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## Air Liquide announces projects in Freeport, Texas

*press release*

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### **Air Liquide in the U.S**

Air Liquide companies in the U.S. employ about **5,000** employees in over **200** locations, and offer industrial gases, equipment and related services to customers in the large industries, industrial merchant, electronics and healthcare markets.

### **The Large Industries business line of Air Liquide**

proposes **gas and energy solutions** that improve process efficiency and help achieve greater respect for the environment, mainly to the **refining and natural gas, chemicals, metals and energy** markets. 2012 revenues were **€5 015 million**.

Air Liquide's Large Industries U.S. LP today announced two new projects in Freeport, Texas for its Gulf Coast Pipeline (GCPL) and Hydrogen/Syngas businesses.

The first project, which went on-line in March 2013, built upon existing facilities in Freeport, and **has increased the supply of hydrogen purification and compression capacity to Air Liquide's hydrogen pipeline system**. This Freeport location was the site of the first hydrogen facility in the U.S. for Air Liquide and continues to be an integral hub for Air Liquide today.

The second project, anticipated to go on-line in 2014, involves the **construction of a new liquid oxygen storage and vaporization facility at the Freeport air separation unit (ASU) complex to supply oxygen to the GCPL pipeline network**. This new installation represents an increase of nearly 25 percent over current storage and vaporization capacities on the GCPL.

Said **Roger Perreault**, President, Air Liquide Large Industries U.S. LP, **"Our pipeline networks provide value to our customers by optimizing production and delivery. These projects are a great example of our ability to react quickly to increasing customer demand. The projects also demonstrate our commitment to continued growth through targeted investments in our infrastructure."**

Hydrogen gas is used by refiners to produce cleaner burning fuels, among other industrial uses. Government regulations calling for reductions in fuel emissions have increased demand for hydrogen. Growth in industrial gas demand is also anticipated as a result of the cost advantages resulting from low-priced natural gas.

**Air Liquide is the world leader in gases for industry, health and the environment**, and is present in **80 countries** with **close to 50,000 employees**. Oxygen, nitrogen, hydrogen and rare gases have been at the core of Air Liquide's activities since its creation in 1902. Using these molecules, Air Liquide continuously reinvents its business, anticipating the needs of current and future markets. The Group innovates for the good of society while delivering profitable growth and consistent performance.

**Innovative technologies** that curb polluting emissions, lower industry's energy use, recover and reuse natural resources or develop the energies of tomorrow, such as hydrogen, biofuels or photovoltaic energy... Oxygen for hospitals, home healthcare, fighting nosocomial infections... Air Liquide combines many products and technologies to develop valuable applications and services not only for its customers but also for society.

**A partner for the long term**, Air Liquide relies on employee commitment, customer trust and shareholder support to pursue its vision of sustainable, competitive growth. The **diversity** of Air

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*Liquide's teams, businesses, markets and geographic presence provides a solid and sustainable base for its development and strengthens its ability to push back its own limits, conquer new territories and build its future.*

***Air Liquide explores the best that air can offer to preserve life, staying true to its Corporate Social Responsibility and sustainable development approach. In 2012, the Group's revenues amounted to € 15.3 billion of which 82% were generated outside France. Air Liquide is listed on the Paris Euronext stock exchange (compartment A) and is a member of the CAC 40 and Dow Jones Euro Stoxx 50 indexes.***