



Contact: Paul Blaiklock, 540-230-2099, paul.blaiklock@tmeic-ge.com

TMEIC GE Dura-Bilt™ Drives Prove Tough in Demanding Oil & Gas Environments

From drilling rigs to Canadian oil sands, reliability makes Dura-Bilt TM-series drives an industry choice

Roanoke, Va. (Sept. 8, 2008) –In 2006, when engineers began restoration of the Shell Mars TLP damaged by Hurricane Katrina, they were pleased to discover that TMEIC GE's Dura-Bilt5i™ Medium Voltage drives started up without incident, even though the equipment room in which they were located had been flooded and abandoned for a time following the devastating storm.

"Even though our drives are rarely put to a test of this level, it's rewarding to know that Dura-Bilt drives are built to this level of toughness," says Douglas Phares, sales and applications engineer, TMEIC-GE Automation Systems. "Oil & gas drilling and pipeline applications require a drive that performs reliably in some of the world's demanding environments and climates."

From hurricanes to permafrost, Dura-Bilt's ruggedness, broad capacity range, and top-tier warranty have made it a favorite for extreme temperature, high-starting torque load applications. Recently, five Dura-Bilt5i MV drives have been chosen for two projects in the Athabasca Oil Sands region in Alberta, Canada—two for VECO-IPF's pumping station in Cold Lake South and three for Enbridge's Hardisty Merchant tank project.

"Even though the crude bitumen in the Athabasca region is relatively close to the surface, the remote location and sub-freezing temperatures demand a highly reliable, dependable drive," says Phares. "The Dura-bilt's design and engineering has undergone rigorous testing that has demonstrated optimum performance under these conditions."

The Dura-Bilt is a medium voltage AC-fed drive series, recognized for its compact, air cooled design, with heat-pipe technology which requires smaller equipment rooms and extends transistor life. The drives' AC to DC converter uses a 24-pulse diode rectifier, that exceeds IEEE 519 harmonic standards, says Phares. The multilevel output waveform provides motor friendly operation. Since the drive series was introduced in 2001, dozens of drives have been installed in demanding oil & gas applications with excellent results.

All TMdrives are configured across a common platform, the TMEIC GE Control card set and System Toolbox®. The easy-to-use interface system offers tune-up wizards, trending, and simulators which result in lower cost startups and easier maintenance, says Phares.

Most importantly, the quality of the Toshiba/Mitsubishi design allows TMEIC GE to provide a five-year standard parts and labor warranty for all Dura-Bilt5i MV series drives—one of the best warranties in the industry.

“The robustness of these drives allows the company to offer a warranty that backs that quality with a firm promise,” says Phares.

For more information, log on to www.tmeicge.com

####

About TMEIC GE

TMEIC GE is a joint venture between TMEIC (a joint venture between Toshiba & Mitsubishi Electric) and General Electric in the industrial drive systems business. TMEIC employs 2,200 people around the world and has annual sales in excess of \$2B. TMEIC GE is built on the combined and proud heritage of these companies, delivering customer success--every project, every time. www.tmeicge.com