

PRESS RELEASE

Vitaly Yusufov to Leave Nord Stream AG

Zug/Moscow, 28 August 2009. Vitaly Yusufov, Head of Nord Stream's Moscow branch, will be leaving Nord Stream with immediate effect. He leaves by mutual agreement to pursue other opportunities. The company regrets his decision to leave, however, wishes him well for his future endeavors.

"On behalf of the entire management team, I would like to thank Vitaly Yusufov for his engagement for the company. Since 2006, he has played a vital and important role in the development of the company. Especially for the Moscow branch, which he built up and developed with commitment and great care. We wish him all the best for his personal and professional life going forward," said Nord Stream's Managing Director, Matthias Warnig.

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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 percent 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.