

Air Liquide expands its business in Turkey with an acquisition

Press release | Tuesday, September 15, 2015

Air Liquide is accelerating its growth in the Turkish market with the acquisition of Messer Aligaz Sanayi Gazlari, a subsidiary of industrial gas company Messer Group GmbH.

Messer Aligaz provides industrial, medical and specialty gases to a range of industries in Turkey. The company, which has close to **70 employees**, generated a revenue of around **9 million euros** in 2014.

The activities of Messer Aligaz, mainly focused on the **Industrial Merchant** segment, are located in the highly industrialized regions of the Marmara and the Aegean. The company owns and operates an air separation unit (ASU) for the production of liquid oxygen, nitrogen and argon, and 3 cylinder filling centers.

With this acquisition, Air Liquide enters the Marmara region and will now be **present in the three main industrial areas of the country**: Ankara, Istanbul and Izmir. The combination of the two companies will further increase Air Liquide's capacity to create value for its customers.

This acquisition is part of continued investments by Air Liquide in Turkey. Since 2011, the Group has already invested in two production sites in Ankara and Izmir.

Christophe Chalièr, Vice President, Eastern Europe of Air Liquide, commented: ***"Turkey is a growing economy, which has significantly invested in many industrial fields. This acquisition will further strengthen our overall presence in this country, allowing Air Liquide to better serve its customers. It also illustrates our commitment to Turkey. We are pleased to welcome the employees of Messer Aligaz."***

Air Liquide in Turkey

Air Liquide established its presence in Turkey in 2011 by signing a long term agreement with petrochemicals giant Petkim, related to the supply of oxygen, nitrogen and compressed air for the Aliğa site in the Izmir region. The Group further expanded its activities in Turkey by investing in an oxygen and liquid nitrogen production unit and cylinder filling center located in Polatli in the Ankara region.

Among its industrial customers, Air Liquide supplies the Middle East Technical University (METU) with special and ultra pure gases related to the work of its photovoltaic research laboratory (GÜNAM).

Air Liquide offers innovative solutions - industrial gases, equipment and services - in key industrial regions to a wide variety of customers in the Industry and Healthcare sectors.

The Industrial Merchant business line of Air Liquide

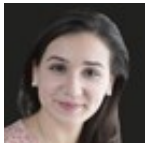
The Industrial Merchant business line offers its customers – from multinational corporations to independent craftsmen – tailor-made solutions for their production process, from industrial and specialty gases to application equipment and related services. Depending on the quantity required, gases can be supplied to the customer's site in liquid form using dedicated cryogenic trailers, by means of onsite equipment or in gaseous form in high pressure cylinders.

For 2014, the Industrial Merchant business line generated revenue of **€ 5,083 million**.

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