BLUE FUEL

Gazprom Export Global Newsletter

2019/ Issue 51



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To Our Readers

Natural gas industry is rapidly developing and expanding. Market realities are changing swiftly, forcing companies to search for the best solutions and adapt to new developments.

All stakeholders declare the same goals as before: we should reduce emissions, we should stop climate change, and we should boost the use of gas. However, the market itself demonstrates instability. Gas supplies worldwide rise pushing the prices down. Global demand does not manage to cope with growing LNG production.

Regional trends have also been changing considerably. The largest economy in Europe – Germany – has recently decided to get rid of coal and nuclear energy and substitute it with natural gas and renewables in the coming years. At the same time, it strives to decarbonize the economy significantly until 2030 and totally until 2050, while many non-governmental organizations and parts of Germany's civil society openly put gas under fire. The European Union also does not show any unity on that matter. Does the industry actually have a single vector of development? The question is rhetorical, but some common trends are rather obvious.

Firstly, all major players in the industry consider climate actions a cornerstone of global business. This new reality and a certain shift in multinationals' worldview are fundamentally changing economy, energy and legal system in many regions. A stark example would be a significant pivot in the international energy agenda towards gas, renewables and new technologies.

Secondly, the market is becoming more competitive, the clients' demands are changing fast while prices are often hard to predict. In order to cope with the new reality modern market player should be nimble, sustainable and innovative.

Thirdly, new technologies are gaining the market. There is plenty of room to invent new business models and instruments. For a successful business, it is necessary to keep up with the times, but to avoid risks as well. Judging by our own experience, we can firmly say that the "golden middle" way of thinking has proven effective. By that, we mean the perfect mix of conventional business practices and innovative approaches. A convincing example of such a mix is Gazprom Export's Electronic Sales Platform (ESP) marking its first anniversary this September. ESP's success clearly demonstrates how conventional business practice can be complemented by new instruments to meet the challenges of the market in the best way.

In this issue, we are happy to share with our readers discussions, events, and latest news that have shaped the natural gas landscape in the previous months. We are certain that these stories would be a source of new ideas for you.

Changing European Gas Landscape of 2019-2020: Challenges and Expectations

Elena Burmistrova, Deputy Chairman of the Gazprom Management Committee, Director General of Gazprom Export «Prospective of Russia – EU Energy Cooperation. Gas Aspect» conference, April 2019, Berlin



I expect the year 2019 to bring substantial changes to the whole European gas industry. We are facing fundamentally new conditions on the markets, in the infrastructure, in the related industries as well as in the political field.

I would like to start with the short-term trends that define current state on the gas markets. We are witnessing the emergence of new realities that are changing both the supply and demand sides of the European gas landscape. In the early 2018, severe earthquakes hit the region of Groningen, and this resulted in the decision to cut the gas production here as soon as possible down to zero. That is a highly symbolic development for all major market players, as Groningen is the cradle of the European gas industry; and it was the Netherlands where the contract model that is still in use was initiated. Undoubtedly, for now, all the buyers, sellers and consumer wonder who would fill the gap in local supply. I would pose this question in even broader sense, namely – what would be the conditions for supply of this additional gas?

Last year we heard a lot of messages on the developing LNG sector, growth of supplies, including those from the USA; and that LNG would be a serious competitor for Gazprom's pipeline gas. Those news partly followed a pretty straightforward political goal. However, we here are businessmen and professionals. And representing business, I can assure you that along with recovering LNG supplies where the record results of 2011 are not yet achieved, Russian pipeline gas was and remains competitive on the European market. We provide stability and supply security along with flexible contract conditions.



International experts predict LNG segment's rapid advancement in the coming years. And I fully share this view. LNG can boast of a number of undoubted advantages. This flexible pipe allows the market to become truly global. Yet, LNG's flexibility is a two-way street. Today, the majority of LNG contracts are concluded on FOB basis, and when a tanker heads off to the sea, its destination is yet unknown. And if there appears a lucrative offer on the competing market, the tanker will reroute. That is exactly what we have witnessed in the Q4 2018, when the contracting Asian premium forced new LNG cargoes to Europe. And this flexibility can easily work both ways. Analysts predict that the gas price will grow again in the end of 2019, following the recovering oil price. Major part of the gas that arrives to Asia is delivered under the long-term oil-indexed contracts, and growing oil price will boost their price, too. That is going to be reflected in the spot prices for LNG. As a result, Asian premium might recover, and Asian markets will become more attractive for LNG again. The point is whether we are able, in such a situation, to predict the LNG supply volumes to Europe precisely; and what's more, if we could rely on these predictions for the years ahead? Here is another example I would like to pick. All industry players closely follow the load level of European LNG terminals. For years, it has not exceeded one-third, and IHS expects it to stay around 50% for the three coming years. Can anyone safely forecast this load level at least in the end of the current year?

