A first in France: LNG transported by rail from the Fos Cavaou LNG terminal

Elengy has reached a milestone at one of its LNG terminals: for the first time in France, an ISO-container loaded with liquefied natural gas (LNG) at Elengy’s terminal in Fos Cavaou was transported by rail from the Miramas platform in the South of France and delivered to a service station near Milan, in Italy.

This mode of transport offers several benefits: it allows large volumes of LNG to be transported, it reduces the cost of transport and it facilitates access to LNG in certain regions, while significantly reducing the polluting emissions associated to its transport.

Carried out in partnership with Total and with the support of the Région Sud and the Grand Port Maritime de Marseille, this first loading operation of an ISO-container transported by rail made it possible to validate the entire logistics chain. Elengy is thus accelerating the transformation of its LNG terminals into multimodal hubs to offer even greater flexibility to the market and facilitate access to liquefied natural gas.

Objective: multimodal, multiservice and multi-energy LNG terminals

This test illustrates Elengy's commitment to developing the use of LNG as fuel, an essential solution for decarbonising heavy mobility. After the LNG truck loading service opened in 2013 and the bunkering loading service, the teams are innovating once again with the implementation of a rail connection, which positions Elengy's LNG terminals as true multimodal hubs with infrastructures at the heart of the development of LNG mobility.

For Sandra Roche-Vu Quang, Elengy’s Chief Executive Officer: “this success paves the way for the development of LNG transport logistics chains by rail to serve regions in France that are far from our terminals as well as other neighbouring countries”.

"In 2017, with our regional Climate Plan, we made a commitment to take concrete actions to develop ecomobility for the well-being of the inhabitants of Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur. Four years later, it is a great pleasure to see that our region hosting this exceptional innovation. Through this process, which allows for better LNG transport in France and Europe, Elengy is contributing to the democratisation of this low-polluting fuel. Together, let's continue to make the Southern Region the region with “a COP ahead”." Renaud Muselier, President of the Région Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, President of Régions de France.

"This test gives Total the opportunity to participate in the development of a new LNG supply chain for Northern Italy, a region where demand is growing strongly and where we are leader in supply, from the Fos Cavaou terminal,” said Thomas Maurisse, Senior Vice President LNG at Total. "Using transport by rail will reduce the CO2 emissions associated with the delivery of LNG and will contribute to our ambition to get to net-zero emissions by 2050."

For Hervé Martel, CEO of the Port of Marseille Fos: “innovation and cooperation are core values of the Port of Marseille Fos. The use of LNG and massified modal transfer serve the Port's objective of environmental excellence. This operation, successfully carried out by Elengy, is therefore emblematic of the strategy we are pursuing.”
About Elengy
Expert in Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), Elengy, part of the ENGIE Group, operates three regulated LNG terminals in France: Montoir-de-Bretagne on the Atlantic coast, Fos Cavaou and Fos Tonkin in the Mediterranean. As the gateway to Europe for LNG, the three sites offer the market flexibility for unloading or loading any type of LNG carrier, transshipping between LNG carriers, loading trucks with LNG or regasifying LNG for injection into the transport network. With LNG, an available and competitive solution, Elengy contributes to the energy transition by reducing the environmental footprint of his customers. Furthermore, Elengy is developing its services to increase the use of LNG from now on, and to contribute to carbon neutrality by 2050.
2020 figures: 400 employees - Regasification capacity: more than 20 billion m3 of natural gas per year - Quantity of energy received: more than a third of French demand - 250 ship calls registered.

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About Total
Total is a broad energy company that produces and markets fuels, natural gas and electricity. Our 100,000 employees are committed to better energy that is more affordable, more reliable, cleaner and accessible to as many people as possible. Active in more than 130 countries, our ambition is to become the responsible energy major.

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About Port de Marseille Fos
A major player in international trade, located on two European transport corridors, the Port of Marseille Fos is positioned as the gateway to southern Europe. The synergy of its two harbours confirms Marseille as a local port in the Mediterranean for goods and passengers, while Fos is characterised by its dynamics as a global port for industry and logistics dedicated to large intercontinental flows. Today, as a global hub for data in an ever smarter approach to the territory, and as the European leader in quayside electrical connections and LNG ship refuelling, the Port of Marseille Fos is banking on sustainable economic growth through responsible and innovative industrial development that favours the circular economy.
The dynamic of port projects in the two harbours reinforces more than ever the structuring role of the Port of Marseille Fos within its metropolitan area and its influence at the heart of the Euro-Mediterranean area and beyond on the world port scene.