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Major investment in the U.S. Air Liquide expands relationship with LyondellBasell

press release

Contacts:

Corporate Communications

Corinne Estrade-Bordry
+ 33 (0)1 40 62 51 31
Garance Bertrand
+ 33 (0)1 40 62 59 62

U.S. Corporate Communications

Michael Rosen
Heather Browne
+1 713 624 8594

Investor Relations

Virginia Jeanson
+33 (0)1 40 62 57 37
Annie Fournier
+33 (0)1 40 62 57 18

Air Liquide in the U.S

Air Liquide companies in the U.S. employ more than **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

provides **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 has signed a **new long term contract with LyondellBasell** in the U.S. to provide steam, power, air gases and water to three LyondellBasell sites in the Bayport Industrial District in Pasadena, Texas. This agreement expands Air Liquide's existing relationship with LyondellBasell, a longstanding global customer and one of the largest plastics, chemicals and fuels companies in the world.

Under this new agreement, Air Liquide will **re-invest in a state-of-the-art, energy efficient cogeneration unit, increasing its capacity and extending its life by more than 20 years**. The facility will be capable of generating up to **300 megawatts of electricity** and more than **1,300 tonnes of steam per hour**. Air Liquide is also investing in Air Separation Unit upgrading and capacity expansion and additional infrastructure at the facility.

The overall investment for this facility will be approximately €180 million (\$230 million), and was accounted for as a Q1 2013 investment decision.

Additional capacity from these investments will also provide for the needs of other customers throughout this **Texas regional basin**. The Bayport basin is a key **industrial hub** for major petrochemical and refining activities in the area. This expands upon Air Liquide's strong footprint in this region serving large industrial and manufacturing customers.

Michael Graff, Air Liquide Senior Vice-President and a member of the Executive Committee, commented: ***"We want to thank the LyondellBasell Group for its continued trust in Air Liquide as its supplier of choice. With this investment, Air Liquide further demonstrates its capacity to meet the growing needs of long-term customers and the rising demands of major industrial hubs around the world with highly reliable products and services delivered with world class safety and efficiency."***

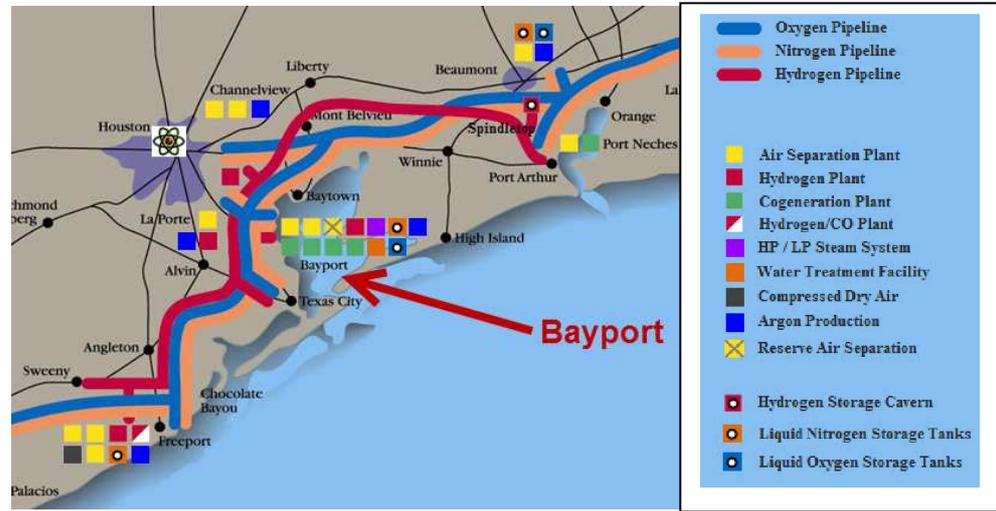
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Cogeneration

Cogeneration consists of simultaneously and efficiently producing electricity and steam generally by consuming natural gas and water. The electricity is supplied to the local network while the steam is required for certain industrial processes.

The cogeneration units are more energy efficient concerning CO₂ emissions than separate production units for electricity and steam. They therefore help reduce CO₂ emissions in the industrial basins they supply. In 2012, the Group's cogeneration units avoided 919,000 tons of CO₂ emissions being discharged into the atmosphere, so they were about 16% more efficient than the separate production of electricity and steam. Air Liquide operates 17 cogeneration units worldwide.



Air Liquide footprint in Bayport Basin

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 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.