

Press Announcement

Date: 19 May 2009

c/o Kellen Europe, Avenue Jules Bordet 142, 1140 Brussels, Belgium Tel: +32(0) 2 761 16 33 Fax: + 32 (0) 2 761 16 99 Email: easee-gas@kelleneurope.com

European Gas Industry Takes Another Step towards Improved Interoperability

The Executive Committee of EASEEgas, the European Association for the Streamlining of Energy Exchange (gas), has today released three revised Common Business Practices (CBPs)

- CBP 2005-001-02 "Gas Quality Harmonisation" and
- CBP 2003-002-02 "Harmonisation of Nominating and Matching Process"
- CBP 2005-002-02 "Interconnection Agreement"

CBP 2005-001-02 has undergone 3 complimentary updates. The wording of the CBP has been revised so as to provide more clarity for LNG Terminals. In addition, the oxygen specification has been adjusted as a result of the findings following the "Oxygen Survey" realised on 12 September 2006, as well as historical data regarding the quality variation are now included in the revised version of the CBP.

CBPs 2003-002-02 and 2005-002-02 have been revised so as to extend their application area to other segments than TSOs and Shippers, in view of streamlining the relevant procedures at the interface with TSOs, SSOs, LTOs and producers (all together Infrastructure Operators - IOs).

The EASEE-gas Executive Committee, through various Working Groups, is continuing to develop CBPs in close consultation with stakeholders, including the Madrid Forum.

One other CBP, CBP 2009-001-01 on the Harmonisation on the Operating of Contracts, is currently in consultation and should be released later this year.

Notes

Common Business Practices (CBPs) are standards, procedures and/or protocols commonly used in the gas industry in Europe and are recommended by EASEE-gas for adoption by all relevant industry players to simplify and streamline business processes and thereby lead to an efficient and effective European gas market.

The development of CBPs is managed by an Executive Committee composed of industry representatives from each part of the gas value chain.

The European Gas Regulatory Forum of Madrid was set up to discuss issues regarding the creation of a true internal gas market. The participants are national regulatory authorities, Member States, the European Commission, transmission system operators, gas suppliers and traders, consumers, network users, and gas exchanges. The Forum convenes once or twice a year in Madrid.

EASEE-gas presently has 86 full members (companies active in the European gas market) and 27 associate members (industry associations, regulators, government agencies, etc).

All approved CBP's can found on the new EASEE-gas website shortly, www.easee-gas.org

¹ In the original text it was unclear whether LNG needed to adhere to the CBP parameter and ranges at the entry of the terminal or at the exit of the terminal.

Contacts:

Elsa Papadopoulou/Nicolle Raven (EASEE-gas Secretariat) Bjorn Melaa (Acting Chairman of Executive Committee)

+32 27610 16 33 bjorn.melaa@shell.com