



# **Annual Report of 2015 EASEE-gas Activities**

Brussels,  
March 2016

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## 1. Foreword

Dear EASEE-gas Members,

We are pleased to share with you an overview of the activities we have been busy with in the past 12 months. A lot has happened in 2015 for EASEE-gas!

The co-operation agreement with ENTSOE was officially signed in June 2015 and we are in conversation with other parties regarding similar arrangements. We have developed a role model for the gas sector, a unique document listing all the actors in the gas industry as well as all possible roles and business processes. This is a pioneer document in the gas sector and proves once again the strength and value of having all market segments represented in EASEE-gas. No other association could have accomplished this publication! We will hear more about it during our meetings in Toulouse.

Attendance to our GMoM keeps on increasing and the new format of the event with invited speakers and more time for networking has been commended by all members. We were 44 people in Munich in 2014, 54 in Vienna in 2015 and hope to continue growing this number when we meet in Toulouse on 17 March 2016. Our Working Groups have other events planned for 2016 touching upon crucial issues for our industry like cyber security. The Taskforce working on the role model will organise a stakeholders' consultation workshop early May to discuss with other organisations the content of the document before final publication. We will keep you informed about these plans and hope you can participate and contribute to the discussions.

The EASEE-gas Working Groups and Taskforces had a very busy and productive year with new CBPs being published, others reviewed and about to be published the next months by the Business Process Working Group. The Technology Standards Working Group supervised the migration process of our security certificates and the upgrade from SHA1 to SHA2 hashed certificates. This project which started in June 2014 was successfully concluded in November 2015, allowing the 75 companies owing an EASEE-gas security certificate to be compliant with the new secured communication software. The Gas Quality Harmonisation Working Group participated in the discussions about the gas quality standard which was finally voted last September and will contribute to the Gas Quality Harmonisation Implementation Pilot Project, now lead by CEN and supported by the European Commission. Lastly, the Message and Workflow Design Working Group went the extra mile to reply to all requests of both ENTSOE and ACER. The Message Implementation Guidelines (MIG) on the Nomination and Matching Process at Interconnection Points (version 5.1) was published over the summer.

We hope you find this Annual Report of Activities a useful publication about EASEE-gas and the initiatives we worked on throughout 2015 and we look forward to meeting you in Toulouse this March!

EASEE-gas is an association which relies on the hard work and contribution by its members and the results of this have been seen in the last year. The Board would like to thank all members that actively took part in EASEE-gas Working Groups and Taskforces.

Rudy Van Beurden,  
on behalf of the EASEE-gas Board of Directors

## 2. Membership

During the past year, EASEE-gas increased its membership thanks to a total of 6 new companies that joined the association as full member. On 1 February 2016 the association counted a total of 95 full members.

### New members:

- eZ-nergy - LTSOSP
- Youtrade Energy Commodities SA - Innowatio Group – Traders & Shippers
- TransAustria Gasleitung – Transporter
- USG – End User
- BASF SE – End user
- Grupa Azoty Zakłady Azotowe PULAWY SA – End User

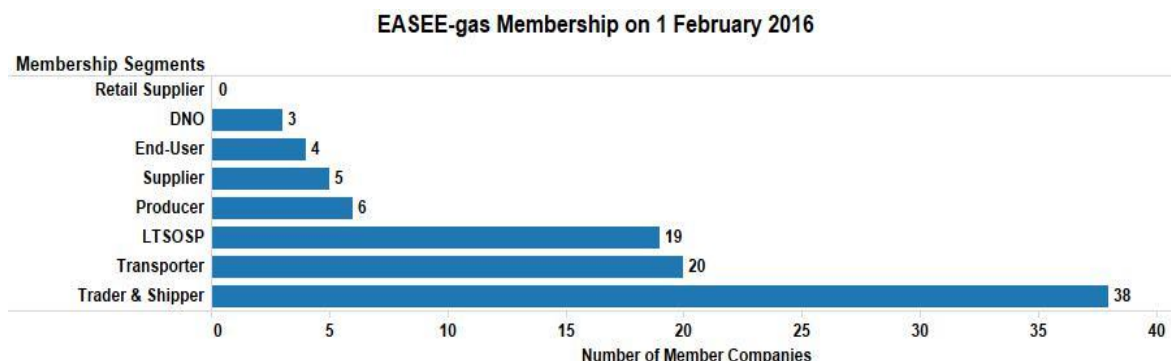


### Members that resigned:

- Huberator
- Edison
- Eustream

EASEE-gas Board welcomes these 6 new companies to the association. The full list of members is available on the website: <https://easee-gas.eu/members-list>.

