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Finalization of Gasmedi acquisition, leading home healthcare player in Spain

press release



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Air Liquide's Healthcare Business Line

Air Liquide's Healthcare World Business Line serves **over 6,000 hospitals and 700,000 patients** at home throughout the world. It provides **medical gases, home healthcare services, hygiene products and medical equipment**.

With **9,300 employees**, the Group's Healthcare Business Line published **€2,076 million** in revenues in 2011.

In accordance with the announcement made on **19 July 2012** and following the approval of the Spanish Competition Authority, Air Liquide has just **finalized the acquisition of Gasmedi**, for an enterprise value of **€ 330 million**.

Air Liquide has now gained full control of Gasmedi, **the third largest player in Spain's home healthcare sector**. Active in this business **for more than 15 years**, Gasmedi has more than **500 employees** and takes care of **125,000 patients in 14 of Spain's 17 regions**. The company specializes mainly in home respiratory assistance (oxygen therapy and the treatment of sleep apnea).

Gasmedi's 2011 revenues amounted to **€ 82 million**, up +13% compared with 2010.

Pascal Vinet, Vice President, Healthcare Global Operations and member of the Group Executive Committee, commented: ***"We are delighted to welcome these new employees into the Group and to be able to rely upon their expertise and commitment. This acquisition is in line with our growth strategy in home healthcare; it will give us a leading position in Spain and confirm our leadership in Europe. Health is one of the Group's growth drivers."***

Home healthcare

Air Liquide, **European leader and 3rd worldwide in home healthcare**, provides home healthcare services in compliance with medical prescription for patients suffering from **chronic illnesses** such as COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease), sleep apnea and diabetes. These home healthcare services are being developed in addition to hospital care, enabling **patients to enjoy better quality of life and local authorities to reduce costs**.

Home Healthcare represents **45% of Air Liquide's total 2011 Healthcare revenue**.

***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.*

Air Liquide in Spain

Air Liquide has been present in **Spain** since 1909.

Today, the Group has more than **1,000 employees in Spain**. Air Liquide in Spain supplies gases to all sectors of the industry and does business in the Engineering & Construction sector.

The Group is also present in **Healthcare** through its activities at **patients' home** and in the **hospital market**.