has been stepped up to protect employees and contractors in risk areas

Despite ongoing and intensive training in 2007, fatal and serious incidents occurred at work sites and on roads, and three people were killed in an air crash.

Ensuring good occupational health and safety performance – the fundamental right of an employee or subcontractor to return home unharmed after a day's work – is a core priority for the Group. This continues to be supported by training on behavior and the further development of systems and standards throughout the company.

Nonetheless, a total of 22 people, including one member of the public, died as a result of ABB operations in 2007. Of these, 15 fatalities were in the workplace, three were road travel-related, three people were killed in the crash of a Kenya Airways plane in Cameroon, and one person died in a hotel. A total of 49 people were seriously injured. There has, however, been some progress with lower workplace fatality rates and lost time injury frequency rates.

Every death or injury is unacceptable for ABB. Improvements in health and safety will continue to be a priority for years to come.

The company is focusing on three main areas of weakness: Ensuring employees and subcontractors follow established rules when working at height and on live electrical equipment, and when they drive or are driven as part of their work.

ABB continues to work hard to improve project safety. More than 2,300 project and site managers have received training to date. Online occupational health and safety training courses on key risks are now available in English, Spanish, French, Chinese and Arabic.

The company also strengthened its security measures for employees and subcontractors in 2007, particularly in parts of the Middle East, Africa and Asia. Systematic assessment of security risks now forms an integral part of the divisions' risk review process when tendering for projects.

Health, safety and security remain a challenge for ABB; the Group is working hard to find the right answers.



Protecting employees

ABB develops products to improve safety, benefiting its own employees and customers.

Kevlar protective casing has been used successfully for many years to protect workers, reinforce suspension bridges and confine jet engine compartments to limit impact in case of an explosion. ABB in the United States has now adapted “wrap and strap” Kevlar for substations to protect people if porcelain bushings explode during testing.

Facing the HIV/AIDS epidemic

ABB has policies in a number of countries to help people infected by HIV/AIDS.

In South Africa, for example, ABB is again carrying out a voluntary counseling and testing program for employees in 2008. Nearly 700 employees – about half of the workforce – participated in the scheme when it was introduced in 2006.

ABB has also introduced a scheme at a Johannesburg factory under which employees are served a nutritious breakfast that contains 28 nutrients,

specially produced for use in HIV/AIDS support and company health programs. The fortified food program is to be extended to other factories.

The company is involved in a number of projects with non-governmental organizations. In one project, ABB helps to feed, clothe and educate AIDS orphans near its factories in three provinces.

Helping the community help itself

ABB has been playing a leading role in making part of Mexico City a safer place in the event of a catastrophe by initiating a self-help team of volunteers from the community and local companies.

Along with two other companies, ABB set up the team about seven years ago after a fire near ABB's head office killed several people. A total of 21 companies have now joined forces in the scheme, which is fully endorsed by local authorities.

Volunteers are trained to tackle fires and environmental accidents, provide first aid, evacuate buildings and ensure effective communication until rescue services are able to take over.

Occupational health and safety

Key GRI indicators

LA6 Percentage of total workforce represented in health and safety committees

Health and safety consultation is an integral part of ABB's commitment to introduce into all businesses occupational health and safety management systems based on OHSAS 18001 and the International Labour Organization (ILO) guidelines. The form of health and safety consultation with employees varies according to local requirements, and includes health and safety committees and employee forums.

At Group level, ABB has a standing OHS committee chaired by an Executive Committee member whose mandate covers all employees.

LA7 Injuries, lost days, diseases and fatalities

	2007	2006	2005
Employee work-related fatalities	4	5	4
Incident rate	0.04	0.05	0.04
Employee work-related serious injuries	28	15	18
Incident rate	0.25	0.15	0.17
Employee business travel fatalities	4	3	5
Incident rate	0.04	0.03	0.05
Employee business travel serious injuries	3	2	9
Incident rate	0.03	0.02	0.09
Contractor work-related fatalities	10	6	7
Contractor work-related serious injuries	16	6	18
Employee lost days due to industrial incidents	18,929	22,076	25,750
Employee occupational health diseases	87	117	162

In these statistics, "lost days" are calendar days and are counted from the day after the incident. Figures for fatalities also include deaths occurring within one year as a result of injuries sustained. Incident rates are according to the ILO rate for fatalities and standard injuries per 1,000 employees or contractors.

LA8 Programs in place regarding serious diseases

In six countries/regions (Brazil, Gulf region, Philippines, South Africa, South Korea and Thailand) ABB has programs in place to address HIV/AIDS. For example, ABB in Brazil conducts an ongoing HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention program comprising regular presentations given by external specialists, awareness campaigns, and full assistance and help to cover medicine costs for infected employees. ABB in South Africa is continuing its voluntary counseling and testing program throughout the company in 2008. In response to earlier results of this program, started in 2006, a disease management program has been established at the Elandsfontein site. In several other countries, national programs are in place.

In South Africa, ABB also operates a program to combat malaria.

At Group level, ABB has a program in place to deal with pandemic diseases.

LA9 Health and safety topics covered in formal agreements with trade unions

This information is not recorded by the Group, but local legislation requires formal agreements in some countries, such as Germany and South Africa.

Corporate responsibility

Seeking higher standards

- ABB is committed to maintaining high social, environmental, ethical and governance standards
- Good corporate citizenship requires the engagement of stakeholders to help achieve best practice and benefits to all stakeholders
- ABB seeks to strengthen multilateral efforts to raise standards on a range of issues – from climate change to human rights

Corporate responsibility underpins the company's values and behavior to stakeholders, and is expressed in a multitude of ways, both internally and externally. For ABB, the desire to raise company standards and contribute to international initiatives is core.

Within the company, for example, a human rights policy and public statement were approved in 2007, complementing existing policies for raising social, environmental, health and safety, and business ethics performance.

Training sessions have begun to raise awareness of the potential human rights impacts of business operations in different parts of the world. This work is challenging and ongoing.

Turning to climate change, ABB's energy-efficient products, the environmentally friendly way they are manufactured, as well as products for directly mitigating global warming, demonstrate the company's commitment to environmental improvement.

Social commitments find expression in a variety of ways: In the increasing attention given to potentially sensitive projects at corporate and local level; through social programs, like one in Brazil where 1,000 employees help disadvantaged people with monthly deductions from their salaries and work in soup kitchens; and in the Access to Electricity rural electrification projects in India and Tanzania, which are raising economic, social and environmental standards in remote communities.

Externally, the company continues to work actively on projects in a number of international organizations. ABB promotes energy efficiency at international congresses, contributes to efforts to reduce electrical utilities' carbon footprint in work at the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, backs the 3C climate initiative and supports the United Nations Global Compact in its efforts to set up a local network in Sudan.

ABB seeks to be a "good corporate citizen." Constant effort, vigilance and high levels of awareness are needed to raise standards which are consistent everywhere, even in difficult environments. This is work in progress.



Commitment to human rights

ABB approved a Group human rights policy in 2007, complementing other key guidelines such as its environmental, social and ethics policies.

The human rights policy, which takes a stakeholder approach with categories on employees, contractors and suppliers, local communities and society, underlines ABB's commitment to a human rights-aware approach to business.

Further human rights criteria were also embedded in the risk review process for proposed business projects.

These measures have helped to raise awareness of the dilemmas and responsibilities facing the company – and the risks and opportunities in operations in sensitive countries or areas of weak governance.

Externally, ABB continued to work in a number of international organizations, including the UN Global Compact and the Business Leaders Initiative on Human Rights, to raise awareness of human rights principles and the need for business to embed them in management processes.

Supporting talented students

ABB provides financial assistance to gifted but needy engineering students in a number of countries to help them through their studies. In 2007, the company launched a corporate-level foundation for engineering students in different parts of the world.

The foundation, set up by ABB to honor the achievements of the former chairman and CEO Jürgen Dormann, is proposing scholarships, starting in 2008 in Brazil, China, Egypt, India and Poland. Other countries may be added in future years.

Partnering with different universities, the ABB Jürgen Dormann Foundation for Engineering Education is expected to provide scholarships for about 50 students in the first five-year period.

In addition to their scholarships, successful students will be invited to attend regional and international events, hosted by ABB, and will be allocated a local ABB mentor. They will also have the opportunity for paid internships during vacations.

Corporate responsibility

Key GRI indicators

LA10 Training/LA13 Women in management positions

All countries reported figures for the average hours of organized classroom training per employee per year, which excludes on-the-job training.

All countries and regions also reported figures for the percentage of women in senior executive, senior and middle management ranks.

ABB selects different countries to report on each year. Figures for these countries for both indicators are given in the table below.

