

Air Liquide enters exclusive negotiations with Messer to sell its entities in Czech Republic and Slovakia

Air Liquide announced today it has entered into exclusive negotiations, with Messer, regarding the divestment of its entities in Czech Republic and Slovakia.

Air Liquide started operating in Slovakia in 2000 and Czech Republic in 2001. Today, both locations total 53 employees, with office locations in Prague and Trnava.

This decision illustrates Air Liquide's strategy to review regularly its asset portfolio and focus its geographic expansion on key regions in order to increase density and therefore enhance performance.

This transaction is subject to the final and definitive agreement between the parties, and will be carried out in the framework of the relevant social processes and ongoing dialogue with the employee representatives' bodies.

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A world leader in gases, technologies and services for Industry and Health, Air Liquide is present in 80 countries with approximately 66,000 employees and serves more than 3.6 million customers and patients. Oxygen, nitrogen and hydrogen are essential small molecules for life, matter and energy. They embody Air Liquide's scientific territory and have been at the core of the company's activities since its creation in 1902.

Air Liquide's ambition is to be a leader in its industry, deliver long term performance and contribute to sustainability. The company's customer-centric transformation strategy aims at profitable growth over the long term. It relies on operational excellence, selective investments, open innovation and a network organization implemented by the Group worldwide. Through the commitment and inventiveness of its people, Air Liquide leverages energy and environment transition, changes in healthcare and digitization, and delivers greater value to all its stakeholders.

Air Liquide's revenue amounted to 21 billion euros in 2018 and its solutions that protect life and the environment represented more than 40% of sales. Air Liquide is listed on the Euronext Paris stock exchange (compartment A) and belongs to the CAC 40, EURO STOXX 50 and FTSE4Good indexes.