

Press release



ABB celebrates Newave's 20th anniversary

Twenty years ago, in 1993, the history of ABB's power protection product group started. At that time, Newave SA was established in Quartino, Switzerland, to pioneer innovative uninterruptible power supply (UPS) technology. Newave SA, key trendsetter in the industry, has remained at the forefront of innovation in the field of power protection ever since. In March 2012 Newave has been acquired by ABB and today, the company is fully part of the ABB power protection product group. The products are now found all around the world helping customers to protect their critical applications from operational losses, ensure business continuity and lower environmental impact in a sustainable way.

In 1996, Newave launched its first product: a single-phase transformerless standalone UPS rated at 5 to 20 kVA. That same year, Newave participated at the CeBit exhibition where this UPS, along with the pre-launch three-phase version, rated at 10 to 60 kVA, was showcased.

In 1998, the company received the ISO 9001 certification and the following eight years saw a stream of releases that increased the power range and capabilities of the UPS products, culminating in 2006 with second-generation three-phase modular UPSs.

That same year, Newave extended its capabilities by acquiring the German company Powerbox Secure Systems GmbH – the first in a string of acquisitions over the next two years that was to see Finnish company Altram Power House Oy, Swiss company ServiceNet AG and Dutch company Vezatec B.V. integrated into Newave. Newave itself launched a successful initial public offering on the SIX Swiss Exchange in 2007.

2009 saw the release of two new product lines: a standalone high-efficiency 60 to 200 kVA UPS series and a range of modular, rack-independent UPS systems with 10 and 20 kW modules that can be accommodated in racks of up to 120 kW. 2010 saw several other product launches, too, as well as the inauguration of the new facility in Quartino, with its custom-built UPS production area and new R&D department.

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2012 was a particularly significant year for Newave as a number of new and revolutionary products were released: PowerScale, the three-phase 25 to 50 kVA standalone product line; Conceptpower DPA, the third generation of three-phase modular 30 to 50 kVA UPSs; and the 400 to 500 kVA transformerless standalone UPS, Powerwave 33.

These products, with their accent on reliability and uptime, form the foundation of the current Newave offerings for data centers – an important market for the company - and continue the Newave technical pioneering spirit that saw two UPS concepts - transformerless and modular UPS – that were developed in the early years become the most important current architectural trends in the UPS market.

In March 2012, Newave was acquired by global power and automation company, ABB, and the company name was changed to “Newave - A member of the ABB Group”. ABB is one of the world’s leading technology companies, with a strong focus on research and development. The acquisition provides Newave with important strategic and operational advantages, and significant growth opportunities outside its traditional markets in Europe. In addition, the product portfolios of the two companies complement each other, thus creating the world’s most comprehensive UPS product range.

Newave, as a member of the ABB Group, will continue to focus on the development and manufacture of leading power protection technology, as well as on comprehensive services such as technical consultancy, maintenance and service packages

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our suppliers and customers. Our close relationship has been a crucial enabler of Newave’s success over the last two decades.

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