

ABB LTD  
Form 6-K  
October 23, 2014

**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

**Form 6-K**

**REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER PURSUANT TO RULE 13a-16 OR 15d-16  
UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

**For the month of October 2014**

**Commission File Number 001-16429**

**ABB Ltd**

(Translation of registrant's name into English)

**P.O. Box 1831, Affolternstrasse 44, CH-8050, Zurich, Switzerland**

(Address of principal executive office)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F ☒ x

Form 40-F ☐ o

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1): ☐ o

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**Note:** Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1) only permits the submission in paper of a Form 6-K if submitted solely to provide an attached annual report to security holders.

Indication by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7): ☐

**Note:** Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7) only permits the submission in paper of a Form 6-K if submitted to furnish a report or other document that the registrant foreign private issuer must furnish and make public under the laws of the jurisdiction in which the registrant is incorporated, domiciled or legally organized (the registrant's home country), or under the rules of the home country exchange on which the registrant's securities are traded, as long as the report or other document is not a press release, is not required to be and has not been distributed to the registrant's security holders, and, if discussing a material event, has already been the subject of a Form 6-K submission or other Commission filing on EDGAR.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes ☐

No ☒

If ☐ Yes is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82-

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This Form 6-K consists of the following:

1. Press release issued by ABB Ltd dated October 22, 2014.

The information provided by Item 1 above is deemed filed for all purposes under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

## Press Release

# ABB delivers strong order growth in Q3

- Orders up 28%<sup>1</sup> driven by large orders in power infrastructure and oil and gas
- Base orders increased for 5th consecutive quarter
- PS step change program on track; operational EBITDA<sup>2</sup> at breakeven in Q3
- Revenues and operational EBITDA reflect lower opening order backlog and Power Systems
- Cost reduction and cash generation on track
- Launched Next Level strategy aimed at accelerating sustainable value creation

Zurich, Switzerland, Oct. 22, 2014 ABB's focus on profitable organic growth and the related strategic initiatives resulted in a strong order increase across all regions in the third quarter.

Total orders<sup>3</sup> rose to \$11.2 billion, boosted by large orders (above \$15 million) including a power transmission link in Europe, a mining automation project in the Americas and a gas treatment plant in Africa. Base orders (below \$15 million) increased in every region. Continued successful implementation of ABB's service strategy resulted in a 10-percent increase in service orders in the quarter.

Our program for profitable organic growth has successfully created healthy order momentum across all regions, said CEO Ulrich Spiesshofer. I am encouraged to see attractive large project wins and five consecutive quarters of base order growth.

In line with a lower order backlog at the start of 2014, revenues were 6 percent lower (4 percent like-for-like<sup>4</sup>) at \$9.8 billion. The operational EBITDA margin was 14.3 percent in the third quarter versus 15.7 percent a year earlier. The margin reflected lower revenues and the result in Power Systems (PS).

In PS, we achieved significant milestones in project execution, continued to de-risk the portfolio and implement a new business model for offshore wind projects, Spiesshofer said. The division broke even in the quarter. We continue to drive our focused action program to complete the turnaround and address the remaining challenges ahead. Overall, our efforts on relentless execution, including our cost savings program, are on track.

Net income was \$734 million and basic earnings per share was \$0.32. Targeted net working capital management measures supported cash from operations, which increased 29 percent in the first nine months. ABB initiated the \$4-billion share buyback program announced in September and purchased shares with a value of approximately \$350 million during the quarter.

We are driving profitable growth through penetration, innovation and expansion, aimed at growing ahead of the global economy. the CEO added. We will carefully manage costs and cash as the short-term outlook for the global economy is increasingly uncertain. The entire management team is taking decisive actions in line with our Next Level strategy, which was announced at our Capital Markets Day in September.

### 2014 Q3 and nine-month key figures

	Q3 14	Q3 13	Change			9M 14	9M 13	Change		
<i>\$ millions unless otherwise indicated</i>			<i>US\$</i>	<i>Local</i>	<i>Like-for-like<sup>4</sup></i>			<i>US\$</i>	<i>Local</i>	<i>Like-for-like<sup>4</sup></i>
Orders	11 225	9 089	24%	25%	28%	32 150	28 893	11%	13%	13%
Order backlog (end Sept)	27 005	27 454	-2%	4%						
Revenues	9 823	10 535	-7%	-6%	-4%	29 484	30 475	-3%	-2%	-2%
Operational EBITDA	1 418	1 638	-13%			4 020	4 657	-14%		
as % of operational revenues <sup>4</sup>	14.3%	15.7%				13.6%	15.3%			
Income from operations	1 222	1 324	-8%			3 129	3 564	-12%		
as % of revenues	12.4%	12.6%				10.6%	11.7%			
Net income attributable to ABB	734	835	-12%			1 914	2 262	-15%		
Basic earnings per share (\$)	0.32	0.36				0.83	0.99			
Cash flow from operating activities	1 169	1 241	-6%			2 012	1 561	29%		

# Press Release

## Summary of Q3 results

### Growth overview

Utility demand for power distribution solutions was steady in the quarter while investments in power transmission systems remained selective. Industrial demand varied by region and end market, with positive demand in oil and gas and general industry. Demand in the mining sector was stable at low levels. Infrastructure and construction markets were mixed, while rail and marine transportation demand was positive.

In this mixed environment, total orders received were up 25 percent in the quarter (28 percent on a like-for-like basis). Most of the increase resulted from higher large orders, which represented 25 percent of total orders received in the quarter, compared to 9 percent in the same quarter in 2013.

Base orders were up 3 percent (5 percent like-for-like) on a combination of growing demand in some of ABB's early-cycle product businesses such as wiring accessories and low-voltage motors as well as growth initiatives across many businesses, products and geographies. Base order growth was strongest in the Discrete Automation and Motion division and in the two power divisions.

Service orders increased 10 percent and represented 15 percent of total orders, down from the year-earlier quarter due to the effects of the higher total order intake.

Revenues declined in the third quarter (down 4 percent like-for-like). Higher like-for-like revenues in the Discrete Automation and Motion and Low Voltage Products divisions were more than offset by a decline in the Process Automation, Power Products and Power Systems divisions, where opening order backlogs were lower. Service revenues were steady and reached 16 percent of total revenues, up from 15 percent in the same quarter a year earlier.

The order backlog at the end of September amounted to \$27 billion, an increase of 4 percent compared to the end of the same quarter in 2013 and 9 percent higher than at the end of 2013.

### Orders received and revenues by region

\$ millions unless  
otherwise  
indicated

Orders received				Revenues					
Q3 14	Q3 13	US\$	Change Local Like-for- like	Q3 14	Q3 13	US\$	Change Local Like-for- like	Q3 14	Q3 13

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Europe	4 010	3 001	34%	36%	40%	3 271	3 684	-11%	-10%	-7%
The Americas	2 969	2 807	6%	7%	11%	2 859	3 016	-5%	-3%	-1%
Asia	3 099	2 499	24%	24%	25%	2 809	2 836	-1%		