

Press release

RAG opens Austria's first liquefied natural gas filling station

Subhead: Country's first LNG filling station opens at Ennshafen port in Upper Austria

- Liquefied natural gas (LNG) – an environmentally friendly fuel of the future for commercial vehicles
- Milestone for climate and environmental protection
- LNG produced in Austria from domestic natural gas
- Ideal location at Ennshafen port in Upper Austria

Ennshafen, 26 September 2017: RAG, Ennshafen OÖ GmbH and Iveco Austria today opened **Austria's first liquefied natural gas (LNG) filling station** at Ennshafen port as part of the *Zukunftforum LNG* conference. The event was attended by the Deputy Governor of Upper Austria, Michael Strugl, as well as other prominent guests from the worlds of politics and business.

RAG completed construction of Austria's first LNG filling station in a period of just a few weeks, and it is now open to the public.

"This is a milestone in establishing LNG as an environmentally friendly fuel for goods vehicles, and RAG is making a highly important contribution to achieving Austria's climate targets. Thanks to our filling station, LNG has finally arrived in the country," commented **Markus Mitteregger**, RAG's Chief Executive Officer, on offering a competitive, clean and affordable alternative to conventional fuels for goods transportation by road.

"The Ennshafen logistics hub in central Upper Austria is the ideal choice for the site of the country's first LNG filling station. Port handling and a high density of goods vehicle traffic go hand in hand. As a Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) hub, Ennshafen offers the infrastructure required for the first step in establishing this new fuel in Austria. Further expansion phases are already in preparation. This is a key step in developing the waterway transportation chain, which will enable us to continue to meet high standards of environmental friendliness in the coming decades," commented **Werner Auer**, Managing Director of Ennshafen OÖ GmbH, highlighting the advantages of the Ennshafen port site.

Deputy Governor of Upper Austria Michael Strugl added: "Groundbreaking energy solutions are essential for a modern business location. Upper Austria is prioritising this with the 'Energy' action area in its 'Innovative Upper Austria 2020' economic and research programme. The purpose of the programme is to support the optimal development of energy infrastructure and energy research in terms of flexible systems, and to adapt to continually increasing demands, especially with regard to integrating renewable energy sources. With the first LNG filling station in the country, Upper Austria has demonstrated that practical implementation of this programme is a priority for us. The province has shown once again that it is leading the way internationally, with a view to boosting its position as a high-quality business location in the long term."

RAG has been using an Iveco Stralis NP – the first truck to run on LNG in Austria – since April 2017. Further Iveco Stralis NPs were delivered to selected customers in September 2017. More than 2,000 trucks of this type are on the road in Europe. As **IVECO Business Director Karl-Martin Studener** explained: “The Iveco Stralis Natural Power truck is already playing an active role in environmentally friendly goods transportation. Zero fine particulates and 70% less nitrogen oxide bear witness to that. Significantly lower natural gas consumption in comparison with diesel means reduced carbon dioxide emissions, and also helps transport contractors to optimise logistic costs.”

LNG made in Austria – from domestic natural gas

Approximately 12 tonnes of LNG can be kept in storage at the Ennshafen site at present – equivalent to the amount required to refuel between 60 and 90 trucks. RAG delivers natural gas using its own LNG tankers. Some of the gas comes from RAG’s gas reservoirs in Austria, and is processed at the company’s LNG plant in Gampern, Upper Austria. Currently, about two tonnes of LNG a day is produced there, which can then be used at the Ennshafen LNG filling station. This is enough to refuel 10-15 LNG-powered trucks a day.

“The potential for the future is significantly greater – this is reflected in developments in Germany and throughout Europe. That is why we are planning to expand our own LNG production, in order to increase the availability of Austrian-made LNG. We also plan to open further LNG filling stations on major transport routes in Tyrol, Upper Austria, Styria and the Vienna area,” Markus Mitteregger explained.

What is LNG?

Liquefied natural gas (LNG) is natural gas that has been converted to a fluid state by cooling it to a temperature of around -160°C. The expansion ratio of natural gas from liquid to gaseous form is 1:600, meaning that large volumes of energy can be transported and stored as LNG. It can be produced in Austria or transported to customers in specially designed road, rail and sea tankers. As well as being easy to transport and store, LNG offers another significant benefit: it is very economical and efficient. As highly pure natural gas that consists of almost 100% methane, it has an average gross calorific value of about 10.0 kWh per cubic meter of gas or 13.7 kWh per kilogram.

Advantages of trucks that run on LNG:

- Carbon dioxide emissions up to 20,000kg lower per year in comparison with Euro 6 diesel trucks
- 95% reduction in fine particulates
- Over 70% reduction in nitrogen oxides (NO, NO₂)
- No AdBlue/catalytic convertor needed
- LNG technically mature for use in industry and heavy goods vehicles, and available for the long term
- Using LNG as a fuel reduces noise emissions by about 50%
- Infrastructure is under implementation along the LNG Blue Corridors – principle routes for LNG heavy goods vehicles in Europe

Zukunftsforum LNG –LNG for the future conference:

LNG – fuel of the future protecting our climate and environment

The Paris Climate Change Conference set the goal of securing supplies of sustainable and affordable energy for the future, while also reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving energy efficiency. This enormous challenge will only be met through huge collaborative efforts. A major focus is road traffic, which generates around 45% of all greenhouse gas emissions. Medium- and long-term forecasts predict growing road traffic volumes, especially heavy goods traffic. As a result, numerous EU initiatives, such as the LNG Blue Corridors project, are promoting increased use of environmentally friendly, low-emission natural gas and LNG as a transportation fuel. In the future, gas produced from renewable sources (biogas and gas generated from wind and solar, using power to gas) might also be used in addition to conventional natural gas. So ready supplies of gas will be available for use as a fuel for the long term.

