

Air Liquide invests in carbon capture unit in Argentina

Air Liquide has signed a long-term agreement to build and operate the first on-site carbon dioxide (CO₂) capture unit in northern Argentina. This plant will purify 70,000 tons of CO₂ per year from a petrochemical complex for usage in the food and beverage as well as mining industries. In line with the Group's Climate Objectives, this will allow avoidance of up to 700 tons per year of CO₂ emissions in the long term.

Air Liquide's investment in this unit in Salta Province, Argentina, amounts to 8 million U.S. dollars. The Group will capture the carbon dioxide by-product from the operations of the customer, a world leader in mining services. The installation, planned to be operational by Q4 2021, will then repurpose it and deliver it to serve the needs of the region's mining, food and beverage industries. This high-purity CO₂ will meet food grade certification (FSSC 22000).

The location of the plant, close to local CO₂ needs, will also allow for a reduction in transport of approximately 700,000 Km/year, which will contribute to improved road safety and reduced fleet carbon emissions. This new investment will contribute to the Group's Climate Objectives, which include reducing the emissions of our own assets and developing solutions to help our customers reduce their environmental footprint.

Etienne Lepoutre, Vice President, Air Liquide Latin America, said: "This investment, mainly oriented towards the mining and food and beverage industries, allows us to strengthen our leadership in northern Argentina, and attests to our continued long-term commitment to sustainability. For over 80 years now, we have been supporting the most diverse sectors of the industry encouraging investments that enhance the development of the country and of our customers."

Air Liquide Argentina

A market leader, Air Liquide Argentina has been present in the country since 1938 with approximately 600 employees; and serves more than 6,000 customers countrywide. Air Liquide offers innovative gas, equipment and service solutions in a wide range of market sectors including steel, chemical and petrochemical in the major industrial centers; different industrial processes (metals, food, glass, labs, etc.) and health, preserving the lives of patients in hospitals and at home. Air Liquide Argentina provides a wide geographical coverage, and delivers products and services throughout the entire national territory.

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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 67,000 employees and serves more than 3.7 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, regular and responsible 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 22 billion euros in 2019 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.