

ABB service contract for control system Vale Inco's New Caledonia nickel and cobalt plant



Vale Inco's New Caledonia nickel and cobalt plant

The control systems lifecycle support commitment and dedicated resources will help one of the largest mineral operations in the South Pacific region to meet the challenges of today's economic environment, and succeed well into the future.

The Vale Inco's nickel and cobalt plant is located on the South Pacific island of New Caledonia, 1200 kilometers east of Australia.

The plant extracts and processes the nickel and cobalt deposit in the Goro plateau, which is one of the largest in the world. The plant is expected to produce 60,000 metric tons of nickel oxide and 4,300 – 5,000 metric tons of cobalt carbonate annually.

The service contract forms part of an overall solution package offered to Vale Inco, and will include the ongoing optimization and maintenance of the plant's installed System 800xA extended process automation system.

ABB has the global resources, technology and mining industry knowledge to help Vale Inco achieve their growth objectives, with comprehensive support services and forward evolution strategies that protect their existing automation system investment.

Scope of supply and customer benefits

The service contract demonstrates ABB's lifecycle support capabilities and commitment to Vale.

Scope of supply

- Management of control system service and maintenance (one team with ABB and customer engineers)
- Control system service engineers on-site
- Spare parts management (Smart spares)
- Control system evolution support (Sentinel)
- Training
- Remote service

Features

One joint team servicing this large control system installation with 89'000 I/Os together with agreed joint KPIs assure the best management of this critical asset to achieve production targets and transfer know-how to the customer.

Benefits

- Long-term support for critical asset
- Smooth transition from commissioning to operation
- Access to ABB control system expertise (through local team in New Caledonia, remote support, and support from project engineering team)
- Agreed performance based targets
- System optimization



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