	Training hours per employee	Percentage of women in management
China	48	20
Denmark	23	4
Estonia	32	33
France	16	14
Germany	16	3
Hungary	45	10
Lithuania	24	33
Russia	23	10
Sweden	20	8
Switzerland	18	7
Thailand	40	3

LA12 Employees receiving performance reviews

In 2005, ABB rolled out to all countries a Group-wide employee appraisal system to be carried out annually for all skilled staff. By 2007, 30 countries out of 48 had achieved 95 percent coverage of all employees in this category.

HR4 Non-discrimination violations

All countries in ABB's sustainability management program are asked to report any incidents of discrimination. No incidents were reported in 2007.

HR8 Training of security personnel in human rights

Training has been ongoing for ABB security personnel and security contractors in 2007. Greater in-depth training, based on the Voluntary Principles for Security and Human Rights, is planned for 2008.

HR9 Indigenous rights violations

All countries in ABB's sustainability management program are asked to report any incidents of indigenous rights violations. No such incidents were reported in 2007.

SO2 Business units analyzed for corruption risks

ABB's internal auditors carry out an annual risk assessment encompassing all business units as the basis for their audit planning for the following year. Anti-fraud risk assessment is part of this. In addition, every significant project is included in a risk review process, which also covers corruption considerations.

SO3 Employees trained in anti-corruption procedures

In 2006, ABB launched an anti-corruption awareness and training program encompassing all employees. By the end of 2007, the new Code of Conduct had been fully rolled out and all employees had completed the training.

SO4 Actions taken in response to corruption

ABB applies a strict zero-tolerance policy to combat corruption. Every incident is sanctioned, and may include termination of employment. In 2007, ABB identified 15 new incidents of corruption. During the year, 14 employees were dismissed and seven disciplined for incidents of corruption. There were eight incidents where contracts with business partners were terminated or not renewed due to violations related to corruption. During 2007, ABB fought six legal cases against employees dismissed for corruption.

SO5 Public policy and lobbying

ABB provided input to the European Union (EU) on transmission technologies and all aspects of energy efficiency, and lobbied for the integration of the European energy market. ABB strongly supported the inclusion of renewable energy sources in EU energy policy, as well as their integration in the power grids.

In the United States, ABB advanced positions at the federal government level concerning trade issues with several countries and continued to monitor and comment on sanctions legislation. Also in the United States, ABB has been working with major policy and association groups to support strengthening power grids and to raise the efficiency of electric motors. It is also following the development of legislation to restrict greenhouse gas emissions in those areas affecting its customer base in the United States, primarily automotive, oil and gas, and utilities.

SO6 Political contributions

Under ABB's Code of Conduct, contributions to political parties, politicians and related institutions are not to be made. Any exceptions have to be cleared in advance with Group Legal Affairs and Compliance. In 2007, payments totaling approximately \$9,000 were made.

Sustainability in our supply chain

Raising awareness and performance

- ABB gives priority to suppliers who have implemented international environmental, social and health and safety management systems
- Sustainability training of suppliers continued in 2007, and more than 600 audits of their sustainability performance were carried out
- 35 percent of ABB's major suppliers are externally certified to ISO 14001

The sustainability performance of suppliers is a key factor in ABB's own success and underpins its license to operate. In 2007, ABB continued its special focus to lift suppliers' performance through carefully managed cooperation programs, training and auditing. More than 600 audits were carried out.

All new strategic suppliers of materials, components and services are graded according to the severity of their potential environmental and social impacts, and then subjected to appropriate sustainability audits before they can commence business with ABB. This process has resulted in the disqualification of some potential suppliers, in spite of business advantages such as competitive prices.

ABB does not normally perform its own audits of sub-suppliers further up the supply chain. It does, however, encourage direct suppliers to perform sustainability audits of their suppliers in order to ensure that their environmental and social performance is compatible with ABB's sustainability policies.

Priority is given to suppliers who have implemented the same formal management systems as ABB, such as ISO 14001 for environmental management, AS 8000 for social issues and OHSAS 18001 for managing health and safety risks.

On the environment, 35 percent of major suppliers are externally certified to ISO 14001, and another seven percent have implemented "self-declared" environmental management systems.

Working with the supply chain takes many forms. ABB holds regular meetings with suppliers to raise awareness of the company's policies and requirements, and is also involved in initiatives with other organizations to seek common and better approaches on issues such as transportation.

There are always potential improvements at different levels of the supply chain. ABB is working hard with suppliers to raise awareness and performance where it can do so effectively.



Rigorous training

ABB carried out sustainability training for more than 100 suppliers in China in 2007, focusing on the need for strict observation of environmental regulations and ABB's list of restricted and prohibited substances.

The company requires suppliers to ensure that

- air and ground emissions go beyond national legal requirements and that companies with significant emissions submit monitoring results to ABB every six months
- new laws and regulations are instantly complied with
- environmental impact assessments are performed for existing and new processes
- preventive actions are taken to avoid contamination of soil and groundwater

To ensure full compliance, ABB carried out more than 20 environmental and health and safety audits of suppliers. Most were in compliance. In addition, 19 key suppliers had been externally certified to ISO 14001 by the end of 2007.

Streamlining transport

ABB is working with other major manufacturers of heavy goods in Sweden in a project called "Clean

Shipping" to cut down the environmental impacts of transporting goods from manufacturing facilities to customers.

Under the project, preference will be given to shipping freight companies which have programs to cut their emissions to below minimum legal requirements, and which seek best practice on how they handle, use and recycle oils and diesel fuel. Shipping companies which upgrade old vessels with new technology are also favored.

ABB expects to ship its first cargo on an "approved" vessel in 2009.

Raising awareness

ABB works with suppliers around the world to raise awareness of its policies and requirements.

In Brazil, for example, the company brought together top suppliers of high- and medium-voltage products in mid-2007 to work with them on supplier performance requirements and how they are monitored. ABB took the opportunity to set out its key sustainability messages, core values and its Code of Conduct.

Sustainability in our supply chain

Key GRI indicators

EC6 Spending on locally based suppliers

The table below gives an indication of ABB's highest purchases from outside suppliers, ranked by purchase value per country.

Country	in million \$
Germany	1,865
United States	1,164
China	1,086
Italy	1,044
India	1,010
Sweden	973
Switzerland	829
Finland	667
France	420
Brazil	332
Norway	292
Spain	267
United Kingdom	251
Austria	244
Canada	243
Poland	219
Czech Republic	190
Russia	173
Netherlands	166
Thailand	119

Auditing of suppliers' sustainability performance

ABB has developed a generic audit protocol for the screening of suppliers. The protocol is used by ABB's manufacturing sites for the auditing of their most significant suppliers, rated according to the severity of their environmental and social impacts.

In 2007, more than 600 audits were carried out. About 35 percent of key suppliers are externally certified to ISO 14001 for their environmental performance and a further seven percent have implemented "self-declared" environmental management systems.

ABB's policy concerning the selection of preferred suppliers is given on the first page of this section.

HR2 Screening of suppliers on human rights

ABB has incorporated social performance criteria, including human rights performance, into its suppliers' qualification process (SQP) requirements. SQP is used in ABB's purchasing contracts. To date, 27 countries apply the sustainability section of SQP for their key suppliers, and a total of 768 SQP assessments have been carried out.

The human rights performance of key suppliers forms part of ABB's screening and auditing procedures.

Working in the community

Making a difference

- ABB seeks to help raise the quality of life in the communities where it operates and be an employer of choice
- Country offices and departments run a wide variety of programs benefiting individuals and communities
- Several thousand employees volunteer to be part of social projects and fund-raising schemes in different parts of the world

ABB is present in most parts of the world, priding itself on a local approach in global operations. Being close to a local community, and being perceived as a worthy partner and good corporate citizen, are an essential part of being “at home” in areas where the company operates.

Employees are proud of their ability to contribute to disadvantaged people where they live, and volunteer in droves for short- and medium-term projects.

Support takes a variety of forms: Refurbishing and supporting poor schools, helping disabled people by employing them at sub-assembly workshops in India, or by financing and helping to run centers for unemployed people and handicapped children in South Africa.

The list of projects is long. For example, ABB staff organize Christmas parcel collections in several South American countries and Canada; they run soup kitchens near three ABB plants in Brazil supporting 600 people every day; ABB in Norway is the main sponsor of a house in an SOS Children's Village in Latvia; and in China, employees raised about one mil-

lion Renminbi for a project to improve the housing of 1,000 elderly people in Shanghai.

