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For Immediate Release:

Largest South African Utility Breaks New Ground with UR Technology

Durban Metro Electricity selects Universal Relays from GE Power Management for newest substation project

Markham, ON, November 29, 2001 – GE Power Management announced today that South Africa's largest - Durban Metro Electricity (DME) - has selected GE Power Management's [Universal Relay](#) (UR) to provide protection functions for its new 132 kV Quarry switching station. This represents the first time that the utility has used the UR in an installation, which is scheduled for completion by the end of 2001. The utility is in the process of deploying 18 [L90](#) Line Differential relays and two [B30](#) Bus Differential relays at the Quarry site. Drivecor (PTY) Ltd, a regional electrical engineering company, is responsible for the installation, commissioning, maintenance and support of the URs.

Blaize Magee, Marketing Director for Drivecor, says it marks the beginning of a new direction for the utility. "The Durban project is significant given the size and prominence of this utility in South Africa. The fact that Durban is making significant plans in the area of substation automation, including the recent installation of a fiber optic network, is a strong indication of where the utility industry is heading in today's highly competitive environment."

Dave Patterson, GE Power Management's Regional Sales Manager for South Africa, says, "Durban is taking a leadership approach in applying the latest technologies for all its new installations, and we are delighted that the UR is included in their plans. The URs they have selected provide them with a cost-effective automated substation solution for protection that allows for both improved delivery of services and a more reliable electricity supply. At the same time, they can enjoy higher efficiency, less maintenance requirements and lower operating costs."

Drivecor reports that the Durban project represents the third major UR project for the utility industry in South Africa. The UR is also being deployed at sites in Nelspruit and Johannesburg.

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About the UR

GE Power Management UR products are microprocessor-based solutions that support the open standard EPRI UCA™ MMS/Ethernet protocol. All UR products combine peer-to-peer high-speed communication capabilities with modularity, flexibility and field-programmable FlexLogic™ control for simplified substation automation. UR products include the B30 Bus Differential Relay, C30 Controller, C60 Breaker Management Relay, D60 Line Distance Relay, F35 Feeder Protection Relay, F60 Feeder Management Relay, G60 Generator Protection Relay, L60 Line Phase Comparison Relay, L90 Line Differential Relay, M60 Motor Management Relay, T35 Transformer Relay, T60 Transformer Management Relay and the R30 Data Recorder.

About Durban Metro Electricity

Durban Metro Electricity is the licensed distributor of the Durban Metro, on the east coast of South Africa. Durban transforms and redistributes approximately 9,900,000 MWh of power annually to roughly 495,000 customers. Approximately 30% of the energy sold is consumed by residential sectors, and the remaining 70% to business customers. For more information, please visit: <http://www.durban.gov.za/electricity>.

About Drivecor (PTY):

Drivecor, based in Johannesburg, South Africa, is an electrical engineering company that specializes in protective relaying and substation automation, and an official GE Power Management distributor and value added reseller. Drivecor has a regional office in Durban, South Africa. Drivecor has worked on numerous UR projects for utility and industrial customers, and has installed over 250 URs to date, making it the leading provider in the country. For more information, please call (031) 764 2212 or email drivecor@drivecor.co.za.

About GE Power Management:

GE Power Management, a division of GE Industrial Systems, is a global leader that specializes in the design, manufacture, sales and service of protection, metering, control and automation systems, as well as telecommunication networks and systems for utility, industrial and general industry applications. For more information, visit the website at <http://www.GEindustrial.com/pm>.

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