

# Press release

## Will operate in the Port of Barcelona

# Work progresses on the first LNG supply vessel built in Spain

- Project is driven by Knutsen OAS Shipping AS and Enagás, through a Joint Venture of its subsidiary Scale Gas, that will build the bunking vessel
- The initiative promotes environmental sustainability in maritime transport, is framed within the strategy 'LNGhive2', co-financed by the EU, coordinated by Enagás and led by State Ports
- The ship will be chartered by Shell España SA, will use the Enagás LNG terminal, with the support of the Port of Barcelona, for the loading and supply of LNG.
- The keel-laying ceremony for the vessel took place yesterday at the Armon shipyard in Gijón.

**Madrid, 18 March 2021.** Work progresses on the construction of the first ship to supply liquefied natural gas as a marine fuel (*bunkering*) built in Spanish shipyard which undertakes keel laying of the vessel. This ceremony, which took place yesterday, is a key step forward in the construction of the ship. The project is driven by Enagás that, through its subsidiary specialising in small-scale LNG supply infrastructure, Scale Gas and the shipping company Knutsen OAS Shipping AS, are in charge of the construction of the ship. The project is also being promoted by the Port of Barcelona.

The initiative is framed within the European Union's funding programme for transport, Connecting Europe Facility (CEF), which has approved EUR 9 million for its implementation, and is part of the institutional strategy 'LNGhive2' led by Puertos del Estado. It aims to support the development of the LNG market as a sustainable maritime fuel, in line with the Directive 94/2014/EU on the deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure.

The ship will be operated by Knutsen OAS Shipping AS and will use the Enagás LNG terminal in Barcelona for the loading and supply of LNG in a charter contract with Shell Spain SA. Shell plans to double its existing LNG bunkering infrastructure on key international trade routes by the mid-2020s and this vessel will play an important role in that journey as we serve more customers in the Mediterranean region with LNG. In 2019, Shell completed the first LNG ship to ship bunkering in Barcelona and look forward to working with the partners in this project on the safe delivery of this vessel, demonstrating their/its ability and commitment to providing reliable supplies within the region that help meet the growing need for cleaner fuels.

Shipyard Armon Gijón is in charge of building the ship. The company, founded in 1963, is today one of the leading private shipbuilders in the European Union. Once operational, the ship will use the Enagás LNG terminal in the Port of Barcelona for the loading and subsequent supply of LNG to ships that berth in the port or make stops to refuel before continuing their route.



In addition to promoting more sustainable maritime transport and improving air quality in the city of Barcelona, this project will be a further step to consolidate Spain and the Port of Barcelona as European LNG bunkering locations.

The ship will have a storage capacity of 5,000 cubic meters of LNG, be 92.75 meters in length, with a beam of 16.90 meters and draught of 4.25 meters. It will be powered by LNG and will comply with all safety measures, as established by the different regulations.

LNG is currently the only widely available alternative to decarbonize the deep sea shipping sector today. Compared to traditional fuels, it minimizes polluting emissions, eliminates 100% emissions of sulphur oxides (SO<sub>x</sub>), it reduces 80-90% of nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) and 20-30% of CO<sub>2</sub>. In addition, the use of LNG as a marine fuel in Spain will reduce between two and four million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> by 2030.

### **Bunkering operations in Spain**

During 2020, bunkering operations in Spain have increased 3.7 compared to 2019 (199 operations in 2019 vs 741 operations in 2020).

According to the DNV/GL certifier, there are 170 LNG-powered vessels operating in the world, 222 on request and 126 that are called "LNG ready". This new ship will add to the 15 barges that already supply LNG in the world, six of which are operating in Spain, and will reinforce the country's role in the supply of LNG to ships.

This progress has been made possible thanks to the development and investment of approximately EUR 246 million made by the partners of the public-private initiatives 'CORE LNGas hive' and 'LNGhive2', of which EUR 59 million is co-financed by the European Commission. These initiatives involve 49 partners, 21 public ones that include 13 port authorities and 28 private or industrial.

### **NOTES TO EDITORS**

#### **About Scale Gas**

Scale Gas is a subsidiary of *Enagás Emprende*, a company created by Enagás for the investment and acceleration of start-ups/scale-ups and innovative technologies in the field of energy transition, with special focus on renewable gas projects, sustainable mobility, energy efficiency, digitalization and cleantech in general. Scale Gas is a company focused on the development, operation and maintenance of LNG bunkering assets and infrastructure projects for small-scale LNG supply.

Enagás is the Spanish TSO and has more than 12,000 kilometres of gas pipelines, three strategic storage facilities, eight regasification terminals, and operates in eight countries with natural gas infrastructure. Enagás has brought forward its goal of becoming carbon neutral to 2040. To meet this commitment, the company is firmly committed to decarbonisation and is driving concrete renewable gas projects, especially green hydrogen, as well as initiatives to promote the use of LNG on ships and heavy transport.

#### **About Knutsen OAS Shipping**

Knutsen OAS Shipping is an international shipping company specializing in the transport of LNG.

Knutsen has a fleet of 49 vessels and 14 in construction, of which 14 are LNG carriers, which will be expanded to 25 vessels in the next three years. The company has extensive experience in the development and operation of LNG bunkering projects as it was the first shipping company to build such a vessel, which has operated continuously since 2004 on the coast of Norway. The Knutsen Groups also owns and operate a fleet of 30 shuttle tankers and is currently one of the largest operators in the world.



In addition, the company has extensive experience in the construction and supervision of new vessels having built more than 62 vessels, this being the number 31 ship built in Spain.

In addition to LNG, Knutsen is also very focused on the development of its own technology, having several patents for systems to reduce emissions of gases to the atmosphere and management of ballast water from its ships.

### **About the Port of Barcelona**

The Port of Barcelona is today one of the few European ports that has a port liquefied natural gas (LNG) bunkering service for ships. Last year, the Port of Barcelona carried out 219 LNG bunkering operations, supplying 39,149 m3.

The Port of Barcelona not only leads the gas bunkering among Spanish ports, it has also positioned itself in leadership positions at European level. And, to continue advancing in this line, it works in different pilot projects to raise awareness about the use of LNG and demonstrate that it is a viable fuel from the economic, technical and safety point of view.

### **About Shell**

Shell has already developed the world's largest LNG fuelling network of ports and bunker vessels on key trading routes. Royal Dutch Shell plc is incorporated in England and Wales, has its headquarters in The Hague and is listed on the London, Amsterdam, and New York stock exchanges. Shell companies have operations in more than 70 countries and territories with businesses including oil and gas exploration and production; production and marketing of liquefied natural gas and gas to liquids; manufacturing, marketing and shipping of oil products and chemicals and renewable energy projects. For further information, visit [www.shell.com](http://www.shell.com)