In these conditions, it's Gazprom's pipeline supply that is the safest and most efficient option to fill in the gap of falling European production. In 2018, even against the background of falling demand, Gazprom managed to increase its market share to the record 36.7%, which corresponds to 201.8 bcm of gas supplied. At the same time the volumes delivered by other suppliers were falling. This proves that Russian pipeline gas is still the competitive solution chosen by Europe. Our contract model reflects the changing market. In the midterm, we expect the demand for Russian gas in Europe to stay in the range of 194 to 204 bcma, depending on weather conditions.

Speaking of changing market landscape, we should mention the developing spot trade in Europe. It grows from year to year, with number of players, liquidity and the volumes increasing. And Gazprom is one of the major players here. The spot indexation share in our contracts keeps growing, reflecting the markets. Today, 28% of our gas is indexed on spot prices, and 14% is oil-indexed with spot-linked prices ceilings. We consider such ratio as adequate to market realities. Along with that, Gazprom is successfully developing a new trading scheme through its own Electronic Sales Platform, which supports the existing long-term contract portfolio. Since its start in September 2018, Gazprom Export has sold over 3.5 bcm gas here. We did not put any exact sales plans when we started this platform. However, the interest shown by the market, the sales growth and the demand for more trade products proved that this tool is highly demanded. I would like to particularly highlight that among the ESP buyers there are companies that already have long-term contracts with us – and they do not decrease their offtake on those contracts when they buy gas on the ESP. That means that we were able to create a modern and efficient tool that the European market needs today.

There is no doubt that the gas market reflects the key trends of the whole European energy landscape. And here, in Germany, everybody knows this close up. The decision to give up coal generation taken at the beginning of this year is a crucial and essential step for climate protection, achieving goals of Paris climate agreement, and for successful implementation of the "Energiewende". The question is how exactly it is going to be implemented. The most efficient solution today is switching power generation to natural gas. The gas generation capacities in Germany are already sufficient to fully substitute brown coal power plants without creating any risks for energy supply. And what's especially important is the fact that, according to analysts, this will not lead to any increase in power price for German customers.

And here's the point I'd like to stress. A wide range of technically possible solutions for switching to a 'clean energy' is already available on the market. One should choose not simply the cleanest one, but also the most reliable and commercially efficient. There are calls to cut emissions immediately



spreading across Europe these months. But it's important that this task is performed with full attention to the risks and possible consequences. I am convinced that one cannot risk jobs, national income, or competitiveness of national economy even for the sake of fighting emissions. The climate goals adopted earlier still can be reached, while a loss in global competition might never be recovered again.

Europe has accomplished a lot in the last years to increase the renewables share in the energy mix. These efforts deserve most appraisal and support. However, in a certain sense, the advanced interconnected energy system can play a nasty trick with Europe. Due to the integrated networks, the major flaw of RES – their intermittency – can be exported, and can grow from a national to a European scale. And to solve this issue, there is still no better solution than natural gas. Gas generation is the quickest way to fill the gaps in the peak demand or supply lacks, producing the least possible emissions.

We do not need special efforts or investments to let gas fully show all its advantages. The infrastructure is already there and well developed, and it is the cheapest way to transport energy. As industry sources in Germany report, the gas networks here transport double the energy than the power grids, at only one-fifth of the cost. This is something you should not neglect.

In this light, we are often asked why Gazprom is building new pipelines, if Europe has already developed a good infrastructure? We are doing it because we are a responsible supplier and want to be fully sure of the safety, efficiency and environmental compliance of the system that delivers gas to our clients. We want to be sure that we can rely upon it for the decades ahead. Trunk pipelines can serve long, but not forever. Also, Gazprom's resource base is changing, and the production center moves northwards. It inevitably changes transportation routes. For example, the shortest route linking a new Yamal gas production center with the vibrant market of north-west Europe would follow the route of Nord Stream 2.

