

Paris, 18 February 2009

Combined Shareholders' Meeting on May 7, 2009

press release

Contacts:

Corporate Communication

Anne Lechevranton
+33 (0)1 40 62 50 93
Corinne Estrade-Bordry
+ 33 (0)1 40 62 51 31

Investor Relations

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

Shareholder Services

Philippe de Saint-Ours
+33 (0)1 40 62 53 09
Bernard Giroux
+33 (0)1 40 62 54 42

Air Liquide share ownership

- **410,000 individual shareholders** holding **38%** of share capital (as of December 31, 2008)
- **152,000 registered shareholders**
- **35%** of share capital held by foreign institutional investors
- **26%** of share capital held by French institutional investors

Upcoming dates

1st quarter revenue:

Tuesday, April 28, 2009

Annual Shareholders' Meeting:

Thursday, May 7, 2009

1st half revenue and results:

Thursday, July 30, 2009

The Annual Shareholders' Meeting of Air Liquide will be held in Paris on **Tuesday, May 7, 2009 starting at 3 pm**, at le Palais des Congrès - 2 place Porte Maillot, Paris 75017.

The preliminary meeting notice was published today in the official gazette (BALO - Bulletin des Annonces Légales et Obligatoires). It includes the Meeting agenda, the draft resolutions that the Board of Directors plans to submit to a vote of shareholders, and instructions for attending and voting.

The preliminary meeting notice can be consulted online on the Group's website: www.airliquide.com. All the information concerning the Meeting will also be available on this website.

The Annual Shareholders' Meeting provides an opportunity to present the Group's strategy and outlook for development. All shareholders are invited to vote either by attending the Shareholders' Meeting in person or by using the proxy voting form. The participation of every shareholder is important.

In addition, the Shareholders' Meeting will be broadcast live and will be available on the Group's website: www.airliquide.com.

The legal documentation for the Meeting will be communicated to shareholders according to the legal and regulatory conditions as from the publication in the BALO due on March 18, 2009, of the invitation to attend the Meeting. These documents and other preparatory elements will also be held at the disposal of the shareholders – Please consult the Shareholder Services, 75 quai d'Orsay, 75321 Paris Cedex 07.

Air Liquide is the world leader in gases for industry, health and the environment, and is present in over **75 countries** with **43,000 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 to enable progress, to achieve dynamic growth and a consistent performance.

Air Liquide combines many products and technologies to develop valuable applications and services not only for its customers but also for society. **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, homecare, fighting nosocomial infections...

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 sustainable development approach. In 2008, the Group's revenues amounted to **€13.1 billion**, of which almost 80% were earned 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.