

Poland: 70 million euros new investment with the copper industry leader

press release

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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 Large Industries Business Line

offers **gas and energy solutions** that improve process efficiency and help achieve greater respect for the environment, mainly in the refining and natural gas, chemicals, metals and energy markets. **2011 revenues were €4,585 million.**

Poland is one of the largest countries and economies in Central Europe, with industrial markets enjoying high growth rates. Air Liquide has been consistently increasing its presence in this country by focusing on key investments in the Polish industry.

Air Liquide and KGHM Polska Miedź have signed a **long-term agreement** to supply gases to the **copper production site** in Głogów, located in the west of the country, 100 km from Wrocław.

Air Liquide will invest **more than €70 million** in an Air Separation Unit with a production capacity of **1,500 tonnes of oxygen per day**. KGHM will use this oxygen in its modern copper production process, improving efficiency and reducing atmospheric emissions.

The unit will be designed and manufactured by Air Liquide Engineering & Construction teams based in Poland and in France. It will **be commissioned early 2015 and incorporate the Group's latest technologies, which offer highest levels of energy efficiency and reliability.**

Created in 1961, KGHM Polska Miedź is one of the leaders of the copper industry in Europe, the 10th-largest producer of copper in the world, and the leading producer of silver in the world.

Air Liquide's Air Separation Units, located in Dąbrowa Górnicza, Kraków and Puławy, in the South and East of Poland, currently already represent **the largest production capacity of industrial gases in Poland**. With this new investment in Głogów, Air Liquide is strengthening further its network of plants in this country.

Guy Salzgeber, Vice-President of European Industrial Operations and a member of the Group's Executive Committee, declared: **"We want to thank KGHM for its trust in awarding us this project. With this investment, Air Liquide is reinforcing its global position in the dynamic market of Poland. Overall, Air Liquide is maintaining its investment pace in line with the Group's long-term strategy, which notably consists of seizing opportunities for future growth in dynamic economies."**

Air Liquide is the world leader in gases for industry, health and the environment, and is present in **80 countries** with **46,200 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, home healthcare, 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 Corporate Social Responsibility and sustainable development approach. In 2011, the Group's revenues amounted to **€ 14.5 billion**, of which more than 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.