It is exactly the infrastructure where European gas market will experience major changes this year. By the year's end the major pipelines Nord Stream 2 and TurkStream will have been completed. Hence, gas flows on the continent will change as well. At the same time the well-interconnected European infrastructure allows every country to enjoy the benefits that these pipelines bring. And in spite of what critics say, the new pipelines do not increase import dependency on Russian gas: we see that this gas is chosen by the European market, competitive and open to all supply sources. And it is the market, not the route that defines the volumes of gas demanded.

The issue of Ukrainian transit is high on the agenda today. Here and now, I would prefer to abstain from any major statements on the matter. This complicated issue is now jointly dealt by engineers, businessmen and lawyers of all sides. Now, I would rather outline the considerations that we in Gazprom are basing upon. Our main guiding principle is responsibility. We are responsible to our contract obligations towards our clients here in Europe. And this is why we are doing our best to provide security of our gas supply to delivery points in Europe, be it in this way or another. This is also why we are investing into new, modern and direct pipelines. Also, we are responsible to our shareholders and investors – including Russian state, international companies, and private shareholders. This is why we are open to discuss such contract terms that are commercially efficient for us and for any of our partners. And finally, we are responsible to the gas industry of Russia. We fathom that any actions of a player as big as Gazprom provide a certain degree of landmark for many other companies. And this is why we opt for a style of relations that confirms our commitment to the European market and partners in Europe.

The gas industries of Russia and Europe are bound by half a century of close cooperation. In these years, we have managed to build a solid foundation that allows us to plan the future in details and define new goals for cooperation even against the background of fundamental changes going on today. I am sure that we will be able to offer to the European energy and economy the best modern and efficient solution for the years ahead.



Gas Gains Mass

Highlights from the World Energy Congress



Photo Source: WEC

At the beginning of September, Abu Dhabi, the UAE hosted this year's main event in the energy sector – the 24th World Energy Congress, which brought together international energy specialists, academia, decision-makers, and media. Being the world's leading platform for discussing the newest developments in the energy sphere, the WEA presents opportunities to detect and analyze various stances and views on separate trends, prospects and commodities including natural gas. This year, the Congress attracted thousands of visitors and experts who provided insights into today's energy markets.

The present experts almost univocally advocated decarbonization scenarios by the means of gradual energy transition. It was widely agreed that hydrocarbons cannot be just "switched off" since this transformation would provide a threat to overall stability if rapid and unprepared.

Natural gas is expected to enjoy an unprecedented boost in the years to come. On the margins of the WEC, many key players from different regions shared their positive views towards this commodity, pointing out that the blue fuel is likely to take the lead in the eco-friendly transition of world economy.

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"Natural gas is the energy carrier of the future. There is no doubt about it," – Bakheet Al Katheeri, CEO at Mubadala Petroleum.

The views on the mechanics of this process do differ, though. Others view gas as bridge fuel that complements the transition.

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"Only combination of natural gas and electricity solution can keep energy transition costs at a socially acceptable level because most of the investments in gas infrastructure has already been done."
"France will have stopped importing fossil gas by 2050. The future belongs to green gas and hydrogen," – Pierre Chareyre, Executive Vice-President at Engie.

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"We are confident that natural gas has a role, even as renewables reshape the electricity industry. I am a strong proponent of natural gas complementing renewables. I believe renewables will increase greatly around the world but at different paces," – Steven L. Edwards, Chairman and CEO at Black&Veatch.

It becomes clearer that natural gas not only successfully counters the dominance of coal and oil in heat and electricity production but also creates new market opportunities such as gas motor fuel.

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"We think natural gas will increase and grow in the use for transportation. In Spain, we are behind the use of natural gas for vehicles and we are pushing that through Enagas and investing in gas stations," – Marcelino Oreja, CEO at Enagas.

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"There are challenges and opportunities, especially in our cities, where the newest vehicles pay more taxes than the oldest ones. [...] Cities should have lowest taxes for the gas vehicles, so it will give you an incentive to use a gas vehicles.



