News Release

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RFL Communications teams with Bow Networks to Eliminate Complexity in Malaysian Substations

CALGARY, AB – RFL Communications announced today that it has successfully concluded the first phase of a substation integration project, based on Bow Networks' ELAN Communications Platform, at Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB) of Malaysia.

With the advent of Intelligent Electronic Devices (IEDs), network management systems have become far more sophisticated and capable. RFL Communications plc's ELAN substation network gateway (SNG) solution provides straightforward connectivity for multiple IEDs by combining a package of 'best in class' applications from leading developers to provide a flexible combination for data management services from connected devices.

RFL's ELAN SNG is an open communications architecture supported by the Linux operating system, allowing it to run on a range of hardware platforms commonly available from industrial computer suppliers. The SNG has a minimum configuration requirement that guarantees reliable communication.

"The widespread use of Intelligent Electronic Devices such as protection relays, meters, SCADA systems etc. within electrical networks has provided an opportunity for network managers to gain access to operational information not previously available to them," said Peter Clapton, General Manager of RFL Communications. "The provision of valuable data enabling post fault analysis and performance prediction will speed up supply restoration, identify possible protection anomalies, and enable long term assessment of plant operational life."

Access to this information over a corporate IP network can be a complex task because of the mix of new and older 'legacy' products installed and the variety of protocols used. RFL's ELAN SNG and complementary Human Machine Interface (HMI) software provide a flexible combination for the acquisition, transmission and interrogation of data from IEDs, RTUs and Substation connected devices.

Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB) of Malaysia is undertaking an intensive programme of substation automation that includes RFL's solution in their Substation/Relay Interrogation and Monitoring System (SIMS), a duplicated fibre-optic transmission system linking high voltage substations using access and higher order PDH multiplexers communicating speech, data and teleprotection.

Zainoren B. Shukri, Senior Protection Engineer (System Development & Coordination) Protection, Telecommunication & Telecontrol at TNB Malaysia, said: "As the results of implementing the RFL solution, our SIMS concepts have been proven and the requirements fulfilled. We are keen to explore possibilities to extend such a system to other substations with different types of IEDs."

About RFL Communications

RFL Communications plc is the European distributor for RFL Electronics Inc., founded in 1922 and based in New Jersey, USA. RFL provides a wide range of communications and relaying

products, application support and customized systems to the Electric Utilities, Oil and Gas markets, Railroad and Transportation industries, Government agencies and engineering consulting firms. RFL Electronics Inc. is an investor in RFL Communications plc.

RFL Communications will be exhibiting the eLAN Substation Network Gateway at CIGRE 2002 in Paris, Stand 40 from the 26th – 30th August 2002.

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