

For Immediate Release

MTR and ABB sign cooperation agreement

BLOOMFIELD, NJ, August 22 – Membrane Technology and Research (MTR) and ABB Lummus Global have signed an agreement to cooperate in the technical and commercial development of membrane systems for certain applications, and to design, manufacture and market such systems worldwide. Membranes have gained an important place in the future of gas mixture separations by exploiting the ability to control the permeation rate of chemical species so that one component of a mixture flows freely through the membrane while hindering the permeation of the other components.

The initial focus of the alliance will be on membrane gas separation applications in the natural gas processing industry, including dehydration, hydrocarbon dew point control, NGL separation, carbon dioxide and hydrogen sulfide removal, nitrogen separation, and fuel gas conditioning. The two companies plan to develop and enhance the utilization and integration of MTR's membrane systems into overall gas processing schemes and plant designs to achieve improved performance and economics.

In addition to working together exclusively in natural gas processing, ABB and MTR intend to explore new applications for MTR's proprietary membrane separation technology in the fields of petroleum refining, petrochemicals and polymer production.

R. R. Huebel, vice president and general manager of the Randall Gas Technologies Division of ABB Lummus Global commented "MTR is one of the world leaders in membrane research and development, and we are excited about our new relationship. We believe that MTR's strength in membranes, coupled with ABB's know-how and global position in the gas industry, will change the way natural gas is treated and processed, and thereby provide innovative, value added solutions for our customers."



Richard Baker, president of Membrane Technology and Research, Inc., comments, “Natural gas processing is an enormous opportunity for membranes. Many features, such as simplicity, flexibility and low maintenance, make them attractive for this application and well suited to complement other separations technologies. The alliance of MTR and ABB should be a winning combination, and should open up new treatment options, even for difficult separations.”

Membrane Technology and Research, Inc. (MTR, www.mtrinc.com), based in Menlo Park, California, is a world recognized designer, fabricator and supplier of membrane modules and systems for performing membrane separation processes -- especially in the petrochemical and polymer production industries – and past winner of the prestigious Kirkpatrick Chemical Engineering Achievement Award. MTR has supplied over seventy membrane systems to the largest companies in the hydrocarbon processing industries.

ABB Lummus Global is part of the ABB Oil, Gas and Petrochemicals Division that focuses on systems, products and services for oil and gas exploration and development, refineries and petrochemical plants worldwide. The division employs approximately 13,000 people. ABB (www.abb.com) is a global leader in power and automation technologies that enable utility and industry customers to improve performance while lowering their environmental impacts. ABB operates in more than 100 countries and employs about 150,000 people worldwide.

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