In Colombia and Peru, we want to have policy that will increase gas-powered mass transportation, buses, taxes and small vehicles for logistics" – Astrid Alvarez, CEO at Grupo Energia Bogota.

Numerous experts consider modern trends especially promising for the whole gas industry. With the developing of key technologies and the overall strive for cleaner energy production that corresponds with SDGs and circular economy pillars, natural gas may soon fill new niches, namely substitution of coal, power-to-x or hydrogen production etc.

"Germany is phasing out coal. The same will happen in other states. It is a great chance for gas industry," – Keith Martin, CEO at Uniper Global Commodities SE.

The 25th World Energy Congress will take place in 2022 in Saint Petersburg, Russia. The city is home to the world's largest natural gas exporter Gazprom, which is likely to influence the agenda towards further discussions about the role of gas in the development of the world economy.



Photo Source: WEC

Gazprom Export Steps Forward on Trading

Key Stages of the ESP Development:



In September, 2019, Gazprom Export marked the first anniversary of its Electronic Sales Platform (ESP) aimed at physical sales of natural gas in addition to supplies under existing long-term contracts. In course of this year, the ESP has achieved impressive results and has many ambitious goals ahead.

In 2015, Gazprom Export LLC has started mastering its own trading practices and held an electronic auction to sell additional volumes of gas via the Nord Stream gas pipeline. It sold more than 40 lots of a total volume of more than 1.2 bcm of natural gas. In 2016, two further auctions again demonstrated promising results. These achievements were one of substantial reasons for designing the company's own trading platform and in 2018 Gazprom Export successfully introduced its Electronic Sales Platform (ESP) to customers.

The first trading session on the ESP was launched on September 20, 2018, and since that time ESP has gained reputation of an effective and reliable sales instrument along with



Photo Source: Energybase.ru



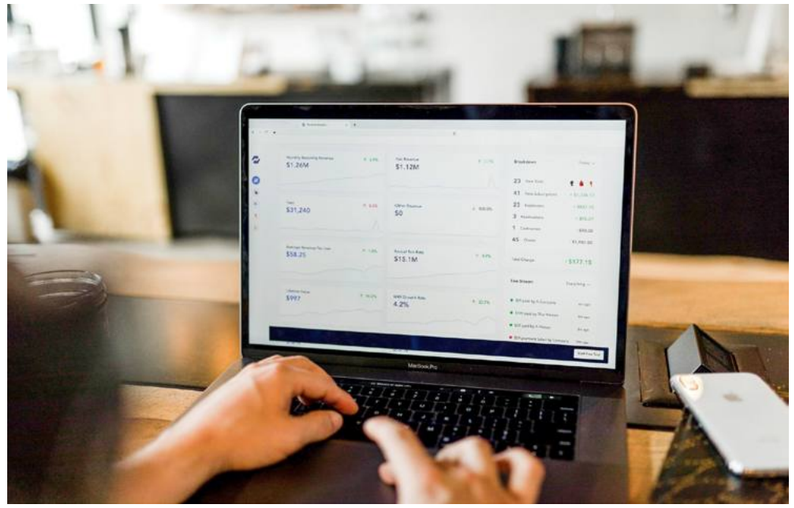


Photo Source: Unplash.com

Gazprom Export's long-term natural gas supply contracts. In a short period, ESP has become an independent sales tool that provides a rapid adaptation to changeable market conditions.

Deputy Chairman of the Gazprom Management Committee, Director General of Gazprom Export Elena Burmistrova: **"During the first year of its operation, the Electronic Sales Platform has proven to be an effective addition to our supplies under long-term contracts. This instrument reduces intra-day and seasonal volatility on the physical gas markets. In short-term we are planning to expand the geography of sales as well as to enhance offered terms of deliveries".**

Over the 12 months, Gazprom Export has sold more than 12.7 bcm of gas via the ESP, which amounts to a significant share of Gazprom's supply to the European countries. More than sixty companies have already registered on the ESP and got access to ten possible delivery points, many of which are unique due to their distance from large conventional hubs. It enhances the supplies liquidity and lowers transportation costs for many clients.

