

Gazexport signs transit services agreement with DISTRIGAS

Gazexport, affiliated company of Russian Gazprom, the largest natural gas producer in the world, and DISTRIGAS & Co have signed a contract regarding transit of natural gas from Eynatten at the German/Belgian border to Zeebrugge.

Under such Transit Services Agreement, Gazexport will be able to transit through Belgium up to 2.5 billion m³/year until 2018. This agreement will provide Gazexport with access to the Zeebrugge Hub and, via its capacity in the Interconnector between Zeebrugge and Bacton, to the UK market, which is expected to become a net importer of gas in the near future.

Jean Vermeire, General Manager of DISTRIGAS, commenting on this agreement declared: "This Transit Services Agreement underlines once more the continuous efforts of DISTRIGAS to promote the central role of Belgium in the transit of natural gas in Western Europe and establishes a direct long term relationship between DISTRIGAS and Gazprom for future supplies from Russia, not only for the UK market but also for the DISTRIGAS market. Russian gas exports are indeed destined to play an increasing role in the supply of the growing West European gas market".

Press release
30 December 2004

Note to Editor:

Distrigas SA is a natural gas merchant company active in Western Europe. With a strong experience of 75 years, Distrigas has developed a partnership with its customers -industries, distribution companies, electricity producers and natural gas resellers- by offering them complete and tailor-made solutions at competitive price, combined with flexibility and security of supply.

To meet the requirements of its customers, Distrigas carries out several activities: natural gas sales and trading (arbitrage); sale of transit and international transport capacity; LNG trade and shipping.

Distrigas & Co, its subsidiary, is responsible for the development of international activities, such as the sale of border-to-border capacity (transit) in Belgium and the sale of transport capacity outside the Belgian market.

Distrigas is part of SUEZ, an international industrial and services group that is active in energy and the environment.

Gazexport Ltd is the world's leading exporter of natural gas shipping the "blue fuel" from Russia to Europe and CIS countries. The company exports about 130 bcm gas a year, thus covering over one-fourth of the European gas consumption.

Moreover, the company:

- exports gas condensate, crude oil, petrochemicals, liquefied hydrocarbon gases, and other products of the oil, gas, and petrochemical industry;
- markets gas in new markets, optimizes export flows, and reviews and forecasts gas market opportunities;
- participates in developing and implementing gas and gas-based energy investment projects of Gazprom in Russia and abroad;
- is Gazprom's guarantor in its most investment projects. Long-term contracts of Gazexport with West European gas purchasers are used as the collateral of loans received by Gazprom to fund programs of revamping, upgrading, and developing export gas transportation systems in the Russian Federation;
- actively participates in developing cooperation with foreign partners.

Contact persons

Press:

Thierry Rotsart

Tel.: +32 (0)2 557 31 56

Fax: +32 (0)2 557 31 03

E-mail: thierry.rotsart@distri.be

Investor relations:

Jan Van Brabant

Tel.: +32 (0)2 518 65 99

Fax: +32 (0)2 518 62 85

E-mail: jan.vanbrabant@distri.be

Other languages

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www.distrigas.be