In the United States, a year-long donation drive ended with a \$90,000 check being given to a children's hospital in Wickliffe, Ohio, to support activities not covered by medical insurance. And in Canada, the company matched employees' generosity, raising a total of \$180,000 for an organization which concentrates on community-building projects.

ABB is also involved in environmental schemes: “Greening initiatives” see the company contributing to the improvement of parks and roadside verges in several countries; and in the United Arab Emirates the company sponsors and employees take part in a clean-up campaign.

Volunteer work is low-profile; self-satisfaction is the biggest reward. Sometimes, however, efforts are publicly recognized. In Italy, ABB won three prestigious corporate social responsibility awards in 2007 for the contributions of employees to social projects in Italy and Africa.



Supporting schools around the world

One of the ways ABB supports communities where it operates is through helping to build up and maintain schools.

In India, ABB has “adopted” several government primary schools near its factories, providing materials to build classrooms and toilets, donating computers, ensuring medical attention and sponsoring a mid-day meal scheme – likely to be the only substantial food that many of the often underprivileged children eat during a day. Some 5,000 children benefit from the program.

In a remote part of southern Ethiopia, a bamboo-walled school had fallen into disrepair. Partnering with a church group, ABB donated funds to reconstruct it with stone and wood, and build four classrooms with new furniture. The work, completed in 2007, has led to an 11 percent increase in pupils.

Among similar projects, ABB employees at a transformer factory in Pereira, Colombia, have been supporting a government school, providing gifts, uniforms and even a refrigerator to keep food fresh.

Helping disabled people

ABB supports people with disabilities in a number of ways – from promoting sports events to providing work and the opportunity of a better future.

Employees like to contribute to Special Olympics for disabled people, held in different parts of the world. In Germany, for example, 120 volunteers – and some 20 customers – spent a week in the mountains in early 2007 helping participants enjoy the winter games. The volunteers’ annual efforts are highly motivating and appreciated.

Support for disabled people takes a different form in India where they are offered employment and training in workshops, putting together simple components and sub-assemblies which are subsequently used at ABB factories.

After successful projects launched in Bangalore and Nashik, ABB opened another such workshop in Vadodara in 2007. These projects ensure social integration and, above all, a regular income.

Working in the community

Key GRI indicators

Economic and social impacts

SO1 and SO9 Impacts of operations on communities

Through its social policy, ABB is committed to promote and participate in community activities that foster environmental, social, economic and educational development in the communities where it operates.

During 2007, ABB companies in 34 countries supported community development projects, donating approximately \$4.5 million in funding and providing more than 2,000 man-days of work on the part of employee volunteers. Many of these projects led to positive indirect economic impacts. Examples of these projects are published in this report.

At Group level, ABB supports a number of organizations and programs. For example, ABB continues to be a member of the corporate support group of the Swiss-based International Committee of the Red Cross, and is a sponsor of the WWF.

EC8 Infrastructure investments

ABB's common effort contributions include a program of rural electrification projects in least-developed countries called "Access to Electricity." ABB's first project was in a village in Tanzania, where ABB partnered with local authorities and the global conservation organization WWF. Electrification has led to economic, environmental and social gains over the last two years. Similar positive results are being reported from a second project bringing power to a desert hamlet in western India.

4.11 Precautionary approach

ABB has integrated Group-wide sustainability criteria into its risk-assessment process for projects, as part of ongoing efforts to minimize potential negative impacts on the environment and local community.

ABB carries out impact assessments of its scope of work for such projects, comparing the potential negative impacts with alternative technical solutions. These assessments may cover direct impacts such as land use, optical appearance, noise and material use, and indirect effects such as power losses in cables, overhead lines, transformers and other electrical equipment.

The project risk process may also require an appraisal of environmental or social impact assessments carried out by or for the customer for the overall project. These criteria include transparency, appropriate management of social and environmental risk, and compliance with applicable regulations and international agreements, such as those of the World Bank and the World Commission on Dams etc.

Human rights

HR1 Significant investment agreements that include human rights

ABB maintains and regularly reviews a list of sensitive countries where it has engaged or considers engaging in business operations.

Human rights, as well as legal, financial, environmental and social criteria, are included in risk assessments, and are among the factors in deciding whether ABB does business in a particular country.

Based partly or wholly on human rights considerations, Myanmar, North Korea and Sudan were on the list of countries where ABB did not undertake any new business activities in 2007. ABB suspended all new business in Sudan in January 2007 and has been reviewing existing contracts signed before then on a case-by-case basis.

Stakeholder engagement

Open to advice



Stakeholder engagement takes many forms at ABB: Listening to and taking advice from experts in formal meetings at corporate and country level; everyday meetings with stakeholders, including investors and representatives of civil society; and the discussion and evaluation of business operations and impacts.

At the annual corporate forum in Switzerland, ABB representatives focused on four issues – energy efficiency, human rights, security, and health and safety performance – with business executives, international organizations, academics and specialists.

After outlining policies and practices, ABB was urged to undertake more advocacy work with governments on the regulatory frameworks that are needed to combat climate change. With its emphasis on energy-efficient products, ABB was told it has much to communicate on this key issue.

On health and safety, participants stressed issues such as the vital role of line managers in enforcing best practice, the need to ensure that the issue tops every business agenda and the value of high-profile internal communications.

ABB described its new human rights policy and how such considerations are taken into account in company operations. On security, discussion focused on the different types of threats that ABB and other companies face, and what measures ABB has in place in sensitive areas, particularly parts of the Middle East and Africa.

Stakeholder dialogues were also held in a number of countries on a variety of issues. In India, for example, the meeting in Vadodara concentrated on ABB's support for underprivileged children in government primary schools located near company factories.

The aim of the dialogue in Brazil was to provide ABB's suppliers with information about the company's sustainability policies and practices, and to urge suppliers to develop their own initiatives.

One area being pursued is seeking local feedback on projects, particularly in sensitive social or environmental areas. This kind of engagement is already carried out in some places, but it is not always easy or systematic. It is an area where ABB can do more.

Sustainability professionals

ABB has 48 country/regional sustainability controllers around the world, supported by local sustainability officers and occupational health and safety officers, working to embed sustainability in the business and ensure best practice. Here, four sustainability controllers describe their work.



In addition to his roles as head of communications in India and the South Asia region, **Harmeet Bawa** is country sustainability controller in India.



Elaine Hammick has worked for ABB in the United States for the past 10 years, most recently as country sustainability controller.

In keeping with their social responsibility, companies must balance “doing well” with “doing good.” This certainly holds true for ABB in India. To pursue these objectives, the company has set up a foundation and adopted a structured sustainability approach focusing on education, environment, welfare and safety, supporting the differently-abled, access to electricity and special projects.

As part of our primary education initiative, we took on board two new schools in 2007, in addition to the three we already support, to facilitate learning for disadvantaged children. Besides providing infrastructure through drinking water, toilets and classrooms, we have many deeper engagement initiatives, including educational excursions, medical camps and a nourishing midday meal scheme, supported by the company and employees.

Project “Roshni” is another initiative we are proud of. We work with differently-abled people through non-governmental organizations and facilitate a regular source of income for them, helping them live a life of dignity. They are trained to put together simple components and sub-assemblies that are subsequently absorbed by our manufacturing units. In 2007, we added a project in Vadodara to our existing schemes in Bangalore and Nashik.

Sustainability work in ABB is inextricably tied to our business operations. Sustainability considerations are built into our manufacturing processes and our energy-efficient products, and we help to advise our business units – particularly on potential environmental impacts.

Part of my focus in my first nine years at ABB was on cleaning up some environmental liability sites – and it is still a part of my work. ABB takes responsibility for its impact on the environment, and when a problem is found, we try to make it right.

During my first year as country sustainability controller, I have focused on communication. I started a monthly e-mail briefing for all local sustainability officers to keep them aware of policy changes and which sustainability projects are most important to ABB. These are the people doing highly important work for the company, ensuring our operations are in compliance and working in the community each day.

On a personal level, I support the local student chapter of Engineers without Borders that works on volunteer projects in developing countries. I think this is a great way to spread the word about sustainability and encourage the next generation of engineers for ABB.



Carlos Hohl is country sustainability controller and communications manager in Brazil and regional communications manager in South America.

Since becoming country sustainability controller six years ago, I have had the privilege to be part of some significant achievements, benefiting employees and society.

One example: We carried out voluntary groundwater and soil analyses at our major sites, some of which we have operated for more than 50 years. At that time, environmental requirements were not of great concern. Based on the results, we took appropriate remedial measures to restore the sites to their original condition.

On occupational health and safety, we have been able to certify the company to OHSAS 18001 standard and have achieved some progress in reducing accident rates. However, we continue to have incidents, and it remains a great challenge to establish a safety culture in which everyone feels personally responsible for their safety at work.