The ESP clients enjoy a wide range of available delivery periods – from day-ahead to quarter-ahead contracts. The deals on the ESP can be priced in several currencies, including rubles. With that, several deals in the Russian currency have already been executed. It is of huge importance for our company to see that such deals with payment in the Russian currency are demanded by the customers. Trading helps to optimize the use of underground gas storages and presents an opportunity to sell additional volumes of gas within the peak demand periods. At the same time, having trading contracts in the portfolio makes the flexibility of long-term natural gas supply contracts commercially efficient. Thus, trading does not replace the traditional methods of natural gas supply but complements it in a qualitative and innovative manner.

The year 2019 has become a turning point for the development of the ESP: in the middle of January, a new standard framework contract was designed and introduced. Terms and conditions of this Gas Sales Framework Agreement correspond with the standard traded contracts on the European gas market. The launch of the Agreement allowed deals with various delivery periods.
Another achievement was the introduction of Gazprom Export's own ESPGazEX index. It was presented on 1 April, 2019. The ESPGazEX for a certain month is calculated as a weighted average price of all deals concluded on the ESP up to the index release date with delivery in that particular month. ESPGazEX is published on Gazprom Export website, updated weekly and nominated in euros and rubles. An introduction of its own index was an important step for the ESP development and has clearly indicated that the platform has been expanding steadily and is highly demanded.

http://etp.gazpromexport.com





Understanding REACH

Elena Nezlobina, Chief Specialist at Division of Marketing and Access of Oil, Oil Products and Petrochemicals, Gazprom Export



Environmental protection in Europe and worldwide has developed a broad spectrum of practices that are implemented on individual, organizational or governmental levels. For the chemical industry, at the beginning of 2000s, European Union decided to develop a special regulation called REACH. It aims at improving the protection of human health and the environment through better and earlier identification and management of the intrinsic properties of chemical substances.

What do we know about that?

Each European country has a number of laws and regulations governing various aspects of chemical manufacturing. At the beginning of the 2000s, European Union decided to identify the property of chemicals produced on its territory as well imported from other countries. On June 1, 2007, the European Chemical Agency (ECHA) in Helsinki, Finland, developed a new regulation called REACH.

REACH stands for Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals and applies to all chemical substances used in industrial processes as well as in daily life. These substances are found in different kind of products, including products of large-scale industrial manufacturing. Therefore, the regulation has an impact on most chemical manufacturing companies across the EU.

REACH aims at the improving protection of human health and the environment through better and earlier identification of the intrinsic properties of chemical substances. It also promotes alternative methods for the hazard assessment of substances in order to reduce the number of tests on animals.

"No data no market"

The major requirement of the REACH Regulation is read as "no data no market". Understanding of this conception explains the core meaning and mission of the Regulation.

One of the main reasons for developing and adopting the REACH Regulation was the necessity to identify and register all chemicals, produced and imported to the European market. Due to insufficient information on chemicals, it was necessary to fill those informational gaps to ensure that industry is able to assess hazards and risks of the substances used, and to identify and implement the risk management measures to protect people and the environment.

In order to undertake chemical safety assessments of substances effectively, producers and importers obtain information on these substances, if necessary by performing new tests. For purposes of enforcement and evaluation and for reasons of transparency, the information on these substances, as well as related information, including on risk management measures, should be submitted to authorities.

Therefore, it is not allowed to produce or place on the EU market any chemical substances unless they are registered in the central database in the European Chemical Agency. That is why producers and importers have to register their substances regarding their safe handling.



Photo Source: ECHA



The Agency is the central point of the REACH system: it manages the databases, coordinates the evaluation of suspicious chemicals and builds up a public database where consumers and professionals can find information of possible hazards.

Gazprom Group's Activities under REACH Regulations

In compliance with the requirements of REACH Regulations, all exporters of chemical products to the European market (non EU-producers) are required to appoint their so-called "Only Representative", who stands as a resident of the EU, carrying out all activities within the framework of the Regulation and is responsible for violation of its requirements.

Given that an Only Representative gets access to confidential technical information, such as methods of production and composition of products, as well as data on actual deliveries of products and final consumers, the problem of finding a reliable EU company was a real issue. Gazprom Group exports large variety of chemical products to EU for many years, so Gazprom Export in collaboration with the supervising Gazprom Departments introduced its affiliate company Gazprom Marketing and Trading France to represent the interests of Gazprom Group in the European Chemical Agency.

