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Perfect protection for power supply

Companies like Services Industriels de Genève, which supply water, electricity and other resources to more than 250,000 households and industrial and commercial customers daily, cannot afford service interruptions. For fire safety and security, the company therefore relies on solutions from Siemens.

What would Geneva be without its famous “Jet d’Eau,” the fountain in the middle of Lake Geneva that reaches 140 meters into the air? Operation of this impressive landmark of Geneva is made possible by Services Industriels de Genève (SIG), the local water company. Founded in 1895, SIG today employs approximately 1,700 people and serves more than 250,000 customers in and around Geneva. In addition to its core business—supply of water, gas, electricity, and district heating—SIG is also active in waste reclamation, in wastewater treatment and as a supplier of telecommunications services.

The new headquarters of SIG was constructed in 1995 in Le Lignon in the municipality of Vernier, canton of Geneva. Originally situated in the center of Geneva, SIG’s gas processing plant was relocated to Vernier in 1914—then a largely undeveloped area—in the wake of a serious town gas explosion in which 13 people lost their lives. SIG’s headquarters, on the other hand, remained in the city until 1995.

Today, SIG has a developed site in Le Lignon which encompasses 100,000 square meters. In addition to the impressive administration building, the headquarters also comprises numerous workshops, depots and garages as well as the infrastructure for gas generation, storage and distribution.

4,000 fire detectors, 1 management station

To provide comprehensive protection for the headquarters site against fire and other hazards, SIG uses fire safety and security technology from Siemens. In the buildings, a total of almost 4,000 AlgoRex fire detectors are installed as well as more than 300 manual call points at strategically

important locations; these call points are connected to 10 AlgoRex fire control panels. In addition, there are more than 20 floor repeater panels (terminals). Two sectors of the main building dedicated to IT equipment are protected by an automatic nitrogen extinguishing system. SIG is also equipped with a control station to detect gas leaks.

A CC440 intrusion detection system is used to prevent break-ins and acts of sabotage. The entire site is under video surveillance.

All fire safety and security installations and measures are monitored around the clock in three shifts, using an LMS 6 central management station. It allows precise localization of any alarm—a significant advantage on a site with an area of 100,000 square meters. In addition, the management station integrates remote surveillance of the many external sites of SIG, including the historical building at Pont de la Machine in Geneva, the hydroelectric power plant in Vessy and the modern wastewater treatment facility in Bois de Bay.

State-of-the-art building technology

As an energy producer, SIG focuses on energy efficiency—and with its own buildings, it is able to play a pioneering role in this regard. In the past two years, the Siemens Building Technologies Division helped SIG upgrade its heating, cooling, ventilation and lighting system and install a new building automation system. More than 10,000 data points are connected to 78 automation stations which, in turn, are monitored and controlled from a Desigo Insight management station. As site manager Jean-Pierre Pfister explains, the new systems allow SIG to “precisely measure the energy consumption in the headquarters and to optimally control the installation. We aim to meet the Minergie standard by 2013, CO₂ neutrality by 2017 and total energy neutrality by 2020.” To achieve these goals, SIG plans to increase the production of renewable energy on-site—and in the process become a model for the entire region.

Siemens AG (Berlin and Munich) is a global powerhouse in electronics and electrical engineering, operating in the industry, energy and healthcare sectors. For over 160 years, Siemens has stood for technological excellence, innovation, quality, reliability and internationality. The company is the world’s largest provider of environmental technologies. More than one-third of its total revenue stems from green products and solutions. In fiscal 2010, which ended on September 30, 2010, revenue from continuing operations (excluding Osram and Siemens IT Solutions and Services) totaled €69 billion and net income from continuing operations €4.3 billion. At the end of September 2010, Siemens had around 336,000 employees worldwide on the basis of continuing operations. Further information is available on the Internet at: www.siemens.com.

The **Siemens Industry Sector** (Erlangen, Germany) is the worldwide leading supplier of environmentally friendly production, transportation and building technologies. With integrated automation technologies and comprehensive industry-specific solutions, Siemens increases the productivity, efficiency and flexibility of its customers in the fields of industry and infrastructure. In fiscal 2010, which ended on September 30, 2010, revenue from continuing operations of

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the Industry Sector (excluding Osram) totaled around €30.2 billion. At the end of September 2010, Siemens Industry Sector had around 164,000 employees worldwide without consideration of Osram. Further information is available on the Internet at: www.siemens.com/industry.

The **Siemens Building Technologies Division** (Zug, Switzerland) is the world's leading provider of safe, secure and energy efficient solutions for buildings („Green Buildings“) and building infrastructure. As a service provider, system integrator and product supplier Building Technologies offers building automation, HVAC, fire safety, security, low voltage power distribution and electrical installation technology. With around 42,000 employees worldwide (September 30), Building Technologies achieved a turnover of €6.9 billion in fiscal year 2010. www.siemens.com/buildingtechnologies

Services Industriels de Genève (Geneva, Switzerland) supplies the city and canton of Geneva with water, gas, electricity and district heating and provides telecommunication services. This public utility company is co-owned by the canton of Geneva (55%), the city of Geneva (30%) and other municipalities in the canton of Geneva (15%). Employing approximately 1,700 people, SIG had revenues of approximately 1 billion Swiss Francs in the 2010 fiscal year. www.sig-ge.ch