In terms of membership segment representation, we are happy to announce that thanks to the three end-user companies that just joined the association as of 1 January 2016, the End-user segment is active for the first time ever and can therefore be represented in both the Board and the Executive Committee. The other two segments - Retail Suppliers and Distribution Network Operators - still do not gather enough member companies to be considered active (minimum of 4 member companies):



The EASEE-gas Board would like members to encourage more DNOs and Retail Suppliers to join EASEE-gas and take an active role in the association so their views and concerns can be properly heard in the Board and in the Executive Committee.

### 3. Communications

#### 3.1 Website

The new EASEE-gas website was launched in January 2015 and after more than one year of activity the



statistics show that the audience is well reacting and finds the information published on the website useful. The website counts an average of 560 visitors per month and registered picks in connection with relevant association events, for example the GMoM in Vienna last March or the co-operation agreement signed with ENTSG in June. The LinkedIn company page recently created has also generated visits to the EASEE-gas website. An icon has been also added to the top of the EASEE-gas homepage. We encourage our members to follow the EASEE-gas company page on LinkedIn and to share the latest updates and news, increasing hence EASEE-gas online presence.

New content was produced for the website this year, like the new section Frequently Asked Questions: <https://easee-gas.eu/faqs>. The content was prepared by the Joint Chairmen Group and it aims at answering to common questions that often EASEE-gas members have. We invite our members to have a look at the section as well as to suggest additional questions that could be added in the future

#### 3.2 Newsletter & Press Releases

In 2015, EASEE-gas released three Quarterly Newsletters - March, August and November - keeping up-to-date the members on the latest initiatives and accomplishments of the association. A shorter version of the Newsletter is also distributed to non-members and external stakeholders of the association. The Newsletters are coordinated by the Joint Chairmen Group. All Newsletters, including previous years' editions, can be downloaded on the reserved area of the website. Six press releases have been published in 2015:

- 15 January, EASEE-gas launches new visual identity including logo and redesigned website
- 27 February, EASEE-gas position statement on communication continuity
- 20 March, Cyber security and geopolitics debated during general meeting of EASEE-gas in Vienna
- 19 June, EASEE-gas and ENTSG conclude agreement on the development of data exchange messages
- 08 July, EASEE-gas approves new CBP on the harmonisation of the nomination and matching process for double-sided and single-sided nominations
- 23 October, EASEE-gas publishes MIG on Nomination and Matching Process



All press releases are available on the website in the news section: <https://easee-gas.eu/news>

#### 3.3 CBP Implementation Survey

The Executive Committee of EASEE-gas prepared in November 2015 a short survey to assess the current level of implementation of the CBPs and to identify possible new topics that could be covered in future CBPs. The full membership was called to provide feedback on the implementation of the CBPs highlighting the obstacles encountered and the improvements generated on the overall company operations. During the

opening period, from 25 November until 18 December 2015, the survey gathered a total of 27 replies among the different segments, reflecting the association's distribution.

The big majority of the respondents identified improvements to communication aspects during operations as the most relevant added value of the EASEE-gas CBPs. The standardisation of units, processes and interfaces have progressively helped lowering the operational costs and removing strong system inefficiencies. For this reason, respondents stressed the need to ensure an even wider implementation of the current CBPs by counterparties and would welcome stronger cooperation with other relevant parties (CEN, ENTSOG, ACER).

The results of the survey were discussed by the Executive Committee and the Joint Chairmen Group and have been taken into account for the preparation of the 2016 EASEE-gas Work Plan. The group also confirmed the relevance of the CBP Implementation Survey to monitor and gather feedback from the entire membership and agreed to repeat such exercise at the end of 2016. The results have been made available in the first Newsletter of 2016.