In August 2008, Gazprom Marketing and Trading France was appointed as the Only Representative and the relevant agreements of the non-disclosure of confidential information were concluded. Gazprom Export and Gazprom Marketing and Trading France have been already working together for 12 years in compliance with the requirements of REACH, tracking Gazprom Group registered products. France optimized costs of acquiring environmental toxicological studies

and joined industry organizations. GMT France and Gazprom Export are working together on analysis, data update and development of proposals on testing methods.

Registration Dossier

Under its REACH activity, GMT France has become a Lead Registrant of such substances as propane-butane mixture, broad fracture of light hydrocarbons and stable gas condensate. A Lead Registrant has to create a Dossier on each substance and submit it further to the European Chemical Agency. The registration dossier is a special technical document that includes physio-chemical, toxicological and eco-toxicological properties of a particular substance.

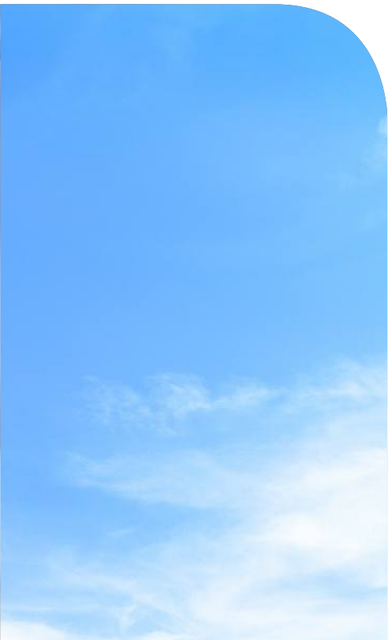
The dossier consists of two parts – general and individual. The general part of the dossier appeals to all Registrants and aims to decrease the number of toxicological studies involving animals. For this purpose, the Registrants agreed to make an experiment with only one animal for one substance and then share this information with all producers.

Meanwhile the individual part of the dossier applies to producers and importers separately and includes physical-chemical properties and various analyses for one substance.

During the years 2007-2010 Gazprom Export and Gazprom Marketing and Trading France have investigated and identified about 100 substances, most of them were used in the registration process. This provided the subsequent successful Registration in December 2010 of two and a half dozen of substances exported by Gazprom Group in EU.







For the last ten years Gazprom Group along with Gazprom Marketing and Trading France worked with more than 20 laboratories and research institutes in the Russian Federation, Europe, Canada, the USA and China to carry out additional studies of the chemical component composition and physical-chemical properties in line with the REACH standards. In 2018, Gazprom Export and Gazprom Marketing and Trading France signed a new collaboration Agreement for next 10 years in terms of REACH Regulation activity. All dossiers, registered by ECHA, should be kept updated for the further inspections in accordance with the requirements of the Regulation.



Third CNG Mobility Days Forum Held in Berlin

The CNG Mobility Days forum conducted by the CNG Industry Circle was held in Berlin on 25 and 26 June 2019. Gazprom NGV Europe, a Gazprom Group company, was one of the event's organisers. The forum was held for only the third time – still, it has meanwhile managed to become one of the leading business events in Europe in the natural gas vehicle segment of the market.

During the event, speakers made presentations on the competitive advantages of transport fueled with compressed natural gas (CNG). Automobile companies unveiled new models of passenger cars and trucks operating on CNG, and the visitors had a chance to take cars for a test drive. The forum was visited by 269 guests from five countries, including



Škoda Scala G-TEC

the Czech Republic, where Gazprom NGV Europe, as in Germany, is one of the top five operators in the market for natural gas filling stations. The participants at the event included numerous policymakers, media representatives and leading industry partners, such as the Volkswagen Group. One of the forum's highlights was the world première of the Škoda Scala G-TEC car operating on CNG.

Policymakers present at the forum spoke about the advantages of natural gas as fuel and promised further support for decisions in the field of environmentally friendly mobility.

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Uwe Johann, Managing Director of Gazprom NGV Europe: “I especially want to mention the broad composition of the forum's participants, who included operators of natural gas filling stations, automakers and final consumers of CNG. This underscores the determination of the entire industry to continue to actively develop the natural gas vehicle market in Europe.”