I'm particularly pleased to be involved in an ABB project in which 180 children from underprivileged neighborhoods in the São Paulo area attend school for part of the day and then come to our premises to learn arts, English, music and computer skills, and take part in sports. They also receive meals, and medical and dental treatment. It's very satisfying to see that almost all the kids who participated through to the age of 16 have been able to find a first job, and hope for a better future.



John Watson is country sustainability controller in the United Kingdom. He specializes in health, safety and the environment.

The most interesting aspect of my work is that I am involved with everyone in ABB in the U.K., both permanent and temporary employees. I also work with a wide range of customers, contractors and other stakeholders.

A key role is ensuring that guidance from the ABB Group and the U.K. management team, national legislation and best practice are incorporated into our business systems and procedures. They have to be implemented throughout every project and task – from initial contact with the customer through tendering and procurement, manufacture, delivery to the customer and commissioning.

The results are now showing, for example, in our health and safety performance. The level of lost-time incidents has reduced over the last three years, and because of the quality of reporting, we are now recording and investigating significant numbers of accident near misses.

The main challenge ahead is to fight complacency. All businesses in the U.K. are now accredited to ISO 14001, and over 80 percent of staff work under systems externally certified to OHSAS 18001. Nonetheless, we need to ensure that all managers remember we are still on a journey and have not yet reached our destination.

ABB's sustainability policies

Our goal is to improve our economic, environmental and social performance continuously, and improve the quality of life in the communities and countries where we operate.

To guide us toward this goal, ABB applies five policies each relevant to the five areas which contribute to our sustainability performance, namely: environmental, social, health and safety, human rights and business ethics.

ABB's environmental policy

Preamble

ABB is committed to developing resource-efficient products and systems and to conducting ongoing dialogue with customers to help them select the most environmentally friendly products, systems and solutions. The environmental policy focuses on the management of environmental issues in nine key areas throughout the life cycle of ABB products – from suppliers and contractors, through the customers' use of our products, to their eventual disposal and recycling at the end of their useful life.

Policy

1. To conduct our operations in an environmentally sound manner by applying environmental management systems, such as ISO 14001, in all our operations and by applying environmental principles, such as commitment to continual improvement, legal compliance and awareness training of employees, in all our operations worldwide.
2. To promote environmental responsibility along the value chain by encouraging suppliers, subcontractors and customers to adopt international environmental standards.
3. To develop our manufacturing processes with a focus on energy and resource efficiency.
4. To conduct regular audits of our facilities' environmental performance, including facilities involved in acquisitions, divestments and mergers.
5. To transfer eco-efficient technologies to developing countries.
6. To develop and market products and systems, which are resource-efficient and facilitate use of renewable energy sources.
7. To declare the environmental performance of our core products by publishing environmental product declarations based on Life Cycle Assessment.

8. To include environmental aspects in the risk assessment of major customer projects.

9. To ensure transparency by producing an annual Sustainability review, based on Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) requirements, which is independently verified.

ABB's social policy

Preamble

As well as seeking to contribute economically and environmentally, ABB recognizes social performance as a key to sustainable development. ABB's social policy applies to all employees and is applicable to areas that ABB can directly influence. It draws on five sources: the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Labour Organization's Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development's Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, the Global Sullivan Principles and the Social Accountability 8000 (SA8000) standard.

Policy

1. ABB in society: To contribute within the scope of our capabilities to improving economic, environmental and social conditions through open dialogue with stakeholders and through active participation in common efforts.
2. Human rights: To support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights.

To ensure that employees and contractors engaged as security personnel observe international human rights norms in their work.

3. Children and young workers: To ensure that minors are properly protected; and as a fundamental principle, not to employ children or support the use of child labor, except as part of government-approved youth training schemes (such as work-experience programs).
4. Freedom of engagement: To require that all employees enter into employment with the company of their own free will; and not to apply any coercion when engaging employees or support any form of forced or compulsory labor.
5. Health and safety: To provide a safe and healthy working environment at all sites and facilities and to take adequate steps to prevent accidents and injury to health arising from the course of work by minimizing, so far as is reasonably practicable, the causes of hazards inherent in the working environment.

6. Employee consultation and communication: To facilitate regular consultation with all employees to address areas of concern. To respect the right of all personnel to form and join trade unions of their choice and to bargain collectively.

To ensure that employee representatives are not the subject of discrimination and that such representatives have access to their members in the workplace.

To ensure, in case of major layoffs, that a social benefits and guidance plan is in place and already known to employees or their official representatives.

7. Equality of opportunity: To offer equal opportunity to all employees and not to engage in or support discrimination in hiring, compensation, access to training, promotion, termination or retirement based on ethnic or national origin, caste, religion, disability, sex, age, sexual orientation, union membership or political affiliation.
8. Harassment and disciplinary practices: To oppose the use of mental or physical coercion, verbal abuse or corporal/hard-labor punishment; and not to allow behavior, including gestures, language and physical contact, that is sexual, coercive, threatening, abusive or exploitative.

To develop and maintain equitable procedures to deal with employee grievances and disciplinary practices.

9. Working hours: To comply with applicable laws and industry standards on working hours, including overtime.
10. Compensation: To ensure that wages paid meet or exceed the legal or industry minimum standards, and are always sufficient to meet the basic needs of personnel and to provide some discretionary income.

To ensure that wage and benefits composition are detailed clearly and regularly for workers, and that compensation is rendered in full compliance with all applicable laws and in a manner convenient to workers.

To ensure that labor-only contracting arrangements and apprenticeship schemes are undertaken in full compliance with ABB's obligations under applicable laws pertaining to labor and social security legislation and regulations.
11. Suppliers: To establish and maintain appropriate procedures to evaluate and select major suppliers and subcontractors on their ability to meet the requirements of ABB's social policy and principles, and to maintain reasonable evidence that these requirements are continuing to be met.

12. Community involvement: To promote and participate in community engagement activities that actively foster economic, environmental, social and educational development, as part of ABB's commitment to the communities where it operates.

13. Business ethics: To uphold the highest standards of business ethics and integrity and to support efforts of national and international authorities to establish and enforce high ethical standards for all businesses.

ABB's human rights policy

Preamble

ABB is committed to developing an organizational culture which implements a policy of support for internationally recognized human rights and seeks to avoid complicity in human rights abuses. We support the principles contained within the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the ILO Core Conventions on Labour Standards.

ABB seeks to identify, assess and manage human rights impacts within our spheres of influence and activities in line with the following policy aims:

Policy

1. Employees: To respect the human rights of our employees as established in the ILO's Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, including non-discrimination, prohibition of child and enforced labor, and freedom of association and the right to engage in collective bargaining.
2. Suppliers and contractors: To establish and maintain appropriate procedures to evaluate and select major suppliers and contractors, based on ABB's human rights and social policies, and to monitor their performance where appropriate.

To advance the application of the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work through engagement and collaboration where necessary.
3. Local communities: To respect the cultures, customs and values of the people in communities in which we operate.

To contribute, within the scope of our capabilities, to promote the fulfillment of human rights through improving economic, environmental and social conditions, and serve as a positive influence in communities in which we operate.

To seek to have open dialogue with stakeholders and participate in community engagement activities.

To aim to ensure the provision of security is consistent with international standards of best practice and the laws of the countries in which we operate, using security services only where necessary and requiring the use of force only when necessary and proportionate to the threat.

4. Society: To participate where appropriate in public affairs in a non-partisan and responsible way to promote internationally recognized human rights.

To seek to play a positive role, within our spheres of influence, in capacity building for the realization of human rights within countries of operation.

To promote the realization of environmental sustainability and development through our core business and through our participation in other multistakeholder activities where appropriate.

To uphold the highest standards in business ethics and integrity and where appropriate to support efforts of national and international authorities to establish and enforce high ethical standards for all businesses.

5. To ensure health and safety is integrated into the processes for managing change, both globally and locally.
6. To ensure a crisis and emergency management system is in place.
7. To ensure accident analysis and prevention is in place.
8. To ensure routine reviews of health and safety performance by managers, supported by a reporting process.

ABB's business ethics policy

Preamble

ABB's policy on business ethics belongs to the company's core set of values and guiding principles. It is incorporated in ABB's Code of Conduct, which sets a "zero-tolerance" ruling on non-compliance.

Policy

ABB seeks to uphold the highest standards of business ethics and integrity and to support efforts of national and international authorities to establish and enforce high ethical standards for all businesses.

