

PRESS RELEASE

5 Years of Reliable Operations of the Nord Stream Pipeline

Zug, November 8, 2016. Today, the Nord Stream Pipeline celebrates the fifth anniversary of its start of operations. Line 1 started on 8th November 2011 the transportation of natural gas from Russia to European businesses and households, Line 2 came on stream beginning of October 2012.

“Nord Stream is a pioneer in our industry: we set new benchmarks in terms of technology, design and implementation of the project. To continue this way is the vision of the whole Nord Stream team to which we feel obliged to and which we are proud of”, says Nord Stream Managing Director Alexey Zagorovskiy.

The twin pipeline system through the Baltic Sea from Vyborg, Russia to Lubmin near Greifswald, Germany constitutes the shortest connection between the vast gas reserves in Russia and energy markets in the European Union. The safe, modern and efficient route has the capacity to supply 55 billion cubic metres of natural gas per year. Since the beginning of its operations, Nord Stream has reliably fulfilled all transport nominations without interruptions.

Since 2012, international certification body DNV GL has performed an annual assessment of the integrity of Nord Stream pipeline system during safe and reliable gas transportation and confirmed compliance with the best-in-class industry requirements for design, integrity and functional safety.

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Notes to editors

Nord Stream AG is an international joint venture established for the planning, construction and operation of the twin offshore gas pipelines through the Baltic Sea. Russian OAO Gazprom holds a 51 per cent stake in the joint venture. The German companies BASF SE/Wintershall Holding GmbH and PEG Infrastruktur AG (PEGI/E.ON subsidiary), hold 15.5 per cent each, and the Dutch gas infrastructure company N.V. Nederlandse Gasunie, along with the leading French energy provider ENGIE, each hold a 9 per cent stake. Nord Stream's head office and operations centre are both in Zug, Switzerland.

Nord Stream's natural gas pipelines through the Baltic Sea have the capacity to transport 55 billion cubic metres (bcm) of Russian gas a year to the EU, for at least 50 years. Both lines run in parallel for 1,224 kilometres from Portovaya Bay, near Vyborg on the Russian Baltic Sea coast to Lubmin, Germany. Each pipeline comprises some 100,000 24-tonne concrete-weight-coated steel

pipes laid on the seabed along the precise route approved by the authorities of the five countries through whose waters the pipelines pass. Construction of the first Nord Stream Pipeline started in April 2010, and both lines were completed and on-stream in October 2012, on schedule and on budget.

Nord Stream is committed to safety and the environment: the consortium invested 100 million euros in the most comprehensive research of the Baltic Sea ever in planning the pipeline. The consortium consulted widely to ensure that the design, routing, construction and operation of the pipeline will be safe and environmentally sound. Through 2016, Nord Stream is investing a further 40 million euros in comprehensive environmental monitoring along its route through the Baltic Sea to guarantee that the environment is not adversely affected.

In 2006, Nord Stream was designated a “project of European interest” by the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union. This inclusion in the Trans-European Energy Network Guidelines (TEN-E) of the European Union recognized Nord Stream as a key project for meeting Europe’s energy infrastructure needs.