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## Poland: two new air separation units commissioned

*press release*



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**Poland** is one of the largest economies in Central Europe. Its GDP expanded by 1.3 percent in the third quarter of 2010 alone. All industrial markets are enjoying high growth rates, and many of them, such as chemicals, metals, automotive and food, require increasing amounts of industrial gases. Consequently, Air Liquide has significantly strengthened its position in the Polish industrial gases market in 2010.

Today, Air Liquide announces the **commissioning** of **two air separation units in Poland**, both of the standardized **YangO<sub>2</sub>** type, located in Zakłady Azotowe in **Puławy**. The new air separation units are the **biggest liquid and gas source in Central and Eastern Poland**, with an aggregate production capacity of **around 1,700 tonnes per day**. This investment is included in the **€100 million overall investment in Poland** announced in June 2010. The new facilities will meet the growing needs of existing customers and potential clients.

Together, Air Liquide's air separation units, located in Dąbrowa Górnicza, Kraków and Puławy, represent today **the largest production capacity in industrial gases in Poland**.

**Guy Salzgeber**, Vice President North and Central Europe and a member of the Air Liquide Executive Committee, commented: ***"This successful commissioning further strengthens our growing position in Poland and illustrates the quality and performances of the standard YangO<sub>2</sub> air separation units. With these new assets, Air Liquide intends to support even further the development of its customers and consolidate its leadership in Poland in the Large Industry market. Developing economies are one of the growth drivers of the Group."***

### Air Liquide in Poland

Founded in 1995, Air Liquide Poland employs more than **300 people**. Present in Poland's major industrial regions, Air Liquide supplies a number of industries such as aeronautics, automotive, food & beverages, chemicals, defense, electronics, energy, metallurgy, mining and metal fabrication.

### The YangO<sub>2</sub> range of production units

Air Liquide **standardizes** its air separation units using medium-sized **compact core modules** that are **easy to deliver** across the world, and that are assembled differently depending on the desired production capacity. This standardized approach allows for a **significant reduction in unit lead times and ensures competitive prices**. YangO<sub>2</sub> includes the Group's latest technological innovations.



Air Liquide footprint in Poland

**Air Liquide is the world leader in gases for industry, health and the environment**, and is present in **80 countries** with **42,300 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.

**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... 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 sustainable development approach**. In 2009, the Group's revenues amounted to **€12 billion**, of which almost 80% 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.