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Please visit: www.igrc2011.com

Invitation to IGRC2011

Natural gas is vital in the fight against climate change and will play a key role in the energy mix between now and 2050: according to the IEA, the coming time should be the golden age of gas. There is no shortage of natural gas resources and unconventional gases are opening up new possibilities. Natural gas is a competitive low carbon energy source. Finally, natural gas is the perfect friend of renewable energy sources, which generate energy intermittently: it is a flexible energy source and will support their development naturally, through the implementation of smart energy grids.

Innovation is the key to a sustainable future!

Research and innovation must answer to the significant challenges of supplying energy to the world population and fighting climate change. I am convinced that technology is a major key to finding solutions. We had this in mind together with the Technical Programme Committee while preparing IGRC 2011, the 11th of its kind since 1980.



Marc Florette

IGRC 2011 will kick off with a **round-table discussion** on the place and role of technology in gas companies, and the panel will be made up of **4 Executive Managers** from PETRONAS, GASUNIE, SHELL and GAIL. They will share with us their expectations as regards the innovations and technological breakthroughs that may have a long-term impact on their companies' economic models.

The 12 parallel oral sessions will look at different sections of the gas chain, with a special focus on unconventional gases and biogas. We have also dedicated a session to methods for assessing the environmental footprint of gas activities and gas use. The aim is to develop a joint vision within the gas industry with a view to having both reliable techniques for charting our environmental progress and solid, validated arguments.

In one of our 6 workshops, we will be examining the role of R&D in attracting new talent to companies in the gas industry. We have invited students and young professionals sponsored by gas companies and associations to share their experiences during this session.

And of course, the core of the conference is the 4 posters sessions which will be the focus of the conference: a quarter of the posters will give a detailed overview of research projects on unconventional gas and biogas, a quarter of the posters will deal with gas transmission and distribution and a quarter of the posters will look at new uses for gas.

Come and discuss the future of natural gas and the technologies of tomorrow with researchers and managers from all over the world!

Marc Florette

Chairman of the Technical Programme Committee

GDF SUEZ, Member of the Executive Committee, Research and Innovation Director

Registration

Already more than 225 delegates have registered for the conference. So, register now!

Click [here](#) to download the Registration Handbook (PDF).

Journal of Natural Gas Science & Engineering

Elsevier Reed, the publisher of the Journal of Natural Gas Science & Engineering (JNGS&E), offered to publish a special issue of this journal on the occasion of the IGRC2011. The Technical Programme Committee IGRC2011 (TPC) gladly accepted this offer and is pleased to announce that 11 papers have been selected for publication in the special edition of the JNGS&E. This journal seeks to bridge the gap between the engineering and the science of natural gas by publishing explicitly written articles intelligible to scientists and engineers working in any field of natural gas science and engineering. The IGRC2011 papers represent the diversity of advances, including biogas, sustainability, asset optimization, and advanced stationary and vehicle applications for gas. Since its inception in 2009, JNGS&E has grown rapidly with both print and on-line articles. In 2009, the Journal averaged 608 full-text downloads per month, which has more than tripled in 2011. Elsevier will be distributing copies of the special edition at the conference. The TPC encourages IGRC attendees to become familiar with the Journal as another mechanism for the exchange of scientific and engineering information within the gas R&D community.

Workshops at the IGRC2011

Besides oral and poster sessions the IGRC will host six workshops. In order to give you a flavour of what you can expect at these workshops, two organisers describe in broad outline their workshops.

Workshop 1 *Does CCS have any future in the gas industry?*

(Organised by GDF Suez)

The IEA has just announced that in 2010, global energy-related carbon dioxide emissions climbed by 5%, driving up the concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere by more than four parts per million (ppm). Now more than ever before, the fight against climate change must be our common aim, and the gas industry must join the struggle. However, there is still some uncertainty around regulatory measures or financial mechanisms for limiting CO₂ emissions, and this is holding up investments in carbon capture and storage (CCS).

Over the years, the gas industry has developed expertise in transmitting and storing natural gas and this will enable it to expand its know-how to include CCS, as our speakers will demonstrate in the introduction to the workshop discussions: with them, we will talk about one system operator's vision for CO₂ transport. We will debate the political aspects of CCS, taking Japan as an example. With a project developer, we will study how geology affects the risk profile of a storage project and we will examine the return on experience from the development of a large fully integrated demonstration project, covering the whole CCS chain, with post-combustion CO₂ capture for a 250 MW generation facility and offshore CO₂ storage.

Workshop 4 *What will be the picture in 2030 and beyond: Zero gas or zero carbon gas?*

(Organised by E.ON Ruhrgas, Germany)

Within the next years to come natural gas will play an increasingly important role in the global energy system, thereby making a substantial contribution to reducing CO₂ emissions. Due to its low carbon content and the high versatility of high-efficient end-use natural gas is commonly seen as a key solution to future energy system needs. But what is the long-term perspective of natural gas? More and more, far reaching decarbonisation pathways are discussed that aim at GHG emission reductions of 85-95% until 2050 compared to 1990 levels. At the same time, the rapid growth of renewable energy generation triggers ambitions to achieve supply levels of 50% and more within the next decades. Do both trends challenge the strategic perspective of natural gas as a sustainable energy vector - will natural gas be a contribution to decarbonised energy system of 2030 and beyond? Or will new approaches be mandatory to deliver clean, carbon-free gases in larger quantities? Our workshop will point at these topics of paramount importance for the long-term direction of the gas industry. Renowned experts from international research institutions, NGO and energy associations will highlight the prospects and limits of natural gas in a turning

energy world - shedding light on the need for new technologies and innovation to sustain the position of clean gases in the future energy system.

Click [here](#) to download the Tentative programme (PDF)

Sponsoring

The Conference Organisers are offering companies the opportunity to sponsor the IGU Research Conference - IGRC and thus benefit from improved visibility for their companies, institutions or associations. Various sponsorships opportunities are available depending on the financial contribution.

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Don't loose the last opportunities to become a main sponsor of this event.

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