### 3.4 Events

#### 3.4.1 GMoM 2015 in Vienna

The EASEE-gas General Meeting of Members (GMoM) in Vienna, Austria, was attended by over 50 people, representing the different companies that are members of the association. The event started with a social gathering at the Mozarthaus at the heart of Vienna, on Wednesday 18 March. The GMoM took place the following day.

The GMoM included presentations by the chairs of the 4 Working Groups on the activities carried out in 2014 by each Working Group. The Work Plan for 2015 was presented and approved as well as the 2014 annual accounts and 2015 budget. New members to the Board and the Executive Committee of the association were also elected by the membership in Vienna. Rudy Van Beurden (representing Fluxys LNG) was endorsed for a second mandate as chair of the Board of Directors.



The GMoM in Vienna also included presentations by two experts on cyber security and geopolitics: Paul Bloemen, ICT Security Manager at the Nederlandse Gasunie and Chair of the Dutch Energy ISAC; and Geert Greving, Chair of the International Gas Union Taskforce on Geopolitics and Natural Gas. Both

presentations provided a good overview of two key matters affecting the gas industry.

All presentations of the event, together with photos, are available for download on the reserved area of EASEE-gas website.

#### 3.4.2. External Meetings

Thanks to the participation of its members on behalf of the association, EASEE-gas was represented and contributed to the discussions in a number of European fora in 2015:

- 18 and 19 February, Paris, CEN/TC234 WG11 Gas Quality Harmonization Standard
- 9 and 10 April, Ljubljana, Roundtable on REMIT with Associations of Energy Market Participants (AEMPs), organized by ACER
- 20 and 21 April, Madrid, 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the European Gas Regulatory Forum (Madrid Forum), organised by the European Commission
- 11 June, Brussels, ACER Gas Working Group
- 7 and 8 July, Ljubljana, Roundtable on REMIT with Associations of Energy Market Participants (AEMPs), organized by ACER
- 14 and 15 October, Madrid, 28<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the European Gas Regulatory Forum (Madrid Forum), organised by the European Commission

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- 18 November, Brussels, Brainstorming session on the Gas Quality Harmonisation Implementation Pilot Project, organised by CEN and the European Commission
- 15 December, Brussels, Information session dedicated to the Tariff Network Code in Gas and the amendment to the CAM Network Code, organized by the ENTSOG
- 16 and 17 December, Ljubljana, ACER Roundtable Meeting with Associations of Energy Market Participants (AEMPs), organized by ACER

## 4. 2015 Work Plan

Every year, EASEE-gas leadership puts together a list of milestones to be achieved during the year.

The Work Plan is divided in five different areas of activity:

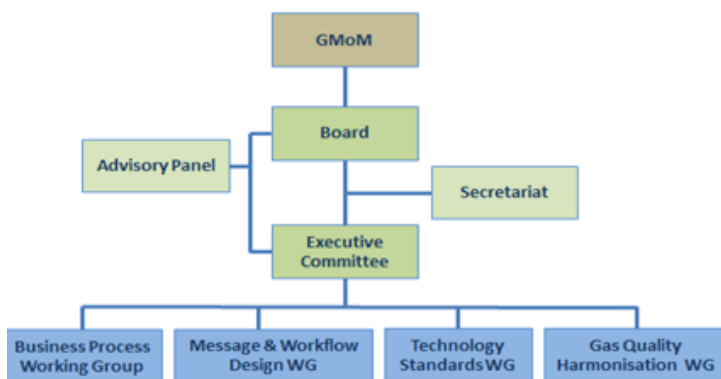
- EASEE-gas as an organisation
- Continued review and support for existing CBPs
- Development of new CBPs
- Promote and review the use of CBPs
- Contribution of EASEE-gas to other rules, practice and standard setting organisations

For each area, a list of strategic objectives was put together with concrete initiatives and indicators to measure success. The Work Plan is evaluated by the Executive Committee and a detailed update was included in all Newsletters.

The final review of the 2015 Work Plan is available for download on the reserved area of the website.

