

The ports taking part in the CORE LNGas hive project are ready to supply ships with liquefied natural gas (LNG)

- The latest developments in the CORE LNGas hive project presented today in Algeciras.
- The project – supported by the European Commission, the Government of Spain and the Port of Algeciras Bay Authority – aims to promote decarbonisation of maritime transport.
- The conference was opened by Salvador de la Encina, the President of the Spanish Ports Authority; Gerardo Landaluce, the President of the Port of Algeciras Bay Authority; and Claudio Rodríguez, Enagás Gas Assets General Manager.
- A round table discussion on the specific developments to take place in Algeciras in the future in order to further the implementation of LNG as a fuel was also in the agenda.
- The conclusions of the demand and logistics chains study presented during the event.

Algeciras, 24 April 2019

Today, the third CORE LNG as hive Conference took place for the promotion of liquefied natural gas (LNG) as the most sustainable fuel in the transport sector, particularly in shipping. The event was officially opened by Salvador de la Encina, the President of the Spanish Ports Authority; Gerardo Landaluce, the President of the Port of Algeciras Bay Authority (APBA); and Claudio Rodríguez, Enagás Gas Assets General Manager.

The latest developments in the project and the support offered by the European Commission and the Government of Spain for the promotion of the decarbonisation of maritime transport, particularly in ports, were explained at the conference.

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The main progress made has been the adaptation and construction of infrastructure and the application of LNG to multimodal transport to enable small-scale and bunkering (ship refuelling) services with LNG to be provided in the Iberian Peninsula.

The president of the Spanish Ports Authority pointed out that Spain and the ports of Spain were “leaders in LNG technology and handling”. He also asserted that “Spain already has the basic infrastructure in place, with six plants in operation at ports, accounting for 40% of the whole of Europe’s storage capacity and 5.35% of the world’s”.

The president of the APBA explained that “Algeciras, through the efforts currently being made, aims to consolidate its position in the future as a leader in the use of liquefied natural gas in the maritime sector”. Gerardo Landaluce highlighted the fact that “Algeciras produced the first supply of LNG as a maritime fuel in the country in 2012, and that it currently supplies LNG by means of tanker trucks. Ships using LNG as their fuel also benefit from the greatest reduction in fees permitted by law. He also stressed the need for a regulatory competitive framework as regards tolls for accessing gas storage (import) plants”.

According to the general manager of Enagás gas assets, “the hive project will allow Spain to lead Europe through the process of energy transition in the maritime sector, a leadership based on the 50-year history of LNG in our country and exceedingly ratified by the development of innovative, competitive and sustainable logistics that will be able to fulfil European directives regarding availability of capacity to serve demand from the sector five years ahead of schedule”.

On behalf of the European Commission, José Fernandez-García, Policy Officer for Ports and Inland Waterways, informed attendees of how Spanish ports could take advantage of the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) to obtain finance.

Study on LNG Supply Demand and Logistics Chains

In the course of proceedings, the Study on LNG Supply Demand and Logistics Chains was presented, together with an application for the design and parametrisation of LNG supply logistics chains. The application estimates that LNG supply at the port of Algeciras and other ports on the Strait of Gibraltar will be particularly competitive.

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About the CORE LNGas hive project

The aim of the project is to promote the supply of LNG as a fuel in the transport sector, particularly for maritime transport, in the Iberian Peninsula. Led by the Spanish Ports Authority and coordinated by Enagás, the CORE LNGas hive project has 42 partners from Spain and Portugal. It is a public-private partnership involving 21 public partners – 8 institutional partners and 13 port authorities – and 21 industrial partners – LNG operators, shipbuilders, regasification companies and other companies.

LNG today is the only real and sustainable alternative for maritime transport. Compared to other conventional fuels, it provides a 20–30% reduction in CO₂ emissions; it completely eliminates emissions of sulphur oxides (SO_x) and particulate matter (PM); and substantially reduces nitrogen oxides (NO_x). All of this helps to bring about compliance with the increasingly strict environmental standards in the maritime sector and to advance in the process of decarbonisation of the Mediterranean and Atlantic corridors, in line with the European Union strategy on alternative fuel infrastructures (Clean Power for Transport).

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