

PRESS RELEASE

Nord Stream Strengthens Communications Department

Zug, 13 March 2009. Ulrich Lissek (51) takes up the newly-created position of Nord Stream AG Communications Director on 1 April 2009 with responsibility for external and internal communications, including public affairs, events and sponsorship. The company, based in Zug, Switzerland, is responsible for the planning, construction and operation of a natural gas pipeline connecting the some of the world's largest gas fields in Russia and the European markets. By strengthening its communications team, the company is taking account of the increasing communications needs during the permitting and construction phases of the Nord Stream pipeline. Jens D. Müller becomes Deputy Director. He and Irina Vasilyeva will continue as spokespeople for the company alongside Ulrich Lissek.

Ulrich Lissek worked in corporate communications for Deutsche Telekom AG from 1993 to 2006, and was head of the function from 2003 to 2006. After that he was head of corporate communications for the Cologne-based retail and tourist company REWE.Group.

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Notes to editors:

Nord Stream is a natural gas pipeline that will link Russia and the European Union via the Baltic Sea. The European Union's gas imports were 314 billion cubic metres (bcm) in 2005 and are projected to grow by almost 200 bcm to 509 bcm per year by 2025 (Source: European Commission/DG-TREN, 2007). Nord Stream will meet about 25 per cent of this additional requirement by connecting the European gas pipeline network to the world's largest gas reserves. The project will be an important contribution to long-term security of supply and a milestone of the energy partnership between the European Union and Russia.

Nord Stream AG plans to have the first of two parallel pipelines operational in 2011. Each line is approximately 1,220 kilometres long, providing a transport capacity of some 27.5 bcm per year. Full capacity of about 55 bcm per year will be reached in the second phase, when the second line goes on stream.

Nord Stream AG is an international joint venture established for the planning, construction and subsequent operation of the new offshore gas pipeline across the Baltic Sea. OAO Gazprom holds a 51 per cent stake in the joint venture. BASF/Wintershall Holding AG and E.ON Ruhrgas AG hold 20 per cent each, and N.V. Nederlandse Gasunie has a 9 per cent stake.