## 5. Activities

### EASEE-gas Structure



The main bulk of the work of the association is carried out by four Working Groups (see organisation chart). These provide a structured platform whereby industry participants can discuss the harmonisation and simplification of business processes by developing Common Business Practices (CBPs).

In addition to the Working Groups, EASEE-gas set up a Joint Chairmen Group. EASEE-gas encourages all its members to take part in the association's Working Groups. The association can only be successful if it is well represented by members across the whole gas value chain.

### 5.1 Board

#### Current Board Composition:

Name	Company	Segment
Chairman, Rudy Van Beurden	Fluxys LNG	LTSOSPs
Vice-Chairman Stian Flørenaes	Statoil	Producer
Treasurer, Claude Meylan	GRTgaz	Transporter
ExCom Chairman, Peter Meeuwis	GasTerra	Trader/Shipper
Board Director, Lorenzo Dondi	Eni	Supplier

#### EASEE-gas Board had 5 meetings in 2015

- 30 January in Stavanger, Norway

- 19 March in Vienna, Austria
- 20 May in Brussels, Belgium
- 01 September in Milan, Italy
- 03 December in Groningen, The Netherlands

### Issues discussed in 2015:

#### **Possible transfer from France to Belgium**

On the agenda for over one year, the matter was finally solved in September 2015. The EASEE-gas Treasurer had a meeting with the fiscal authorities in France. These confirmed that EASEE-gas is subject to taxes despite being a not-for-profit entity. The Board discussed the situation, including the pros and cons of contesting this decision and also of transferring the legal entity from France to Belgium. A decision was taken to continue registered in France and to better control the finances of the association to avoid ending the year with a substantial surplus which would then be subject to taxes (33% in France). New procedures for approval of invoices have been put in place as well as better coordination among the chairs of the different Working Groups to ensure better planning of activities and allocation of resources.

#### **Co-operation with other stakeholders**

EASEE-gas Board was in contact with different parties (ENTSOG and ACER) to discuss the possibilities of further co-operation. An agreement with ENTSOG was signed on 11 June in Brussels. Similar types of relationship are being sought with other parties.

## **5.2 Executive Committee**

### Current Executive Committee Composition:

Peter Meeuwis is the Chair of the Executive Committee and Jon Rune Jørgensen acts as Vice-Chair. The four Chairmen of the Working Groups often participate to the meetings and conference calls of the Executive Committee.

<b>Members</b>	<b>Alternates</b>	<b>Company</b>	<b>Segment</b>
Peter Meeuwis		GasTerra	Trader/Shipper
Jon Rune Jørgensen	Stian Flørenaes	Statoil	Producer
Andrey Khakimov	Olga Rogozenkova	Gazprom Export	Trader & Shipper
Carmen Rey De Arce		Gas Natural Fenosa	Supplier
Ana Teixeira Pinto	Bruno Coimbra Matos	EDP	Trader/shipper
Bart Cornelis		Eni	Supplier
Klaas Beukema		Gasunie	Transporter
Laurent Remy		Huberator	LTSOSP
Andreas Kost		Storengy	LTSOSP
Michael Sostmann	Christoph Hoeft	Open Grid Europe	Transporter
Michel Van Den Brande		Fluxys	Transporter
Tania Meixús Fernández	Maria Carmen Rodríguez Valdes	Enagas	LTSOSP

#### **EASEE-gas Executive Committee had 5 meetings and 2 conferences call in 2015:**

- 29 January in Stavanger, Norway
- 27 February conference call
- 19 March in Vienna, Austria
- 21 May in Groningen, The Netherlands
- 23 June conference call
- 06 October Berlin, Germany
- 19 November in Brussels, Belgium



### Issues discussed in 2015:

The Executive Committee oversees the activities of the different Working Groups, provides advice, approves CBPs, looks at resources, prepares the work of the Board and keeps it informed about the progress made on the Work Plan.

During the first part of the year, the Executive Committee gave approval to the CBP on the Harmonisation of the Nomination and Matching Process for Double-Sided and Single-Sided Nomination and provided advice on other CBPs still under discussion within the different Working Groups.

