

## **Distrigas today welcomes Eni as new majority shareholder**

During the Board Meeting of October 30, 2008, Distrigas welcomed Eni, the world's 7<sup>th</sup> largest oil company and Europe's main natural gas company, as new majority shareholder. The acquisition by Eni of the shares in Distrigas that were held by Suez (57.24%) was finalised earlier today.

Eni's shareholding represents a strategic opportunity for Distrigas, and confirms Eni's objective of consolidating its leadership in the European gas sector. Eni intends to capitalise on the excellent position that Distrigas has developed in North-West Europe, based in particular upon a flexible and diversified supply portfolio, a large international customer base as well as more than 75 years of expertise in natural gas and more than 25 years in liquefied natural gas (LNG).

Eni's fellow shareholders in the new Distrigas shareholding structure include Publigas, which owns 31.25% of Distrigas' shares, as well as the Belgian State which is keeping its *golden share*. Commenting on the transaction, the Belgian Prime Minister, Mr Yves Leterme declared that he *"welcomes the positive prospects created by Eni's entry into the capital of Distrigas, not only for the country's gas supplies but also in terms of greater competition as regards natural gas sales and deliveries"*.

During the Board Meeting, the composition of the Board of Directors of Distrigas has been changed, in accordance with the Shareholders' Agreement concluded in July between Eni and Publigas. Pursuant to this Agreement, Eni and Publigas have the right to propose respectively 11 and 7 members of the Board, which also includes 3 independent directors (see below).

\*

To underscore its integration, Distrigas is adopting straightaway a logo in line with that of Eni. The new logo is composed of the pictogram of Eni, to which the Distrigas brand, one of the best known brands on the Benelux energy market and even in North-West Europe, is added. Finally, to emphasise the international nature of its business, a single version of the brand name will be adopted henceforth, namely Distrigas, using the English spelling.



Commenting on today's change, Erwin Van Bruysel, Distrigas' CEO, declared: "With the support of its new majority shareholder, which has a substantial gas supply portfolio, including own natural gas production, Distrigas intends to develop its activities on the different markets and to continue to offer its customers natural gas on competitive terms."

#### Composition of the Board of Directors:

|                          |                      |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Jean Vermeire            | Chairman             |
| Camillo Gloria           | Vice-chairman        |
| Erwin Van Bruysel        | Managing Director    |
| Barbara Benzoni          | Director             |
| Paolo Carmosino          | Director             |
| Luc De Bruyckere         | Independent director |
| Marco Diotti             | Director             |
| Jean-François Escarmelle | Director             |
| Francesco Giunti         | Director             |
| Philip Heylen            | Director             |
| Luc Janssens             | Director             |
| Philippe Lallemand       | Independent director |
| Massimiliano Marches     | Director             |
| Fabio Marchetti          | Director             |
| Baudouin Michiels        | Independent director |
| Ludy Modderie            | Independent director |
| Patrick Moenaert         | Director             |
| Josly Piette             | Director             |
| Philippe Pivin           | Director             |
| Giulio Ruffo             | Director             |
| Christian Signoretto     | Director             |

#### Contact people

*Press:*

Thierry Rotsart  
Tel.: +32 (0)2 557 31 56  
Fax: +32 (0)2 557 31 03  
e-mail: [thierry.rotsart@distri.be](mailto:thierry.rotsart@distri.be)

*Investor relations:*

Yves Vercammen - CFO  
Tel.: +32 (0)2 557 30 42  
Fax: +32 (0)2 557 31 04  
e-mail: [yves.vercammen@distri.be](mailto:yves.vercammen@distri.be)

#### Other languages

This press release is also available in Dutch and French on [www.distrigas.eu](http://www.distrigas.eu)

30 October 2008 – 19.00 hrs

---

Distrigas NV/SA - Nijverheidsstraat 10, rue de l'Industrie - BE-1000 Brussel/Bruxelles

Tel: +32 (0)2 557 30 01 - Fax: +32 (0)2 557 31 12

BTW/TVA BE 0476.201.605 - RPR/RPM Brussel/Bruxelles - Banque ENI - IBAN BE07 9681 2876 0266 - SWIFT ENIBBEB