

Air Liquide announces the acquisition of Cryotainer, a leading actor of nitrogen supply and related services in Benelux, France and Germany

Air Liquide announced that it has recently completed the acquisition of Cryotainer, a leading actor of temporary nitrogen supply and services mainly for the petrochemical, refining and pipeline industries in Benelux, France and Germany in the frame of punctual engineering operations.

Headquartered in Schiedam, Netherlands, Cryotainer operates from three locations in Netherlands, Germany and France. The company generated revenues of close to €4 million in 2016. Cryotainer provides customized services for ad'hoc industrial operations (maintenance, engineering operations of plants, pipelines and civil works etc.) involving temporary nitrogen supply. Safety, reliability of supply and availability of mobile gas assets are key for such operations which require specific services and dedicated support during these logistically challenging situations.

Cryotainer brings to Air Liquide its expertise in services based temporary nitrogen supply. Air Liquide will benefit from an enlarged portfolio of equipment and services to develop a leading position in gas related services in Europe. The activities will be managed by the existing Cryotainer organisation from its base in Schiedam, in Netherlands.

Lars Strandberg, Vice President of Air Liquide, North-West Europe stated: *"We are very pleased to have successfully completed the acquisition of Cryotainer, which is in line with our growth strategy in Europe. Cryotainer is the perfect fit for us having a world leading modular high quality equipment with a passionate and dedicated team that meet our customer's' expectations. At the same time we share common values for safety, innovation and value added services to customers in a wide range of industries."*

Leo and Jan van de Water, owners of Cryotainer added: *"The Air Liquide team is world class, and is passionate about the same things we are—such as offering industrial nitrogen services, by combining our expertise we create an enlarged portfolio of services available for our customers."*

Air Liquide's Industrial Merchant Business Line

Air Liquide's Industrial Merchant Business Line delivers industrial gases and innovative solutions, including application technologies, equipment and services. From independent professionals to large industrial companies, our 33,500 employees serve over 2 million customers daily across 75 countries. In 2016, revenues were €7,565 million.

Air Liquide in the Benelux

Founded in Belgium in 1906 and in the Netherlands in 1913, Air Liquide currently operates 27 industrial sites throughout the Benelux. The Group currently employs more than 1,200 people in this region, all activities taken together, and it supplies more than 65,000 customers and patients. The Air Liquide Benelux Large Industries business line operates a pipeline network stretching 2,225 kilometers, which supplies the industrial basins from Mons to Rotterdam.

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The 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 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 lead 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 € 18.1 billion in 2016 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.