GE offers $13.5 billion enterprise value to acquire Alstom Thermal, Renewables, and Grid businesses

- $13.5B enterprise value, all-cash transaction valued at 7.9x pro forma EBITDA (12 months ending September ‘13)
- Immediately accretive to GE earnings; incremental $.08-$0.10 of earnings in 2016; expect approximately 75% of operating earnings from GE Industrial by 2016
- Integration will yield efficiencies in supply chain, service infrastructure, commercial reach, and new product development to generate more than $1.2B in annual cost synergies by year five
- Strong operating assets that bring complementary technology, global capability, a large installed base and talent to GE
- Enhances GE’s long-term growth opportunities in growing global power market
- Improves customer productivity through total power plant & integrated grid solutions
- HQs & global COEs for steam turbines, hydro, offshore wind, and grid businesses in France; COE for 50Hz gas turbines in Belfort
- Net growth in jobs in acquired businesses in France with remix to more engineering and manufacturing

PARIS, FRANCE, April 30, 2014 – GE (NYSE: GE) and Alstom announced here today that GE has submitted a binding offer to acquire the Thermal, Renewables (“Power”) and Grid businesses of Alstom (ALO.PA) consisting of $13.5 billion (€9.9 billion) enterprise value and $3.4 billion (€2.5 billion) of net cash, totaling $16.9 billion (€12.35 billion).

The Alstom board of directors has positively received GE’s offer and has appointed a committee of independent directors led by Jean-Martin Folz to review the transaction by June 2. If this review concludes positively, an exclusivity period beginning no later than June 2 will be granted and the next steps will include Works Councils consultation, Alstom shareholder approval in a shareholder meeting, and customary regulatory approvals. Bouygues S.A., a 29% non-controlling shareholder of Alstom, supports the transaction. Although the transaction involves the acquisition of Alstom’s Power and Grid businesses, GE’s offer, typical of a public company transaction, permits the board of Alstom to consider unsolicited alternative proposals for the acquisition of Alstom, or of the Power and Grid businesses. The deal is expected to close in 2015.

Transaction details
The all-cash transaction is valued at 7.9 times pro forma earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) of Alstom’s Thermal, Renewables, and Grid business units. GE expects the acquisition to be accretive to earnings in the first year; it is expected to add $.08-$.10 of earnings in 2016; and approximately 75% of operating earnings is expected to come from GE Industrial by 2016.

Creating investor value
Jeff Immelt, GE Chairman and CEO, said, “This is a strategic transaction that furthers GE’s portfolio strategy. Power & Water is one of our higher growth and margin industrial segments and is core to the future of GE. Alstom, like GE, is a company built on engineering, innovation and technology. We
respect and value the deep industry and technology expertise of Alstom employees and expect them to add to our proven track record of developing talent and leadership in France and globally.”

Immelt continued, “Alstom not only advances our strategic priorities and industrial growth, but is also expected to provide an excellent return on capital. Alstom’s businesses are very complementary in technology, operations, and geography to our power and grid businesses. We expect a collaborative and prompt integration that will yield efficiencies in supply chain, service infrastructure, commercial reach, and new product development. We expect these actions will generate more than $1.2B in annual cost synergies by year five and the transaction will be immediately accretive for GE shareholders.”

Immelt concluded, “GE has an excellent track record of creating shareholder value from investments in Europe. In France, this includes our longstanding CFM aircraft engine joint venture with Snecma (Safran); our acquisition of Thomson-CGR, a healthcare center of excellence for GE; and our 1999 acquisition of Alstom’s gas turbine business in Belfort, which today is GE’s technology center of excellence for 50 Hz gas turbines. Across Europe, we have built strong global competitors from European champions in Oil & Gas, Aviation and Healthcare.”

Patrick Kron, Chairman and CEO of Alstom, commented: “The combination of the very complementary energy businesses of Alstom and GE would create a more competitive entity to better service customer needs. Alstom’s employees would join a well-known, major global player, with the means to invest in people and technology to support worldwide energy customers over the long term. The proposed transaction would allow Alstom to develop its Transport business as a standalone company, with a strong balance sheet to capitalize on opportunities in the dynamic rail transport market.”

Creating customer value

Alstom’s Power business provides equipment and services for integrated power plant solutions for a variety of energy sources, including steam, hydro, coal, gas, nuclear steam, wind, and other forms of renewable energy. In fiscal year 2013, the business had €11 billion ($15 billion) in sales and €1.05 billion ($1.4 billion) in income from operations, and 46,000 employees.

