



For immediate publication

Press Release

eRDF selects CG to supply Linky Meters

- **ZIV Smart Grid solutions developed by CG with 100% owned technology**
- **The initial order is the first phase of a 35 million unit rollout by 2021**
- **A major industrial program in France that will benefit consumers and the environment**

Paris : September 22nd 2014: Avantha Group Company CG was selected by eRDF- Electricité Réseau Distribution France, the public electricity distribution company managing 95% of the electricity distribution network in continental France, as one of the six suppliers to manufacture the first three million of its new generation Linky smart meters.

This contract is a very significant achievement for CG, a company that has built its competitive strategy in the development of smart grid solutions, under ZIV brand, based on its own technology and a unique mix of knowledge in protection and control, communications and metering technologies.

The technological strength of ZIV smart meters backed by a large field experience on the behaviour and performance of powerline communication networks of different nature has proven to be a key factor, as it results in a direct benefit to the utilities by offering more flexibility when modifications or upgrades are requested.

ZIV smart meters and data concentrator units from CG are gaining a strategic position in the Smart Grid European market where it has achieved key wins in 2014. Large-scale deployments are planned in the UK, Spain, the Netherlands and France. CG will face new challenges with agility, implementing a new supply chain in France to manufacture ZIV smart meters and associated products.

The initial order is the first phase of a 35 million unit rollout by 2021. According to eRDF, the Linky program is a major industrial program that will create 10,000 jobs located in France. By modernizing the distribution grid, this program will bring important benefits for the consumers helping them to better understand their electricity bills and reduce consumption, and at the end, helping to preserve the environment by means of a more efficient grid management.

The Director of eRDF Linky program, Mr Bernard Lassus said, "The awarding of these contracts is a major step for eRDF and kicks off the industrial stage of the Linky program. Its success is based on eRDF's partnership with all the concerned industry players. With these smart meters, eRDF is part of the digital revolution and supports the deployment of smart grids in France"

Avantha Group Company CG's CEO and Managing Director Laurent Demortier said, "We are very excited and honoured to partner with eRDF and to be an active agent in the deployment of smart grid in France. We are committed to provide high level technology and flexible solutions and to be a first class supplier of G3 products. The delivery of state-of-the-art smart grid solutions and the creation of sustainable, local employment are at the heart of CG's mission."

About CG

Avantha Group Company CG is a global pioneering leader in the management and application of electrical energy. With more than 15,000 employees across its operations in around 85 countries, CG provides electrical products, systems and services for utilities, power generation, industries, and consumers. The company is organized into four business groups: Power, Industrial, Automation, and Consumer. CG clocks US\$ 2.3 billion in revenues from product lines that cover the entire value chain of engineering offerings.

About ZIV

*CG, after acquiring ZIV, is the key provider of smart meters in Spain and an important player in the global smart grid market where it offers ZIV meters, data concentrator units (DCU) and distribution automation solutions (DAS). CG's smart grid offerings include self-healing and adaptive restoration systems that detect and isolate faults and restore power to the maximum number of customers. Systems are self-adaptive to handle multiple cascaded fault scenarios. Headquartered in Bilbao, Spain, CG hosts the center of excellence for the development of **smart grid solutions commercialized under the ZIV® brand.***

For more information on CG, please visit: www.cgglobal.com.

About Avantha

The Rs. 25,000 crores (US\$4bn) Avantha Group is one of India's leading business conglomerates. Its successful entities in diversified sectors include Crompton Greaves (power transmission and distribution equipment and services), BILT (paper and pulp), The Global Green Company Limited (food processing), Biltech Building Elements Limited (infrastructure), Avantha Power (energy), Salient Business Solutions Limited (IT and ITES), Jg Glass (glass containers)

With a global footprint, the Group operates in 90 countries with more than 25,000 employees worldwide. Led by Gautam Thapar, Avantha demonstrates strong leadership globally and emerges as a focused corporate, leveraging its knowledge, leadership and operations, adding lasting value for its stakeholders and investors.

For more information on Avantha, please visit : www.avanthagroup.com.

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