“Gas is the energy source of the future, and its use as a fuel for trucks underlines its advantages. There are large reserves of gas worldwide, it is environmentally friendly and inexpensive, and now it can even be produced renewably. As the fourth-largest gas storage operator in Europe, RAG can guarantee reliable gas supplies. We are also channelling significant efforts into projects to manufacture gas using renewable energy,” Mitteregger pointed out, emphasising the high degree of supply security offered by gas. RAG is closely involved in research and development on the manufacture of renewable gas, as part of two projects supported by the Austrian Climate and Energy Fund – for further details, visit www.underground-sun-storage.at and www.underground-sun-conversion.at.

A win-win situation all round: benefits for the environment, transportation companies and consumers

LNG-powered trucks are already firmly established in the USA and China. There are LNG filling stations in a number of European countries, and now these environmentally friendly vehicles have arrived in Austria. Until now LNG has primarily been used to transport natural gas in large quantities across the world’s oceans, without the need for pipelines. Recent years have seen the discovery of its potential as a fuel for transportation of goods by road and sea.

“LNG is a global megatrend,” said **Timm Kehler, Managing Director of Zukunft Erdgas**. “The available quantities of LNG and its applications are both growing at breathtaking speed, fundamentally changing not only the gas industry, but the entire energy supply sector and transportation worldwide. This presents markets and market participants with new challenges as far as taking advantage of the opportunities and developing lines of business is concerned. Close collaboration between the gas industry, manufacturers, transportation firms and policymakers is vital, because we will only be able to harness the potential of LNG and effectively position it as an alternative to conventional truck fuel by working together. The first steps in introducing a new technology are certainly the most difficult. But the fact that they are being taken nevertheless, for instance here in Upper Austria, is very encouraging and means we can be optimistic about further developments.”

Above all, LNG makes an important contribution to security of supply. Natural gas is temporarily stored in underground storage facilities, so that it is available whenever it is needed – regardless of the time of day or year, or the weather.



“Transportation plays an essential role in a functioning economy. This means it is all the more important to make transportation environmentally friendly and forward-looking. We are convinced that our natural gas is playing a key role in this,” Mitteregger added, underlining the importance of gas for the future of transportation. “RAG is investing in pioneering LNG infrastructure, driving forward this groundbreaking, environmentally friendly development. Commissioning our first LNG filling station at Ennshafen port is an important initial milestone in this process,” Mitteregger concluded.

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About RAG

RAG is Europe's fourth-largest gas storage operator. The company has developed and also operates its own storage facilities at Puchkirchen and Aigelsbrunn, as well as the Haidach gas storage facility in a joint venture between RAG, Gazprom and Wingas, and the 7Fields storage facility in partnership with Uniper. Both of the latter facilities straddle the border between the provinces of Salzburg and Upper Austria. With storage capacity now totalling around 6 billion cubic metres, RAG makes a major contribution to security of supply in Austria and Central Europe as a whole. RAG sees itself as a partner to renewable energy, and carries out extensive research into manufacturing gas and its use in transportation.

Energy supplies for the future

Securing energy supplies for the future that can provide energy sustainably and affordably, while also reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving energy efficiency, represents one of the biggest challenges facing the world today. This important goal of the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris will only be achieved by means of huge collaborative efforts. For years, RAG has been working on innovative solutions that take account of changes in energy policies and the situation in the energy industry. The company has been producing natural gas in Austria for over 80 years. For a number of years now, RAG has been carrying out research into power to gas technology. This should make it possible to convert excess wind and solar energy into gas, which can be stored in natural underground gas reservoirs. Energy sources that take the form of gas can make an important contribution to meeting climate protection targets, and have a comprehensive range of uses – they can be used for heating, for transportation and in industry.

For further information visit www.rag-austria.at and www.rag-erdgas-mobil.at.

About Ennshafen OÖ GmbH

Ennshafen is not only Austria's newest public port, but also its most modern. The port and neighbouring business parks in Upper Austria and Lower Austria form the largest contiguous industrial zone in the Upper Danube region, with an area of over 350 hectares. As a result of extensive investment in infrastructure and state-of-the-art technology, the port has become a logistics hub for three different modes of transportation, and an important business location for the Enns-Perg-Amstetten area, providing employment for more than 2,000 people.

For more information visit www.ennshafen.at.

About IVECO Austria

Iveco is a CNH Industrial company. CNH Industrial is a global leader in the capital goods sector, and is listed on the New York and Milan stock exchanges. Iveco develops, manufactures and markets an extensive range of light, medium and heavy commercial vehicles, construction vehicles, city and intercity buses and coaches, and special purpose vehicles for firefighting, defence and civil protection applications. Iveco employs more than 27,000 people worldwide, and manages production sites in 11 countries throughout Europe, Asia, Africa, Oceania and Latin America, where it manufactures vehicles featuring the latest advanced technologies. 5,000 sales and service outlets in over 160 countries guarantee technical support wherever an Iveco vehicle is at work.

Iveco Austria imports Iveco commercial vehicles in all weight classes to Austria. Four branches (in Vienna's 23rd district, Wöllersdorf in Lower Austria, Hörsching in Upper Austria and Eugendorf in Salzburg), nine authorised dealers and 42 authorised repair shops ensure professional, prompt service for customers nationwide – for vehicle sales, services and spare parts. Iveco has 156 employees in Austria and is currently also training 33 apprentices in its repair shops and in commercial occupations.

For more information visit www.iveco.at.