

Ronald Fluegge Joins Solomon Associates Power Practice

Industry Veteran to Lead Software Development Team

DALLAS – February 1, 2005 – Solomon Associates, LLC the energy industry's premiere, data-driven performance improvement consulting firm, today announced that power industry veteran, Ronald "Ron" Fluegge, has joined Solomon Associates. As chief architect and developer of the first Generating Availability Data System (GADS) software application, Fluegge will leverage his industry and software expertise to lead Solomon's launch of power-related software offerings.

Prior to joining Solomon, Fluegge was owner and principal of the Fluegge Consulting Group where he developed GADS Next Generation™ software and maximized its predecessors' accuracy and functionality. Previously, he worked on the electric generation side of the industry while at Texas Utilities/TU Electric as manager of availability support, where he was responsible for the generation planning center.

During his 35-year tenure in the power industry, Fluegge held various other management roles at TU Electric, Power Computing Company/Babcock & Wilcox and Baltimore Gas and Electric Company. Additionally, Fluegge worked for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Missouri Public Service Commission.

"I am excited about the opportunities at Solomon Associates," stated Fluegge, director of GADS NxL product development at Solomon Associates. "I have long admired the dedication and experience of Solomon Associates within our industry and I look forward to applying my expertise to help grow Solomon's Power Practice."

"Ron's extensive power industry knowledge, software expertise, and passion for excellence will compliment our Power Practice very well," said Greg Barats, president of Solomon Associates. "We welcome Ron's talents and industry insight, and know our clients will certainly benefit from this addition to our team."

Fluegge currently serves as secretary on the IEEE Standard 762 Working Group of the IEEE Power Engineering Society and as chairman of the ASME Reliability, Availability, and Maintainability (RAM) Committee of the ASME Power Division.

Fluegge has also served as the Electric Reliability Council of Texas' (ERCOT) representative on the North American Electric Reliability Council's (NERC) Regional Advisory Working Group that established and reviewed the national reporting standards for the GADS used by electric utilities in the United States, Canada, and Northern Mexico. Fluegge is well published in the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME).

About Solomon Associates

Celebrating its 25th year of benchmarking and consultative services, Dallas, Texas-based Solomon Associates, LLC has set the standard for world-class, data-driven

performance improvement services to capital-intensive industries worldwide. Solomon Associates is a wholly owned subsidiary of Hartford Steam Boiler (HSB). As a trusted industry advisor to the power, refining, pipeline and petrochemical industries, Solomon's consultants lead the industry with their in-depth expertise, global perspective, objectivity and confidentiality. With offices worldwide, Solomon Associates is well positioned to monitor the pulse on the industries in which it advises. For more information, please visit www.solomononline.com.

Note: Electronic photo of Ronald Fluegge available for reproduction.

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