ABB's health and safety policy

Preamble

ABB seeks to provide a safe and healthy working environment at all sites and facilities and to take adequate steps to prevent accidents and injury to health arising from the course of work by minimizing, so far as is reasonably practicable, the causes of hazards inherent in the working environment.

Policy

1. To promote leadership and accountability, with clearly defined responsibilities, resources and accountability for managers.
2. To manage health and safety risks at every stage of project, service or manufacturing life cycle, where meeting national and international standards is the minimum requirement.
3. To demonstrate health and safety competence so that all managers, employees, safety advisors and contractors know their responsibilities and have the training and experience to carry them out.
4. To ensure safe contractors and business partners by selecting contractors and suppliers that perform to ABB's health and safety requirements.

Business ethics and compliance

Business ethics belongs to the company's core set of values and guiding principles. It is incorporated in ABB's new Code of Conduct, which replaced the former business ethics principles and reiterates ABB's "zero-tolerance" policy on non-compliance.

In ABB's vision for the future, ethics will be one of the hallmarks of the company: By 2009, ABB wants to be recognized as the top global engineering company in terms of market impact, growth and profitability, value creation, sustainability and ethical behavior.

Global compliance organization

ABB is committed at its highest level to forcefully address compliance issues and to enforce zero tolerance.

The Finance, Audit and Compliance Committee – one of the two Board committees – oversees ABB's compliance program and reports to the Board of Directors on a regular basis. The Group Chief Compliance Officer regularly reports to this committee. At the operating level, ABB's specialist headquarter resources in the areas of compliance, legal and audit, work together in the Group Compliance Team.

Under the direction of the Group Chief Compliance Officer, regional and local compliance officers in more than 60 countries train, advise and monitor employees in all parts of the organization. This global organization distributes information and guidance, fosters internal dialogue and supports ethical education and training.

Employees have access via the Group's global intranet to information, guidelines, documents, forms and useful agreements covering all aspects of the business ethics compliance program. Response help desks and details of the compliance organization are also provided to facilitate consultation or questions.

Achievements in 2007

During 2007, ABB deepened the implementation of the Group compliance program and strengthened its execution.

Achievements during the year have been:

- Establishing a standing Compliance Committee, following the work of the task force created in 2006, comprising four members of ABB's Executive Committee chaired by the Group's General Counsel, tasked to design and implement the compliance framework and to manage compliance cases.
- Organizing the compliance officers into a regional structure, and increasing the number of people working in compliance to 206, which corresponds to 55 full-time equivalents (up from 40 in 2006).
- Continuing to build up the Special Investigations Organization

with officers based in three main regions – the Americas, Asia-Pacific, and Europe/Middle East/Africa.

- Bringing the acknowledgement process for the Code of Conduct to a level where all employees confirm acceptance and commitment.
- Introducing a yearly recommitment to the Code of Conduct by the top 500 managers in the Group.
- Launching a new Group Directive for Political and Charitable Contributions as well as implementing amendments to existing compliance directives describing the structure and contents of corporate governance within ABB, including three Group directives addressing intermediaries and agents, bribery and corruption, and gifts, entertainment and expenses.
- Conducting focused global training workshops for all regional and country compliance officers.
- Introducing new e-learning initiatives for selective categories of employees focusing on Antitrust, and Agents and Intermediaries.
- Consolidating the 24-hour Business Ethics hotline, started in 2006 and operated by an external provider, where potential compliance violations can be reported in about 90 languages; if desired by the caller in an anonymous manner.

External liaisons and commitments

ABB is a group contributor and donor to Transparency International, the coalition against corruption, and liaises with the Basel Institute on Governance.

ABB is also a signatory to the World Economic Forum's Partnering Against Corruption Initiative (PACI), which has been signed by around 120 companies.

As a signatory to the United Nations Global Compact, ABB also adheres to its 10th principle, which calls on businesses to work against all forms of corruption, including extortion and bribery. ABB representatives actively participate in PACI and UN Global Compact working meetings.

Going forward

Awareness of ABB's Code of Conduct and zero-tolerance response to non-compliance has now reached a high level among all employees.

Compliance matters are regularly reviewed and discussed at Board meetings, Executive Committee meetings, Project Risk Review Committee meetings and by Executive Committee members when visiting countries and business units.

The aim is to strive for continuous improvement – in our processes and in the behavior of our employees and our stakeholders – so that we can better focus on our mission of providing "power and productivity for a better world."

UN Global Compact reporting

ABB has been a member of the UN Global Compact since 2000.

In common with other members, ABB reports every year on progress on the Compact's 10 principles.

Human Rights

Principle 1: Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights.

- New human rights policy and public statement adopted by ABB Group in 2007.
- Human rights considerations embedded in internal protocol, adopted in 2006, for deciding where ABB should have business activities.
- Active participation in international organizations and workshops seeking to promote business awareness and support for human rights.
- Human rights questions expanded in risk review process for projects.

Principle 2: Make sure they are not complicit in human rights abuses.

- New human rights policy adopted in 2007 is designed to raise performance and avoid complicity.
- Training and top management meetings in several countries in 2007 were designed to raise awareness of human rights issues and the avoidance of complicity.

Labor

Principle 3: Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining.

- Embedded in Code of Conduct, Principle 1 of the ABB Human Rights Policy and Principle 6 of ABB Social Policy. All countries were asked to formally report on this principle. No violations were reported in 2007.
- In countries where the law does not permit this right, ABB facilitates regular consultation with employees to address areas of concern.

Principle 4: The elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labor.

- Covered by Code of Conduct, Principle 1 of the ABB Human Rights Policy and Principle 4 of ABB Social Policy. All countries were asked to formally report on this principle. No violations were reported in 2007.
- The principle of "no forced or compulsory labor" has been included in ABB's protocol for supplier audits.

Principle 5: The effective abolition of child labor.

- Included in Code of Conduct, Principle 1 of the ABB Human Rights Policy and Principle 3 of ABB Social Policy. All countries were asked to formally report on this principle. No violations were reported in 2007.
- The principle of "no child labor" has been included in ABB's protocol for supplier audits.

Principle 6: Eliminate discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

- Contained in Code of Conduct, Principle 1 of the ABB Human Rights Policy and Principle 7 of ABB Social Policy. All countries were asked to formally report on this principle. No violations were reported in 2007.
- ABB also has country-specific procedures and programs to ensure that policies are fully observed.

Environment

Principle 7: Business should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges.

- Environmental considerations mandatory in the ABB GATE model for product and process development.
- Standardized Life Cycle Assessment procedures used to assess new products' environmental impact throughout their life cycle.
- Ongoing program to phase out use of hazardous substances in manufacturing and products.
- ABB met its target to cut energy use by five percent per manufactured unit over a period of two years.

Principle 8: Undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility.

- Work with international organizations and initiatives, such as World Economic Forum's Climate Change roundtable, WBCSD, ISO and 3C initiative.
- ABB has implemented a new and strengthened protocol for auditing of suppliers' environmental performance.
- ABB's ongoing "Access to Electricity" rural electrification programs in India and Tanzania.

Principle 9: Encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.

- Covered by Code of Conduct and Principle 5 of ABB Environmental Policy.
- Energy-efficient products and renewable energy equipment identified as key driver for ABB's business opportunities.
- Transfer of technologies and best practices between countries to ensure same level of environmental performance throughout Group.
- Group-wide list of prohibited substances for products and processes strengthened in 2007.

Anti-corruption

Principle 10: Businesses should work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery.

- Covered by Principle 4 of the new ABB Human Rights Policy, Code of Conduct and Principle 13 of ABB Social Policy.
- Underpinned by a zero-tolerance policy on non-compliance.
- Roll-out of new Code of Conduct, introduced in 2006, completed in 2007 along with training.
- Compulsory e-learning courses on use of agents and intermediaries in 2007.

GRI standard disclosures

This section provides a selection of base information, defined by the Global Reporting Initiative Guidelines, comprising a profile of ABB, the scope of this report, ABB's commitments to external initiatives and sustainability performance indicators. Reference numbers are those used in the GRI Guidelines.

All GRI core performance indicators relevant to ABB are covered in this report – either in this section, or appended to each of the seven key sustainability issues significant for ABB, described on pages 6–26. All GRI additional performance indicators relevant to ABB are published on ABB's Web site. The GRI content index table on the inside back cover identifies where all indicators can be found.

Organizational profile

2.1 Name of the organization

ABB Ltd is the parent company of the worldwide ABB Group.

2.2 Primary brands, products and services

ABB is a leader in power and automation technologies that enable utility and industry customers to improve their performance while lowering environmental impact. ABB's products, systems, solutions and services are designed to improve the reliability of electricity supply grids, raise industrial productivity and save energy.

