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L&T Files 80 Patent Applications For Electrical, Electronics Products

Felicitates inventors on World IPR Day

Mumbai, April 26, 2007: The Electrical & Electronics Division (EBG) of Larsen & Toubro Limited (L&T), India's leading technology, engineering & construction company, has filed 80 patent applications in 2006-07. The Powai campus accounted for 52 patents while the rest came from its Mysore campus. With this, the tally of patents in L&T's Electrical & Electronics Division has touched 247, a landmark for an Indian company.

The patent applications have been filed on innovations made on a variety of low voltage indigenously developed switchgear products like the air circuit breakers (ACBs) and moulded case circuit breakers (MCCBs), medical products, petroleum dispensing pumps, tooling solutions and switchboards. The large number of patents is a testimony to the creativity, competitiveness and cutting-edge technology inherent in L&T's design and development activity, making it a global player in its businesses.

Speaking at a felicitation function organized in appreciation of the creativity of EBG engineers, President – Operations & Member of the Board of L&T, Mr. R. N. Mukhija said, "We started design and development activities in 1960s and have evolved to the stage of creating and protecting intellectual property. Anticipating customers' needs and offering innovative products with a strong support from R&D has always been our focus area. Through the creation of intellectual property we would continue to add value for our shareholders and maintain leadership position in the market."

The day, being celebrated as World IPR Day, was a befitting occasion to encourage the spirit of innovation as well as recognize the praiseworthy efforts of L&T's inventors who received Certificates of Appreciation from Mr. Mukhija.

L&T has filed for a number of patents for some of its newer products. It has filed for 30 patents for one of its products, U-POWER ACB, of which 11 patents have already been granted. These patents include a U.S. patent grant for the title "Design system of secondary isolating contacts in circuit breakers" and a Chinese patent grant titled "A Novel Design of Rail Driving Mechanism for draw-out circuit breaker".

Consistent with its policy of making a mark in the Chinese market, L&T has started filing for patents in the Chinese patent office. Eight patent filings in the Chinese Patent office - 5 for ACBs and 3 for Protection Relays - are expected to be granted soon. Besides, L&T has 42 patent filings for its wide range of MCCBs.

With the grant of these patents by the Patent Offices, L&T will be conferred upon 20 years of monopoly rights in works that have the characteristics of novelty, utility and non-obviousness. The grant of patent will confer ownership and exclusive right to use, manufacture or reproduce products thus making the creation a valuable asset.

Continuous focus on innovation and the resultant achievements include a high rate of introduction of new products in EBG. For medical products, 85% of the revenue today comes from newly designed products where the technology is fast evolving. For switchgear products, the revenue pie from new products is 35% where the technology is quite stable.

Background:

Larsen & Toubro Limited is a 4 billion USD technology, engineering and construction company, with global operations. It is one of the largest and most respected companies in India's private sector.

A strong, customer-focussed approach and the constant quest for top-class quality have enabled L&T to attain and sustain leadership in its major lines of business across seven decades. L&T has a distinguished record of achievements including the world's largest coal gasifier made in India and exported to China, India's first indigenous hydrocracker reactor, oil and gas platform projects executed to global benchmarks and the world's largest Continuous Catalyst Regeneration reactor.