The group coordinated the preparation of the documents to submit and present at the Madrid Forum, especially the gas role model whose development has been guided thanks to the input of the members of this group. The Executive Committee made efforts to ensure external representation of EASEE-gas to a number of other relevant conferences linked to the association's work (see section 3.4.2 External Meetings).

The Executive Committee prepared and oversaw the running of the CBP Implementation Survey sent out to the membership in December 2015. The feedback received via the survey was discussed and used to draft the 2016 Work Plan with the initiatives suggested by the members.

## 5.3 Working Groups

### 6.3.1 Business Process Working Group

The Business Process WG is chaired by Marin Zwetkow from Gas Connect Austria.

### Issues discussed in 2015:

The Business Process Working Group finalised CBP 2014-001/01 Harmonisation of the Nomination and Matching Process for Double-Sided and Single-Sided Nomination in 2015. The CBP was published on 8 July 2015 on EASEE-gas website. During the year, the Working Group worked on existing CBPs trying to understand if updates or changes are necessary.

The biggest project of the BPWG in 2015 was the development of the Gas Role Model. A special Taskforce was created, gathering EASEE-gas members (including BPWG members and MWDWG members), ENTSOG and Eurogas representatives. The Taskforce made considerable progress on this initiative throughout the year. A presentation was prepared for the Madrid Forum (autumn edition, 15 October 2015), but it was not presented. The Taskforce aims to finalise the role model document in the summer of 2016. The first draft will be presented after consultation with the ExCom, ENTSOG and Eurogas at the GMoM 2016. The BPWG will continue working on the Role Model for Gas in order to bring this document to the approval stage of becoming a CBP.

### 6.3.2 Message and Workflow Design Working Group

The Message and Workflow Design WG is chaired by Jarle Rønnevik from Statoil.

### Issues discussed in 2015:

The Working Group was very busy in 2015 changing and creating messages related to the Network Codes on Gas Balancing of Transmission Networks and on Capacity Allocation Mechanisms in Gas Transmission Systems, following ENTSOG's requests (based on the BRS nomination and matching and capacity allocation mechanism). This resulted in two MIGs (Message Implementation Guidelines):

- MIG on Nomination and Matching Process at Interconnection Point published on 23 October 2015
- MIG for Capacity Trading which will be published on Q2 2016

In addition, the MWDWG worked on REMIT in cooperation with ACER and ENTSOG. It finalised the publication of the Market Situation document explaining balancing information to the market participants.

The Message Workflow Design Working Group also contributed to the work on the Gas Role Model in cooperation with the Taskforce and the BPWG.

### 6.3.3 Technology Standards Working Group

The Technology Standards WG is chaired by Dirk Serruys from Fluxys.

#### Issues discussed in 2015:

The biggest project of the Technology Standards Working Group in 2015 was the supervision of the security certificates migration process and the transition from SHA1 to SHA2 which was successfully completed in November 2015. This project, carried out by PSvdL, was of critical importance to EASEE-gas.

The Working Group also looked for possibilities to improve the usability of the reserved area of the website to ensure a smooth sharing of documents among members. Towards the end of the year, the TSWG worked on a preamble to be added to CBP 2007-001-01-message-transmission-protocol about AS4. The changes made to this CBP, including the preamble, are still awaiting approval of the Executive Committee.

Following the workshops that took place in 2014, the TSWG continued brainstorming about cyber security and the role and position of EASEE-gas on the topic. The Working Group will organise a workshop in 2016 with members and non-members to discuss the matter.

### 6.3.4 Gas Quality Harmonisation Working Group

The Gas Quality Harmonisation WG is chaired by Jan Hendrik Annema from GasTerra.

#### Issues discussed in 2015:

The gas quality standard was voted in September 2015. The Gas Quality Harmonisation Working Group has been following and participating to the whole process from the start quite closely. The chair, a member of the WG and the chair of the Executive Committee attended the Brainstorming Session on the Gas Quality Harmonisation Implementation Pilot Project, organised by CEN and the European Commission on 18 November in Brussels. The Pilot Project will be managed by CEN and it is expected to start early 2016.

Jan Hendrik Annema stepped-down from his position as chair of this Working Group. Volunteers are welcomed to lead the works on this WG in 2016. The EASEE-gas Board would like to thank Jan Hendrik Annema for his work and commitment to the Gas Quality Harmonisation Working Group in the past two years.