The Power Products division manufactures the key components to transmit and distribute electricity, such as transformers, switchgear, circuit breakers and cables. The Power Systems division offers turnkey systems for power transmission and distribution grids, and for power plants. These include complete substations, as well as high-voltage alternating and direct current transmission systems, together with their automation and network management systems.

The Automation Products and Process Automation divisions manufacture a comprehensive range of energy-efficient products and integrated systems to improve customers' productivity and optimize control of their plants. Products include drives, motors and generators, low-voltage products, instrumentation and power electronics.

The Robotics division manufactures industrial robots, together with robot software, peripheral equipment and modular manufacturing cells for tasks such as assembly, painting and finishing, packaging and machine tending.

In November 2007, ABB completed the divestment of ABB Lummus Global, a business that designs and supplies oil and gas production facilities, refineries and petrochemical plants. ABB's remaining businesses continue to supply power and automation technologies to customers in the oil and gas sector.

ABB is a manufacturing and services group which outsources only some of its work (for example, information technology support infrastructure).

2.3 Operational structure of the organization

During 2007 at Group level, ABB comprised five power and automation divisions named in 2.2 above, supported by staff functions (such as sustainability affairs, corporate communications, controlling, legal and compliance, human resources etc.), all reporting to an 11-member Executive Committee. The president of the Executive Committee was the Chief Executive Officer of the company. Also represented on the committee were the heads of the five divisions, the Chief Financial Officer, the head of Global Markets, the head of Corporate Development, the head of Legal and Compliance and the head of Human Resources, who was also the Executive Committee member responsible for Sustainability Affairs.

The ABB Group comprises primarily operating companies, subsidiaries and majority-owned joint ventures, located worldwide and employing about 112,000 people.

2.4 Location of headquarters

The headquarters of the ABB Group is located in Zurich, Switzerland.

2.5 Countries where the organization operates

The ABB Group of companies operates in around 100 countries. ABB's formal sustainability reporting system covers 95,158 employees in 48 countries and regions, which are those where ABB has significant manufacturing and workshop operations. ABB's largest operations are in Australasia, Brazil, Canada, Czech Republic, China, Finland, France, Germany, India, Italy, Norway, Poland, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, U.K. and U.S.

2.6 Nature of ownership and legal form

ABB is listed on the SWX Swiss Exchange and the exchanges in Stockholm and New York.

As of December 31, 2006, Investor AB, Stockholm, Sweden, held 166,330,142 ABB shares, representing 7.6 percent of the company's share capital and voting rights. This holding remained unchanged during 2007. However, due to capital increases out of contingent capital in 2007, this quota abated to 7.2 percent.

As of February 14, 2007, FMR Corporation, Boston, Massachusetts, U.S., held 109,485,941 ABB shares, representing 5.0 percent of the company's share capital and voting rights. In February 2008, FMR, actually FMR LLC, Boston, disclosed that as per February 18, 2008, its holdings had fallen below the 3 percent threshold.

To the best of ABB's knowledge, as of February 18, 2008, no other shareholder holds 3 percent or more of ABB's shares.

ABB Ltd is the holding company for the entire ABB Group and is registered as a corporation (Aktiengesellschaft) in the commercial register of the Canton of Zurich, Switzerland.

2.7 Markets served

ABB's products, systems, solutions and services are supplied directly to many industries worldwide. These industries include: electric, gas and water utilities, oil, gas and petrochemicals, refining, automotive, railways, marine, foundry, cement, chemical and pharmaceutical, metals, minerals and mining, pulp and paper, power generation, commercial, industrial and residential buildings, food and beverages, packaging, material handling, consumer industries, telecommunications and data communication.

ABB also delivers its expertise to channel partners such as original equipment manufacturers, and engineering, procurement and construction companies.

2.8 Scale of the reporting organization

Total capitalization on December 31, 2007 (short-term borrowings and current maturities of long-term borrowings plus long-term borrowings and total stockholders' equity including minority interest) was \$14.2 billion (\$9.8 billion end 2006).

Debt (short-term borrowings and current maturities of long-term borrowings and long-term borrowings) was \$2.7 billion (\$3.3 billion end 2006).

Equity (total stockholders' equity including minority interest) was \$11.6 billion (\$6.5 billion end 2006).

Total assets were \$31.0 billion (\$25.1 billion end 2006).

The single largest shareholder of ABB is Investor AB, Stockholm, with a shareholding of 7.2 percent, as detailed in 2.6 above.

Investor AB, Stockholm, an investment company, is the largest listed industrial holding company in the Nordic region. At the end of 2007, the Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation was the largest owner in Investor with a quota of 40.0 percent of votes and 18.6 percent of capital.

FMR LLC (formerly FMR Corporation), Boston, is the parent holding company of Fidelity Management & Research Company, an investment manager for U.S. mutual funds, and Fidelity Management Trust Company, a U.S. state-chartered bank which acts as a trustee or investment manager.

2.9 Significant changes in size, structure and ownership

There were no significant changes in size and structure during 2007, apart from the divestment of ABB's oil and gas business Lummus Global – completed in November 2007. ABB Lummus Global, which employed about 2,400 people with revenues in 2006 of \$988 million, served the upstream and downstream oil and gas, petrochemical and refining industries worldwide. ABB's remaining businesses continue to supply power and automation technologies to customers in the oil and gas sector.

As at January 1, 2007, ABB's Board of Directors comprised eight non-executive members, all men, of six nationalities. Jürgen Dormann, Chairman of the ABB Board, stepped down on May 3, 2007, at the company's annual general meeting and was succeeded as Chairman by Hubertus von Grünberg. As at January 1, 2007, the Group Executive Committee comprised the CEO, the Chief Financial Officer and nine other members, including one woman, of eight nationalities. Ravi Uppal, head of the company's Indian business, was appointed to the Executive Committee as head of Global Markets as per July 1, 2007, replacing Dinesh Paliwal who left the company to take up

Number of employees worldwide at end 2007: 111,954 (108,160 end 2006)			
Employees by region:	2007	2006	2005
Europe	61,600	60,688	58,240
The Americas	18,829	18,653	18,720
Asia	25,245	22,321	18,720
Middle East and Africa	6,280	6,498	8,320
Total	111,954	108,160	104,000

Sales (revenues) for 2007: \$29,183 million (\$23,281* million for 2006)			
Sales by region:	2007	2006	2005
Europe	45%	47%	48%
The Americas	18%	19%	20%
Asia	26%	25%	23%
Middle East and Africa	11%	10%	9%

* Adjusted to reflect the reclassification of activities to Discontinued operations.

another appointment. Fred Kindle, Chief Executive Officer, stepped down on February 13, 2008, and was succeeded as interim CEO by Chief Financial Officer Michel Demaré, thereby reducing the Executive Committee to 10 members.

FMR Corporation, Boston, Massachusetts, U.S., announced that as per February 14, 2007, it held 109,485,941 ABB shares, representing 5.0 percent of the company's share capital and voting rights. In February 2008, FMR, actually FMR LLC, Boston, disclosed that as per February 18, 2008, its holdings had fallen below the 3 percent threshold.

2.10 Awards received

During 2007, ABB received awards in 16 countries for its sustainability achievements.

Report parameters

3.1 Reporting period

Calendar year 2007.

3.2 Date of previous report

April 2007, covering calendar year 2006.

3.3 Reporting cycle

Annual. Next report to be released in April 2009, covering calendar year 2008.

3.4 Contact point for the report

E-mail: sustainability.abbzh@ch.abb.com

Web address: www.abb.com/sustainability

3.5 Process for defining report content

For the second consecutive year following the release of Version 3 of the GRI Guidelines, ABB continues to report on seven issues it considers material to its sustainability impacts, challenges and opportunities, namely: energy efficiency and climate change, managing environmental impact, product innovation, health and safety, corporate responsibility, sustainability in our supply chain and working in the community. In this report we have merged energy efficiency and climate change since there is much interrelation between these issues. We have also added a new issue – working in the community – to focus on this important activity. The seven issues are not ranked in any order of priority.

Prior to publication, some of these issues were discussed at a Group-level Stakeholder Forum chaired by a member of ABB's Executive Committee and attended by top-level representatives from clients, peer companies, non-governmental organizations, sustainability associations and academia.

All core and additional performance indicators published in Version 3 of the GRI Guidelines have been re-assessed according to their relevance to each of the seven issues. Following the concept adopted for last year's report, high-priority indicators are appended to the write-up of each of the issues appearing in the front part of this report, or are presented in this section covering GRI standard disclosures.

