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is both multicultural by outlook and experience, as well as a solid team player," said ABB chairman and CEO Jurgen Dormann.

"With his experience, Michel Demare will play a key role as we progress steadily towards the goals we have committed to for 2005, and in keeping ABB on its path of sustainable profitable growth."

Dormann said ABB's board of directors appointed Demare after a candidate selection process involving both the board and CEO-designate Fred Kindle. Kindle will take over from Dormann as the CEO of ABB on January 1, 2005, with Dormann remaining as chairman of the board of directors.

Demare joined Dow Chemical as finance manager in Brussels in 1984. After a succession of posts in France and at Dow's headquarters in the U.S., he moved to its center for Europe, Middle East and Africa in Zurich in 1992. He became group finance director of Dow's global polyolefins division in 1997. In 2002, Demare joined Baxter International as a Vice President and CFO of Baxter Europe, also based in Zurich.

Demare succeeds Peter Voser, who recently resigned from ABB to rejoin Shell as the oil group's CFO.

ABB (www.abb.com) is a leader in power and automation technologies that enable utility and industry customers to improve performance while lowering environmental impact. The ABB Group of companies operates in around 100 countries and employs about 103,000 people.

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

ABB LTD

Date: November 1, 2004

By: /s/ Richard A. Brown

Name: Richard A. Brown
Title: Group Vice President and Assistant
General Counsel

By: /s/ Francois Champagne

Name: Francois Champagne
Title: Group Vice President and Senior Counsel