Learn more: https://www.discover-cng.com/



Uwe Johann, Managing Director at NGVE



Gas is the Least Harmful Motor Fuel, Research Finds

Natural gas is the most environmentally friendly fuel, according to the research by the ADAC, Germany's leading automobile club with more than 20,000,000 members. The study shows that CNG powered cars have a better carbon footprint than electric and diesel ones.

The results of the study, conducted by research institute Joanneum Research, were published at the end of August. Natural gas-powered cars were compared to petrol, diesel and electric ones. NGVs performed best across the entire car life cycle.

The study analyzed and compared the exhaust emissions from cars, namely greenhouse gas emissions generated during vehicle manufacturing and recycling, as well as all emissions released during the fuel or electricity production, provision and consumption. It also considered carbon dioxide (CO_2), which is mainly produced during the combustion of fossil fuels, methane emissions (CH_4) from gaseous fuels and nitrous oxide (N_2O) from the cultivation of biomass.

The ADAC explains that the results were a 'small surprise' for them. It turned out that the natural gas car has the best greenhouse gas balance over its life cycle. Only an e-car driving on 100% renewable electricity would have a significantly better carbon footprint. However, such technologies are unachievable nowadays.

"According to a recent study of the ADAC, the most environmentally friendly way of powering a Golf-type car in Germany is with a CNG fueled engine. With the current German electricity mix still relying heavily on coal, all possible engines such as petrol, diesel and even electric ones, fail to reach the level of low full-life-cycle climate footprint of a CNG fueled car. The climate footprint of natural gas as transport fuel is improving even more as the share of bio-methane or synthetic fuels is continuously rising. If fueled with 100% bio-methane, currently existing NGV can almost reach climate neutrality. That is possible at almost 150 service stations in Germany", told us German gas association Zukunft ERDGAS e.V.

Zukunft ERDGAS stressed that in the individual mobility sector, gas-fueled cars have the advantage of being more affordable than electric cars while also having a longer range. In addition, in Germany, it is still easier to reach a natural gas station than a charging station for an electric car. In the cargo transportation, clients trust the reliability and the economic and ecologic advantages of gas-fueled engines. Gas-fueled trucks are exempt from German highways tolls, which proves to be a strong incentive for potential users.

Head of the Zukunft ERDGAS Timm Kehler points out that the initial reference data of the ADAC study has still not been published and therefore cannot be proved just yet. Nevertheless, reports of the association support the ADAC's study results, Kehler claims.



Timm Kehler, Head of the Zukunft Erdgas

Mr Kehler further criticizes existing EU and German policy regulations that give advantage to electric cars over other alternative drives: "The EU-fleet-wide emission reduction targets take into account only tank-to-wheel emissions, thereby automatically rendering battery-powered cars the cleanest alternative drive. For instance, an electric car powered with electricity from a coal-fired power plant is considered emission-free, while a CNG car running with 100 % CO_2-neutral biomethane is not. On a path to a more climate-friendly transport system, such regulations are counterproductive. That is why we call for a reform of the regulation, which also includes well-to-wheel emissions. Under such system, gas-fueled cars reach the same good emission results as electric vehicles".

Learn more: https://presse.adac.de/meldungen/adac-ev/verkehr/erdgas-pkw-mit-bester-treibhausgas-bilanz.html



International Kids Media House Takes Place in Austria



From 5 to 12 July, 2019, the capital of Austria hosted International Kids Media House, an annual project founded in 2014 by the Austrian 'Energy for Life – Social Foundation' non-profit association, with the support of Gazprom Export LLC. The main objective of this educational initiative is to establish an original creative media space for children who want to become journalists so that they could communicate, work creatively and fulfil their potential. The project's main principle is training and the practical application of the acquired knowledge.

