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## **Press Release**

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# **A Record Volume of 58.8 Billion Cubic Metres of Natural Gas Has Been Transported through The Nord Stream Pipeline in 2018**

### **Pipeline capacity efficiently utilised**

In 2018 Nord Stream AG transported 58.8 billion cubic metres (bcm) of natural gas to consumers in Europe through the Nord Stream pipeline, representing both an annual increase and the highest utilisation since the start of operations.

From the start of operations in November 2011 (Line 1) and October 2012 (Line 2) until the end of 2018, Nord Stream AG has reliably and safely transported 264.1 bcm of gas.

After the steady year-on-year increase of the pipelines' average utilisation rate, Nord Stream AG reached the record annual volume of transported gas in 2018 in close cooperation with its upstream and downstream partners.

Nord Stream AG ensures the integrity and reliability of the pipelines by implementing a maintenance and inspection program in accordance with the highest industry quality standards.

The 1,224-kilometre twin pipeline system through the Baltic Sea stretches from Vyborg, Russia to Lubmin near Greifswald, Germany. It is the shortest connection for European consumers to the immense gas reserves in the north of Russia. By transporting natural gas, the Nord Stream pipeline system plays a key role in supporting climate protection goals in Europe. It increases security of supply for consumers and strengthens the competitiveness of the European industry.

### **For further information, please contact:**

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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 “Nord Stream” through the Baltic Sea. Russian PJSC Gazprom holds a 51 per cent stake in the joint venture. Wintershall Oil AG (wholly-owned subsidiary of German company Wintershall Holding GmbH) and PEG Infrastruktur AG (wholly-owned subsidiary of E.ON Beteiligungen GmbH) hold 15.5 per cent each, and Gasunie Infrastruktur AG (wholly-owned subsidiary of the Dutch company N.V. Nederlandse Gasunie), along with Engie Energy Management Holding Switzerland AG (wholly-owned subsidiary of the French energy provider Engie SA), each hold a 9 per cent stake. Nord Stream’s head office and operations centre are both located in Zug, Switzerland.

**Nord Stream’s natural gas pipelines** run in parallel through the Baltic Sea 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.

**Nord Stream is committed to safety and the environment:** During the project planning, the joint venture invested 100 million euros in the most comprehensive research of the Baltic Sea ever conducted. Nord Stream’s current environmental and socio-economic monitoring program investigates how the pipelines affect 16 factors such as water and air quality, birds, fish and fisheries, seabed flora, and cultural heritage, with approximately 1,000 locations along the entire route being checked regularly.