



Paris, November 10, 2008

Portugal: long-term contracts signed with Repsol Polimeros and Artelia Ambiente

press release

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Air Liquide in Spain and Portugal

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Air Liquide in Spain and Portugal

Air Liquide has been present in **Spain** since 1909 and in **Portugal** since 1923. Its main production site in Portugal is in Estarreja producing oxygen, nitrogen, argon and liquid carbon dioxide, as well as hydrogen, carbon monoxide and water vapor. Other operational centers are located in Maia and Arruda dos Vinhos.

Air Liquide recently signed **long-term contracts** with **Repsol Polimeros** and **Artelia Ambiente** located in the industrial basin of Sines, 150 km from Lisbon in **Portugal**. **Repsol Polimeros** is the largest chemical company in Portugal and a member of Repsol, the integrated international oil and gas group with activities in over 30 countries and a leader in Spain and Argentina. **Artelia Ambiente** is a subsidiary of **Veolia Environnement**, the world leader in environmental solutions.

Air Liquide will supply **the petrochemical plant of Repsol Polimeros with nitrogen** as part of its expansion project in Sines.

Nitrogen supplied to Artelia Ambiente will be used for the new PTA plant (terephthalic acid) which will be established in this industrial zone.

Air Liquide's new production unit in Sines will include a gaseous oxygen and nitrogen production unit together with liquefied gas capacity of 400 tonnes per day. In addition to meeting the future needs of the Sines industrial site, it will also serve customers in Lisbon, southern Portugal and south-west Spain. **The total investment of €50 million was announced by the Group on May 28, 2008.**

Air Liquide is thus meeting the growing needs of its customers in this rapidly developing zone, and **is consolidating its position as leader in Portugal and Spain.**

*With more than **40,000 employees** in **75 countries**, Air Liquide is the **world leader** in industrial and medical gases and related services. The Group offers **innovative solutions** based on constantly enhanced **technologies** and produces **air gases (oxygen, nitrogen, argon, rare gases...)** and **many other gases including hydrogen**. The Group contributes to the manufacturing of **many everyday products**: bubbles in sparkling beverages, protective atmosphere for packed foods, oxygen for hospitals and homecare patients, ultra-pure gases for the semiconductor industry, hydrogen to desulfurize fuels...*

*Air Liquide is committed to **sustainable development** and helps to **protect life**. Founded in 1902, Air Liquide has successfully developed a long-term relationship with its shareholders built on **trust** and **transparency** and guided by the principles of **corporate governance**. Since the publication of its first consolidated financial statements in 1971, Air Liquide has posted **strong and steady earnings growth**. Sales in 2007 totaled **11,801 million euros**, with sales outside France accounting for almost 80%. Air Liquide is listed on the Paris stock exchange and is a component of the CAC 40 and Eurostoxx 50 indices (ISIN code FR 0000120073).*