

## Press Release

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### **Market uses cross-quality trading in enlarged NetConnect Germany market area**

The merger of the Open Grid Europe L-gas, Thyssengas H-gas and Thyssengas L-gas market areas with the NetConnect Germany (NCG) market area has been received well by market players during the first month.

Balancing group managers already made use of cross-quality trading in the new market area during the first few days. Due to GABiGas processes and deadlines, final information on the extent of conversion for balancing purposes is available no earlier than 29 working days after expiry of the delivery month. The data collected so far indicate, however, that customers make greater use of conversion from H-gas to L-gas than vice versa.

Physical conversion was achieved with the aid of control energy and blending plants in particular. The latter are employed above all to stabilise H-gas and L-gas networks in the market area and are used via the grid management system of Open Grid Europe. All in all, nearly 670,000 MWh was physically converted from L-gas into H-gas in April.

The experience gained in the first month demonstrates that the merger has been successfully implemented and accepted by the market players. The coming months will show how the market actually develops as a result of the merger.

#### **Net Connect Germany**

NetConnect Germany offers a range of products and customer-friendly services for network operators and shippers across different market areas throughout Germany and handles the operational management of the market area cooperation between various partners. NCG's market area, which stretches from the North Sea coast down to the Alps, is the largest and most important in Germany; it handles supplies to about two thirds of all end users in Germany.

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