

PRESS RELEASE

DNV GL Issues New Certificate for Nord Stream Pipeline

Zug, Switzerland, 30 October 2017. DNV GL, the internationally renowned certifying body for the offshore oil and gas industry, has issued a new certificate confirming the continued integrity of the Nord Stream pipeline system through the Baltic Sea for a five-year period until 2022.

The Nord Stream pipeline was designed and built according to the certifying body's Offshore Standard DNV OS-F101 for Submarine Pipeline Systems. At the start of operation in October 2012, DNV GL issued the initial certificate which confirmed full compliance of the Nord Stream Pipeline with the requirements of the Standard. During the five years that followed, Nord Stream's engineers and DNV GL's experts worked closely on the development of Nord Stream's pipeline integrity management system, verification, and monitoring of its operating and maintenance procedures. They exchanged technical information and regular reports, resulting in positive annual assessments and in DNV GL commending Nord Stream AG's commitment to safe and reliable gas transportation.

Nord Stream AG's Compliance Director Mario Nullmeier praised the cooperation with DNV GL: "DNV GL provides us with the highest level of expertise in the field of overseeing offshore pipeline operation. We are very happy to have this renowned international company verify the continuous integrity of our infrastructure which ensures reliable and safe transportation of natural gas from Russia to Europe."

Nils Andreas Masvie, DNV GL Oil & Gas, Vice President, Russia & Kazakhstan stated: "The key to ensuring that a new certificate was issued was the close working relationship between our two companies. We have been able to examine the key steps in the process and have visibility of compliance-related activities that enable DNV GL to confirm the Nord Stream Pipeline's continued integrity."

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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.

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Nord Stream

The new gas supply route for Europe

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.

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.

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 recognised Nord Stream as a key project for meeting Europe's energy infrastructure needs.