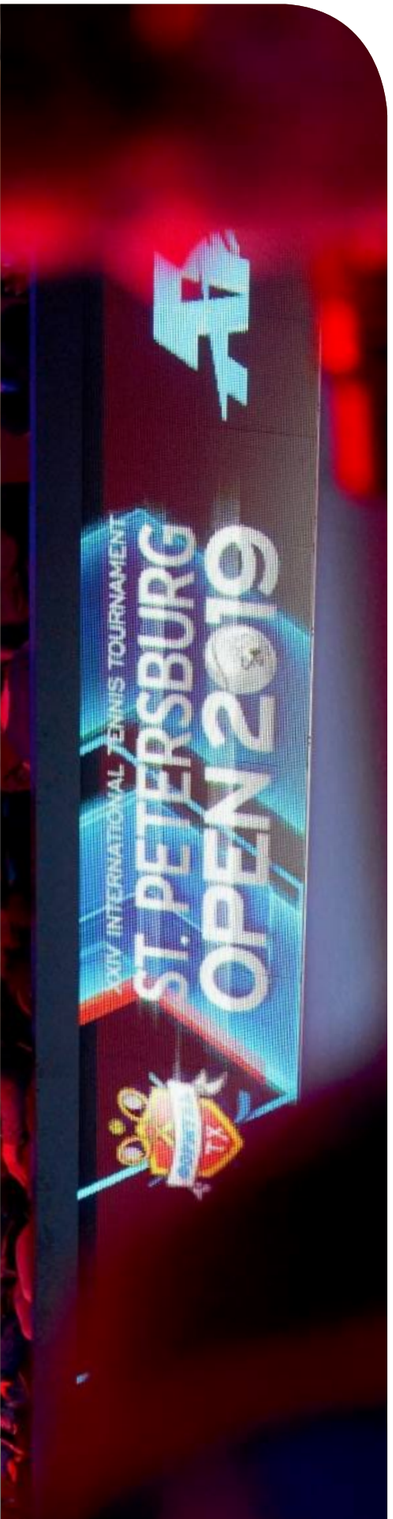
Children and teenagers aged 11 to 17 from Russia, Austria and Germany were among the participants this year. All of them are students of regional media schools and already have basic journalistic skills. To become the participants of the International Kids Media House, these children had stood a serious competition and demonstrated their active work throughout the year.

The main task set for the young journalists was to produce news footages. The children were divided into film crews, each of them having an editor, a director, a cameraman and an anchor. Under the guidance of experienced mentors, the children were creating footages, from arranging the filming to editing a story.

The participants created twelve stories, including an interview with the Mayor of Vienna, reports from the office of ORF, a federal Austrian TV channel, and from the Kronehit radio company's office, films about the work of firefighters and police on the Danube river, historical city horse-drawn carriages (fiacres), as well as about the Spittelau waste incineration plant that has been renovated by famous Austrian architect Friedensreich Hundertwasser. The result was a news series shot for the Good News program.

Besides filming, the program included daily practical training sessions with teachers, five workshops from leading European media industry experts and, of course, excursions and walks around the Austrian capital.





St. Petersburg Open 2019 Successfully Finished



Daniil Medvedev at St. Petersburg Open 2019

The St. Petersburg Open 2019 International Tournament of the Association of Tennis Professionals has ended in Saint Petersburg; the contest's titular sponsor has long been Gazprom Export LLC. St. Petersburg Open 2019 started on September 16 and over the course of the following week, the indoor hard courts of the Sibur Arena Concert and Sports Complex hosted numerous singles and doubles matches.

Professional tennis players from twenty countries visited Saint Petersburg to claim the top prize of the Tournament. Among the participants, there were also truly star players holding the leading positions in the world ranking: World No. 4 Daniil Medvedev and No. 9 Karen Khachcnov from Russia, No.13 the US Open 2019 semi-finalist Matteo Berrettini from Italy, No.15 the winner of two ATP contests Borna Ćorić from Croatia and No.19 the winner of three Grand Slam tournaments Stan Wawrinka from Switzerland.

The final doubles game was won by Indian player Divij Sharan and Slovak player Igor Zelenay, who beat the Italian tandem of Simone Bolelli and Matteo Berrettini.

Russia's Daniil Medvedev won the final singles match and got the main prize of the Tournament. In the final game Medvedev beat Croatian Borna Ćorić by a large margin. It lasted 1 hour 15 minutes and ended with a score 6 3, 6 1. For Medvedev, this title has become the sixth in his career, and the third won in 2019. It was the fifth final game of this season for the 23-year-old sportsman.

The tournament traditionally ended with a magnificent show and an award ceremony.



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