## 5.4 Joint Chairmen Group Meeting

### Current Composition of the Joint Chairmen Group Meeting:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Company</b>	<b>Segment</b>
Peter Meeuwis, Chair of the ExCom	GasTerra	Trader/Shipper
Jon Rune Jørgensen, Vice-Chair of the ExCom	Statoil	Producer
Jarle Rønnevik, Chair of the Message & Workflow Design WG	Statoil	Producer
Marin Zwetkow, Chair of the Business Process WG	Gas Connect Austria	Transporter
Dirk Serruys, Chair of the Technology Standards WG	Fluxys	Transporter
Jan Hendrik Annema, Chair of the Gas Quality Harmonisation WG	GasTerra	Trader/Shipper

The Joint Chairmen Group Meeting gathers all the chairs of all the four Working Groups of EASEE-gas, plus the vice-chair and the chair of the Executive Committee. This body gives the opportunity to the chairs of each Working Group to present the work of their WG and discuss together future initiatives.

Led by the Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee, it ensures a constant and updated information exchange about the activities performed by the four Working Groups in relation to the objectives listed in the annual Work Plan of the association and prepares some of the activities of the Executive Committee. In addition to

the coordination of the content of the quarterly Newsletter, this year the Joint Chairmen Group was busy with the creation of the FAQs section and reserved area on the EASEE-gas website. The group also discussed approaches to streamline cooperation with external associations.

For more information about the activities of this group, please contact Jon Rune Jørgensen, Vice-Chair of the ExCom.

## 5.5 Advisory Panel

### Current Composition of the Advisory Panel

<b>Name</b>	<b>Association</b>
Jan van Aken, Advisory Panel Chair	EFET
Rudy Van Beurden, EASEE-gas Chair	Fluxys LNG
Peter Meeuwis, EASEE-gas Chair of the ExCom	GasTerra
Walter Boltz	E-Control, ACER
Dirk Jan Meuzelaar	IFIEC
Margot Loudon	Eurogas
Hiltrud Schuelken	CEN TC 234 Secretariat
Kees Bouwens	IOGP
Thierry Deschuyteneer	GIE
Daniel Hec	MARCOGAZ
Stephen Rose	EURELECTRIC
Sue Harrison	BERR
Joan Prat	GEODE

The Members of the Advisory Panel are drawn from the Associate Members of EASEE-gas. They include the main stakeholders related to the gas sector: from other associations to representatives from the CEN Technical Committee on gas infrastructure. The Advisory Panel meetings take place right before the Madrid Forum which is attended by all these associations.

Two meetings took place in 2015 ahead of each edition of the Madrid Forum: 20 April and 14 October. All Advisory Panel meetings consist of a report about the EASEE-gas activities followed by discussion with all participants on items of relevance. The gas quality standard was one of the topics under discussion in 2015 and the exchange of views between the different associations was very useful for the participation at the Madrid Forum. The Advisory Panel demonstrated full support to EASEE-gas efforts of developing a role model for the gas sector with some members committing to provide guidance during the process and endorsement to the final publication.

## 6. EASEE-gas Secretariat & Finances

EASEE-gas secretariat is run by an association management company based in Brussels, Kellen ([www.kelleneurope.com](http://www.kelleneurope.com)). The secretariat includes:

- Raquel Ponte Costa, acting as General Manager
- Françoise Maon, acting as Communications Officer (replaced during her maternity leave from October 2015 by Martina Conton).
- Maria Sanz Arrue, acting as Assistant

Should you have any queries or require any assistance, please feel free to contact the secretariat via:

142 Avenue Jules Bordet, 1140 Brussels, Belgium

Tel: +32 2 761 16 33 Fax: +32 2 761 16 99

Mail: [easee-gas@kelleneurope.com](mailto:easee-gas@kelleneurope.com)

Web: <https://easee-gas.eu>

EASEE-gas finances are managed by a consulting firm based in Paris – Primexis ([www.primexis.fr](http://www.primexis.fr)).

- Nadège Metairie
- Guillaume Vidal

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