This year, more sections of our sustainability reporting (such as some parts of the GRI Standard disclosures, 4. Governance, some of the less significant indicators in 5. Performance, sustainability ratings, organization and position statements) have been transferred to ABB's Web site so as not to overload the printed report. The locations on the Web are given in the GRI content index – indicator 3.12.

3.6 Boundary of the report

The Sustainability review covers all ABB Group companies, wholly-owned subsidiaries and majority-owned joint ventures worldwide having significant sustainability impacts.

In all such countries where ABB entities have or could have significant sustainability impacts, ABB has appointed country/regional sustainability controllers responsible for ABB's sustainability management program and for gathering the data consolidated in this report.

The country/regional sustainability controllers are supported by about 350 local sustainability officers reporting confirmed data gathered through ABB's formal sustainability reporting system from 48 countries/regions, excluding any units being divested.

3.7 Limitations on the scope of the report

The report does not cover work carried out by ABB on our customers' sites. However, health and safety data covers all ABB employees wherever they work and all contractors for whom ABB is contractually responsible.

3.8 Comparability

As in previous years, the Sustainability review covers all employees working in premises owned or leased by ABB. During 2007, there has been no change in ABB's portfolio of businesses that could significantly affect comparability of the data between this and the previous report. ABB Lummus Global was already classified as a discontinued business in previous reports, and so its divestment in November 2007 does not affect comparability.

The new format adopted in last year's report to address the concepts contained in Version 3 of the GRI Guidelines, particularly the focus on those issues considered material to the sustainability impacts of the organization, has been maintained in this report to ensure consistency and comparability.

3.9 Data measurement

ABB uses three computerized data-reporting questionnaires to measure and collect performance data throughout the Group via the ABB intranet – an annual social report from every country, an annual environmental report from every site, and a quarterly health and safety report from every country.

The reporting scope is extensive, with data collected against defined performance indicators, which is consolidated and checked at country level and then against GRI definitions at Group level. Country sustainability controllers audit the data from each site.

Help texts are provided in the reporting questionnaires to define the data required and to ensure accuracy and consistency.

The data relating to social performance covers 94 percent of ABB employees, whereas data relating to environmental performance covers 85 percent of employees. The environmental performance of the remaining 15 percent of employees, located in non-manufacturing entities without significant impacts, is covered by estimated data. The estimates are based on assumptions of the levels of their main environmental aspects, such as the use of energy, water consumption and waste output per person, in comparison with similar premises. When we have made such an assumption, it is stated in the text.

3.10 Effect of restatement of information

Nothing significant has arisen during 2007 which would require a restatement of information provided in earlier ABB Sustainability reviews. (See 3.8 above concerning the divestment of ABB Lummus Global.)

The number of ABB employees was around 112,000 in 2007, compared to around 108,000 in 2006, and the number of manufacturing sites and workshops covered by the sustainability management program was approximately 350 in 2007.

3.11 Significant changes

There were no significant changes during 2007 in the scope, boundary or measurement methods applied in the report. (See 3.8 above concerning the divestment of ABB Lummus Global.)

3.12 GRI content index

A table appears on the inside back cover page of this report, which identifies the page numbers or Web site location of all the standard disclosures required by the GRI Guidelines.

3.13 Independent assurance

ABB believes in the importance of independent external assurance to enhance the credibility of its Sustainability review. ABB's triple bottom line performance, as covered in this Sustainability review, has been verified by independent external organizations. Economic data comprises extracts from ABB's Annual Report 2007. ABB's main environmental and social performance indicators have been verified by the independent verification body Det Norske Veritas (DNV) through a review of information in the ABB sustainability performance database and interviews at various levels of the company prior to publication. Their statement appears at the back of this report.

Commitments to external initiatives

4.11 Precautionary approach

ABB has Group-wide mandatory sustainability checks in place which are applied in the development of new products and projects. This precautionary approach is also integrated into the GATE model – a seven-step internal approvals process governing the development of new products and projects which requires documented assessment in the development phase of their life-long sustainability objectives and performance.

The GATE model requires a Life Cycle Assessment study of each new product and project, and provides the opportunity to correct deficiencies and adopt new designs. It also provides advice on how to reduce the use of unwanted substances and avoid other environmental risks.

Backing up the GATE model is ABB's intranet-based sustainability toolbox, which contains comprehensive information and guidance about sustainability criteria for new products and projects. For example, it contains information on restricted substances and relevant European Union directives, such as those on the restriction of hazardous substances (RoHS) and on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE). The toolbox also provides guidance on how to apply Life Cycle Assessments and environmental assessments to products and projects.

Sustainability criteria are also integrated into ABB's risk-assessment process for projects, as part of ongoing efforts to minimize any potential negative impacts on the environment and local community.

ABB carries out impact assessments of its scope of work for such projects, comparing the potential negative impacts with alternative technical solutions. These assessments may cover direct impacts such as land use, optical appearance, noise and material use, and indirect effects such as power losses in cables, overhead lines, transformers and other electrical equipment.

ABB's project risk process may also require an appraisal of environmental or social impact assessments carried out by or for the customer for the overall project. These criteria include transparency, appropriate management of social and environmental risk, and compliance with applicable regulations and international agreements, such as those of the World Bank and the World Commission on Dams etc.

4.12 Externally developed charters, principles and initiatives

ABB subscribes to externally developed charters and principles for sustainability management. They include the ICC Business Charter for Sustainable Development, which ABB signed in 1992, and ISO 14000 standards and technical reports.

ABB has adopted ISO 14001 for environmental management systems; ISO/TR 14025 for environmental product declarations; ISO 14040-45 for Life Cycle Assessments; and ISO 19011 for environmental auditing of organizations.

ABB has incorporated the principles of OHSAS 18001, the International Labour Organization (ILO) guidelines on occupational health and safety management systems, and the ILO Code of Practice on Recording and Notification of Occupational Accidents and Diseases into its health and safety program.

ABB facilities are encouraged to produce integrated management systems for environmental and quality issues, and for occupational health and safety. About 200 sites now use integrated systems, several of which have been externally certified.

ABB is a signatory to the World Economic Forum's Partnering Against Corruption Initiative (PACI), signed by 120 companies committed to strengthening efforts to counter corruption and bribery. ABB was one of 10 companies to also sign the forerunner of this initiative at the WEF's annual meeting in 2004 in Davos, Switzerland.

4.13 Memberships in associations

Listed below are some of the principal associations and initiatives with which ABB is involved in the area of sustainability:

- Amnesty International, AI, U.K.
- Business Leaders Initiative on Human Rights, BLIHR, U.K.
- Chalmers University of Technology, CPM, Sweden
- CSR Europe, Belgium
- Global Reporting Initiative, GRI, Netherlands
- International Committee of the Red Cross, ICRC, Switzerland
- International Institute for Management Development, IMD, Switzerland
- International Organization for Standardization, ISO, Switzerland
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), U.S.
- oikos International, Switzerland

- Pew Center on Global Climate Change, U.S.
- Transparency International, TI, Germany
- United Nations Global Compact, U.S.
- World Business Council for Sustainable Development, WBCSD, Switzerland
- World Childhood Foundation, Sweden
- World Economic Forum, Switzerland
- WWF, Switzerland

See ABB's Web site (www.abb.com/sustainability) for details of these memberships.

Performance indicators

Biodiversity

EN11 Land used in protected or high biodiversity value areas

ABB's manufacturing and workshop facilities are not located in, or adjacent to, protected areas or areas of high biodiversity value, as defined in internationally recognized listings or national legislation.

EN12 Significant impacts on biodiversity in protected or high biodiversity value areas

See EN11.

Effluents

EN21 Total water discharge by quality and destination

About 77 percent of ABB's process plants discharge process water to the public sewers. Most of the remaining 23 percent discharge process water via their own treatment plants to local water sources such as lakes and rivers. The water discharge to local water sources is returned without contamination and comes mainly from surface treatment plants, cooling water systems and test plants.

Employment

LA1 Full-time workforce by region

See 2.8.

LA1 Part-time workforce by region

The following numbers of part-time employees are included in the total figures for 2.8.

Part-time employees by region:	2007	2006	2005
Europe	3,160	2,786	2,200
The Americas	145	60	190
Asia	105	76	190
Middle East and Africa	5	111	48
Total	3,415	3,033	2,628

LA2 Rate of employee turnover by region

Turnover of all employees, including part-time (as a percentage of the total workforce):

Turnover by region:	2007	2006	2005
Europe	10%	7%	n.a.
The Americas	16%	11%	n.a.
Asia	11%	9%	n.a.
Middle East and Africa	11%	6%	n.a.
Total turnover for whole Group	12%	8%	n.a.

