

Air Liquide expands its presence in Australia through a €60 million investment

Air Liquide announces a new long-term agreement in Australia with Nyrstar, an integrated mining and metals company. Air Liquide will invest €60 million in a new state-of-the-art Air Separation Unit (ASU) as part of Nyrstar's Redevelopment Project at its Port Pirie site. This project is designed to convert Nyrstar's smelter into an advanced polymetallic recovery and recycling facility, in order to reduce the environmental footprint of the site and to enhance both efficiency and production capabilities.

Nyrstar's site at Port Pirie (230 km north of Adelaide) has been a customer of Air Liquide Australia since 1997. Under the newly expanded partnership and to support Nyrstar's ambition of bringing world-class industry to the South Australia region, Air Liquide will supply **oxygen and nitrogen** to the new industrial process for Nyrstar's advanced polymetallic recovery and recycling facility.

The new ASU, for which the investment decision was taken end of 2014, will have a total capacity of **1,400 tonnes per day**. Designed and built by Air Liquide Engineering and Construction teams using **leading technologies to offer energy efficiency as well as optimal performance and safety**, it is scheduled to start operation in mid-2016.

François Venet, Vice-President, Asia Pacific and a member of Air Liquide group's Executive Committee, commented: ***"We thank Nyrstar for its renewed trust in Air Liquide and for the long-term partnership we have been building together. With this investment, Air Liquide is reinforcing its presence in Australia by expanding the Group's offer to Large Industry customers, and affirming the value and competitiveness of our solutions. We are also proud that this project both contributes to reducing the environmental footprint while strengthening the industrial foundation of South Australia."***

Air Liquide Australia

Entering Australia in 1957, Air Liquide now employs over 500 employees. The Group operates at over 100 sites and serves more than 80,000 customers in most industries and healthcare.

The Large Industries business line of Air Liquide

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. In 2013, revenues were €4,940 million.

The Engineering and Construction activity (Global E&C Solutions)

The Engineering and Construction activity (Global E&C Solutions) builds the Group's production units – mainly air separation units (ASUs) and hydrogen production units – and provides plants for third-party customers.

Nyrstar

Nyrstar is an integrated mining and metals business, with market leading positions in zinc and lead, and growing positions in other base and precious metals. Nyrstar has mining, smelting, and other operations located in Europe, the Americas, China and Australia and employs around 6,500 people worldwide. Nyrstar is incorporated in Belgium and has its corporate office in Switzerland. Nyrstar is listed on Euronext Brussels under the symbol NYR.

CONTACTS

Corporate Communications

Caroline Philips
+33 (0)1 40 62 50 84
Anne Michaud
+33 (0)1 40 62 50 59

Investor Relations

Virginia Jeanson
+33 (0)1 40 62 57 37
Louis Laffont
+33 (0)1 40 62 57 18

Air Liquide Asia Pacific Communications

Laurie Underwood
+86 (21) 6090 5883

Air Liquide Australia Communications

Judy Coulson
+61 (3) 9697 9862

World leader in gases, technologies and services for Industry and Health, Air Liquide is present in 80 countries with more than 50,000 employees and serves more than 2 million customers and patients. Oxygen, nitrogen and hydrogen have been at the core of the company's activities since its creation in 1902. Air Liquide's ambition is to be the leader in its industry, delivering long-term performance and acting responsibly.

Air Liquide ideas create value over the long term. At the core of the company's development are the commitment and constant inventiveness of its people.

Air Liquide anticipates the challenges of its markets, invests locally and globally, and delivers high-quality solutions to its customers and patients, and the scientific community.

The company relies on competitiveness in its operations, targeted investments in growing markets and innovation to deliver profitable growth over the long-term.

Air Liquide's revenues amounted to € 15.2 billion in 2013, and its solutions that protect life and the environment represented around 40% of sales. 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.