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Transmission & Distribution: AREVA signs an agreement to acquire Passoni & Villa

AREVA's Transmission & Distribution (T&D) division has signed an agreement with the Italian company Passoni & Villa, setting forth the legal and financial terms for the purchase of the company.

With 2006 annual sales of circa €26 million and approximately 150 employees, Passoni & Villa is a world leading manufacturer of high-voltage bushings*.

Founded in 1923, Passoni & Villa is present in over 60 countries. With this acquisition, AREVA T&D will become number three worldwide in this market segment and will significantly increase its manufacturing capacity of bushings.

Once the suspensive conditions have been met, the acquisition process should be completed by the end of March 2007.

This deal is in line with AREVA T&D's strategy to broaden its offering and to strengthen its leading position on the market.

*Bushings are insulated components, which connect power transformer winding leads to the high-voltage transmission line.

More about ____

With manufacturing facilities in 40 countries and a sales network in more than 100 countries, AREVA offers customers reliable technological solutions for CO₂-free power generation and electricity transmission and distribution. We are the world leader in nuclear power and the only company to cover all industrial activities in this field. Our 58,000 employees are committed to continuous improvement on a daily basis, making sustainable development the focal point of the group's industrial strategy. AREVA's businesses help meet the 21st century's greatest challenges: making energy available to all, protecting the planet, and acting responsibly towards future generations. www.areva.com

AREVA's T&D division is an active player around the globe. It designs, manufactures and supplies a complete range of equipment, systems and services for all stages in the transfer of electricity, from the generator to the large end-user.

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