Turnover of all female employees, including part-time (actual numbers):

Turnover by region:	2007	2006	2005
Europe	1,154	1,147	n.a.
The Americas	569	315	n.a.
Asia	457	391	n.a.
Middle East and Africa	78	43	n.a.
Total turnover for whole Group	2,258	1,896	n.a.

Labor/management relations

LA4 Employees covered by collective bargaining agreements

In 2007, approximately 56 percent of ABB employees were covered by collective bargaining agreements. This corresponds to a total of 62,538 employees.

LA5 Minimum notice periods regarding significant operational changes

ABB is not in a position to provide Group-wide aggregated information, as the figures vary from country to country depending on local regulations. For the 27 countries of the European Union, ABB is represented on the EU's European Works Council where such matters are discussed.

Diversity and equal opportunity

LA14 Ratio of basic salary of men to women

In ABB, salaries are decided according to the nature of duties performed.

Freedom of association and collective bargaining, child labor, forced or compulsory labor

HR5, HR6, HR7 Operations at risk

There were no ABB operations identified during 2007 to be at significant risk concerning employee rights to freedom of association and collective bargaining, incidents of child labor, or incidents of forced or compulsory labor.

Compliance – society

SO8 Significant fines and sanctions for non-compliance with laws and regulations

ABB has not identified any significant administrative or judicial sanctions, fines or non-monetary sanctions levied against the company during 2007 for failure to comply with laws or regulations.

Compliance – product responsibility

PR9 Significant fines for non-compliance with laws and regulations concerning products and services

ABB has not identified any significant administrative or judicial sanctions or fines levied against the company during 2007 for failure to comply with laws or regulations concerning the provision and use of its products and services.

Summary of main performance indicators

GRI ref.	Indicator description			
Environmental		2007	2006	2005
EN1	Materials			
	Phthalates (tons)	43	42	19
	Brominated flame retardants (tons)	0	3.1	9
	Lead in submarine cables (tons)	4,750	6,900	4,306
	Lead in other products (tons), e.g. backup batteries and counterweights in robots	346	222	316
	Cadmium in industrial batteries (tons)	0.4	22	26
	Cadmium in rechargeable batteries (tons)	21	4	20
	Cadmium in lead alloy (tons)	3.5	5	3
	Mercury in products (tons)	0.013	0.009	0.014
	SF ₆ insulation gas (inflow to ABB facilities) (tons)	909	815	481
	SF ₆ insulation gas (outflow to customers) (tons)	892	596	441
	No. of transformers with PCB oil in ABB facilities	9	14	21
	No. of capacitors with PCB oil in ABB facilities	1,669	2,145	2,837
	Mercury in instruments in ABB facilities (tons)	1.0	0.4	0.1
EN3	Direct energy consumption (gigawatt-hours – GWh)			
	Oil (11.63 MWh/ton)	103	117	134
	Coal (7.56 MWh/ton)	0	8	8
	Gas	438	435	460
	District heat	223	239	217
	Electricity	1,264	1,265	1,304
	Total direct energy used	2,027	2,064	2,123
	Megawatt-hours (MWh) per employee	18	19	20
EN4	Indirect energy consumption (gigawatt-hours – GWh)			
	District heat (total including losses at utilities)	256	275	249
	Electricity (total including losses at utilities)	3,010	3,012	3,105
EN8	Water withdrawal (kilotons)			
	Purchased from water companies	3,186	3,431	3,432
	Groundwater extracted by ABB	2,800	2,700	2,500
	Surface water extracted by ABB	2,300	2,500	1,700
	Total water consumption	8,286	8,631	7,632

GRI ref.	Indicator description			
		2007	2006	2005
EN16	Direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions (kilotons)			
	CO ₂ from use of energy	835	833	870
	SF ₆ (in CO ₂ equivalents)	398	558	295
	CO ₂ from transport by own fleet	350	350	350
EN20	Emissions of NOx and SOx (tons SO₂ and NO₂)			
	SOx from burning coal	0	6	6
	SOx from burning oil	76	86	97
	NOx from burning coal	0	4	4
	NOx from burning oil	57	65	73
	NOx from burning gas	94	89	99
	Emissions of volatile organic compounds (tons)			
	Volatile organic compounds (VOC)	850	992	981
	Chlorinated volatile organic compounds (VOC-Cl)	13	29	13.5
EN21	Discharge of process water (percentage of ABB plants)			
	Discharge to public sewer	77	75	75
	Discharge to water sources	23	25	25
EN22	Waste (kilotons)			
	Waste sent for recycling	126	112	85
	General waste sent for disposal	38	31	29
	Hazardous waste	6	4	6
EN23	Significant spills			
	Total number of spills	12	4	18
EN27	Products and services			
	Percentage of reclaimable material in products	90	90	90

GRI ref.	Indicator description			
Social		2007	2006	2005
LA1	Employment			
	Total workforce by region (ABB employees)			
	Europe	61,600	60,688	58,240
	The Americas	18,829	18,653	18,720
	Asia	25,245	22,321	18,720
	Middle East and Africa	6,280	6,498	8,320
	Total	111,954	108,160	104,000
	Total numbers of part-time employees included above			
	Europe	3,160	2,786	2,200
	The Americas	145	60	190
	Asia	105	76	190
	Middle East and Africa	5	111	48
	Total	3,415	3,033	2,628
LA2	Employee turnover			
	Turnover of all employees, including part-time (percentage)			
	Europe	10.3	6.9	–
	The Americas	16.0	10.8	–
	Asia	10.7	8.9	–
	Middle East and Africa	11.3	5.8	–
	Total turnover for whole Group	11.5	7.9	–
	Turnover of all female employees, including part-time (actual numbers)			
	Europe	1,154	1,147	–
	The Americas	569	315	–
	Asia	457	391	–
	Middle East and Africa	78	43	–
	Total turnover for whole Group	2,258	1,896	–
LA7	Occupational health and safety			
	Fatalities, injuries, lost days, diseases			
	Employee work-related fatalities	4	5	4
	Incident rate	0.04	0.05	0.04
	Employee work-related serious injuries	28	15	18
	Incident rate	0.25	0.15	0.17
	Employee commuting/business travel fatalities	4	3	5
	Incident rate	0.04	0.03	0.05
	Employee commuting/business travel serious injuries	3	2	9
	Incident rate	0.03	0.02	0.09
	Contractor work-related fatalities	10	6	7
	Contractor work-related serious injuries	16	6	18
	Employee lost days due to industrial incidents	18,929	22,076	25,750
	Employee occupational health diseases	87	117	162

GRI ref.	Indicator description	
		2007
HR4	Non-discrimination	
	Total number of incidents of discrimination	0
	Public policy	
SO6	Financial and in-kind political contributions	\$9,000
LA10	Training and education	
	Training per year per employee (average hours)	
	China	48
	Denmark	23
	Estonia	32
	France	16
	Germany	16
	Hungary	45
	Lithuania	24
	Russia	23
	Sweden	20
	Switzerland	18
	Thailand	40
LA13	Diversity and equal opportunity	
	Women in senior management (percentage)	
	China	20
	Denmark	4
	Estonia	33
	France	14
	Germany	3
	Hungary	10
	Lithuania	33
	Russia	10
	Sweden	8
	Switzerland	7
	Thailand	3

INDEPENDENT VERIFICATION OF MAIN PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2007

Scope and method of work

Det Norske Veritas AS has been engaged to verify the numerical values of the environmental and social performance indicators presented in the "Summary of main performance indicators" table (the "Table") on pages 42 - 45 in the Sustainability review of the ABB Group Annual Report 2007. The verification was conducted in February 2008.

The verification is based on spot checks where a few key persons throughout the ABB organization have been interviewed. To assess the validity of the numerical values we have made telephone interviews with 10 local sustainability officers (to check the environmental indicators) and five country sustainability controllers (to check the social indicators). We have also interviewed three people in ABB Group Sustainability Affairs with responsibility for collecting, aggregating and presenting the data in the Table. Furthermore, we have reviewed information in the ABB sustainability performance database made available to us in connection with the above mentioned interviews.

The verification was limited to assessing the numerical value of the indicators for 2007 reported in the Table in the Sustainability review.

Conclusions

In our opinion, ABB has a well-established Web-based internal reporting system, which has been continually improved during recent years.

During the interviews some errors were discovered in the numbers reported. However, none of these were identified as systematic. The errors were immediately corrected, and the Table that is presented in the review includes the updated numbers.

Based on our findings, we consider the numbers published in the Table to give a reasonable representation of ABB's sustainability performance.

Høvik, Norway, 29. February 2008



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	Other GRI performance indicators	www.abb.com/sustainability



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