

ABB opens FPSO engineering centre in Singapore for the Oil & Gas and Marine market

Engineering centre brings FPSO/FSO competencies closer to customers in Asia

Singapore, Feb. 2, 2009 – ABB, the leading power and automation technology group, is opening an engineering centre in Singapore to carry out engineering of FPSO projects in the marine and oil and gas industries. Building on its competence in marine and offshore systems and solutions, ABB will be bringing expertise in Floating Production, Storage and Offloading (FPSO)/Floating Storage Offloading (FSO) projects closer to customers in the expanding Asian market.

ABB's capabilities for the FPSO/FSO market include power generation and distribution, onboard drives, electric propulsion, automation and telecommunication, and project execution. They also include the supply of an E-house, which is a specially designed structure that houses a vessel's entire electrical system, easily customisable for specific needs and built in advance at an inland location, to cut production time and cost.

“As a high competence, high efficiency centre with capacity to operate globally, we are well positioned to benefit from the growth in this sector,” said James Foo, president and country manager, ABB Singapore. “Our customers will also benefit from our energy efficient solutions, top end technology, as well as highly experienced project managers and engineers who can deliver in good time.”

“We are delighted by ABB's decision to locate its new competence centre for the FPSO business in Singapore,” said Manohar Khiatani, Assistant Managing Director, Singapore Economic Development Board. “This is a clear indication of ABB's confidence in Singapore and our leadership position in the marine and offshore industry. ABB's presence will further strengthen our offshore ecosystem and is in line with our desire to develop as an integrated marine and offshore hub.”

The marine and offshore industry is one of the fastest growing sectors in Singapore, which accounts for 70 percent of the global market in rig building and FPSO conversion, ship repair, and all activities that involve complex engineering design and project management skills. Benefiting from Singapore's strong marine and offshore industry, ABB established a global Centre of Competence for Marine Drilling Drives Systems in the country in 2005 with 15 engineers. It now has 90 dedicated engineers, and revenue has risen more than four-fold over the last two years.

“ABB has been the front runner in delivering total electrical systems for offshore drilling rigs for the last decade and will continue to develop in similar areas by building up more resources for the growing FPSO/FSO market in Singapore,” said James Foo.” We are now in a favourable position to further leverage and build up on resources, recruit the necessary technical expertise in a more competitive job market, respond to industry demands and realise our company's growth potential in the FPSO/FSO market.”

ABB (www.abb.com) 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 120,000 people. ABB Singapore, established in 1971 is part of the ABB Group and employs about 900 people.