Steve Bolze, CEO of GE Power & Water, said, “As we continue to benefit from rising global demand for power generation in key growth regions, we see power generation customers increasingly buying total power plant solutions, maximizing their efficiency. By combining our complementary gas and steam turbine technologies, GE will help customers achieve better performance from their existing and new power plants, enabling more accessible, affordable and sustainable power for people everywhere.”

Alstom’s Grid business offers Transmission & Distribution solutions to support the build-out of the power grid in emerging economies and replacement of aging electrical infrastructure. Alstom’s Grid business generated €3.8 billion ($5.2 billion) in sales and €0.2 billion ($0.3 billion) in income from operations in fiscal year 2013, with 18,000 employees.

Investing in France

GE said today that France will be the center of its European power business with headquarters and centers of excellence here for its steam turbine, hydro, offshore wind and grid businesses. GE plans that its Belfort site would remain the center of excellence for 50 Hz gas turbines. GE also anticipates net growth in jobs in acquired businesses in France, with the employee mix moving toward high-value manufacturing and engineering jobs.
GE will discuss the transaction on a webcast at 8:30 am ET on April 30, 2014, available at www.ge.com/investor. Related charts will be posted prior to the call.

About GE
GE (NYSE: GE) works on things that matter. The best people and the best technologies taking on the toughest challenges. Finding solutions in energy, health and home, transportation and finance. For more information, visit the company's website at www.ge.com.

Caution Concerning Forward-Looking Statements:
This document contains “forward-looking statements” – that is, statements related to future, not past, events. In this context, forward-looking statements often address our expected future business and financial performance and financial condition, and often contain words such as “expect,” “anticipate,” “intend,” “plan,” “believe,” “seek,” “see,” or “will.” Forward-looking statements by their nature address matters that are, to different degrees, uncertain. For us, particular uncertainties that could cause our actual results to be materially different than those expressed in our forward-looking statements include: current economic and financial conditions, including volatility in interest and exchange rates, commodity and equity prices and the value of financial assets; potential market disruptions or other impacts arising in the United States or Europe from developments in sovereign debt situations; the impact of conditions in the financial and credit markets on the availability and cost of General Electric Capital Corporation’s (GECC) funding and on our ability to reduce GECC’s asset levels as planned; the impact of conditions in the housing market and unemployment rates on the level of commercial and consumer credit defaults; pending and future mortgage securitization claims and litigation in connection with WMC, which may affect our estimates of liability, including possible loss estimates; our ability to maintain our current credit rating and the impact on our funding costs and competitive position if we do not do so; the adequacy of our cash flows and earnings and other conditions which may affect our ability to pay our quarterly dividend at the planned level or to repurchase shares at planned levels; GECC’s ability to pay dividends to GE at the planned level; our ability to convert pre-order commitments/wins into orders; the price we realize on orders since commitments/wins are stated at list prices; the level of demand and financial performance of the major industries we serve, including, without limitation, air and rail transportation, power generation, oil and gas production, real estate and healthcare; the impact of regulation and regulatory, investigative and legal proceedings and legal compliance risks, including the impact of financial services regulation; our capital allocation plans, as such plans may change including with respect to the timing and size of share repurchases, acquisitions, joint ventures, dispositions and other strategic actions; our success in completing announced transactions and integrating acquired businesses; our ability to complete the staged exit from our North American Retail Finance business or the acquisition of the Thermal, Renewables and Grid businesses of Alstom as planned; the impact of potential information technology or data security breaches; and numerous other matters of national, regional and global scale, including those of a political, economic, business and competitive nature. These uncertainties may cause our actual future results to be materially different than those expressed in our forward-looking statements. We do not undertake to update our forward-looking statements.

This document includes certain forward-looking projected financial information that is based on current estimates and forecasts. Actual results could differ materially.

GE’s Investor Relations website at www.ge.com/investor and our corporate blog at www.gereports.com, as well as GE’s Facebook page and Twitter accounts, contain a significant amount of information about GE, including financial and other information for investors. GE encourages investors to visit these websites from time to time, as information is updated and new information is posted.
For more information, contact:

MEDIA
Seth Martin
GE
O: +1 646 682 5602
M: +1 203 572 3567
seth.martin@ge.com

Deirdre Latour
GE
O: +1 646 682 5621
M: +1 203 383 0160
deirdre.latour@ge.com

Sebastien Duchamp
GE
M: +1 203 224 8041
sebastien.duchamp@ge.com

INVESTORS
Matt Cribbins, 203.373.2424
matthewq.cribbins@ge.com