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## **PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION**

### **Avtron Starts Up 2000<sup>th</sup> Ethernet-Based Drive**

**Independence, OH – December 10, 2007** – Avtron started up its 2000<sup>th</sup> Ethernet-Based Drive on a recent upgrade at an eastern U.S. steel mill. The coordinated system using this drive was supplied with Avtron's Fiber-Optic Ethernet Sub-System for communications from 28 Avtron ADDvantage-32™ Digital DC Drives to the customer's existing Mill Automation System and to an Avtron Performance View™ Process Diagnostic System. The installation marked a major milestone for Avtron, which has been supplying Ethernet-Based drives for more than four years.

The Avtron Ethernet Communications System supports communication to all major suppliers of Programmable Logic Controllers and Mill Automation Systems. The Avtron Ethernet Communications Module that plugs into the drive supports both 100 base FX fiber optic and 10/100 base TP copper Ethernet media. Normally, a communications rate of 100Mbaud is implemented using the fiber, full-duplex, IEEE 802.3 Ethernet communications protocol.

In addition to the 100Mbaud communications rate, Avtron has developed their Peer Primitive Communications Protocol to allow faster data throughput via Ethernet. The Peer Primitive protocol enables an Autoscan exchange of data among ADD-32 drives and provides the backbone for the high speed communications to Avtron's Performance View Graphic Trending and Historical Event Recorder. The Ethernet Communication Module in the drive can communicate using up to four different Ethernet protocols simultaneously over the same network cable, thereby enabling great flexibility in system design.

#### About Avtron Industrial Automation Inc.

Avtron Industrial Automation delivers drive systems, automation solutions and diagnostic software designed to help users reduce costs, increase efficiency and enhance profitability. With drive system solutions and services catering to virtually every heavy industry segment, Avtron Manufacturing provides a diverse array of capabilities including ac and dc drives, encoders, and high speed data acquisition and diagnostic software. Headquartered in Independence Ohio, Avtron Manufacturing, Inc. provides solutions for the global market.

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