



EPA Natural Gas STAR Program News

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EPA welcomes Poland's GAZ-SYSTEM S.A. to Natural Gas STAR International

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Poland's natural gas transmission company, GAZ-SYSTEM S.A., signed an agreement in December 2008 to work together on reducing methane emissions. GAZ-SYSTEM S.A., headquartered in Warsaw, is a state company that operates Poland's domestic gas transportation pipelines. EPA is very pleased to welcome GAZ-SYSTEM S.A. as an official partner in the Natural Gas STAR International Program.

GAZ-SYSTEM S.A. joins nine other oil and natural gas companies in this Program which aims to identify and implement cost-effective methane emission reduction projects in the oil and natural gas sector. By working through the Natural Gas STAR Program, EPA and the oil and gas industry are preventing methane losses and delivering more natural gas to markets around the world.

Natural Gas STAR International partners agree to implement technologies and practices to reduce methane emissions where deemed cost-effective and submit annual reports detailing methane emissions reductions achieved. EPA assists partners with Program implementation by analyzing emerging technologies, developing workshops and training courses, and communicating best practices.

Natural Gas STAR International is administered under the Methane to Markets Partnership. Methane to Markets currently has 27 partner governments and over 750 companies, development banks and other organizations that participate in the Methane to Markets Project Network. For more information about the Methane to Markets Partnership, visit methanetomarkets.org.

EPA launched Natural Gas STAR International to expand on the success of the domestic Program which started in 1993 working in partnership with U.S. oil and gas companies to voluntarily reduce methane emissions. The Natural Gas STAR Program to date has more than 130 oil and gas corporate partners (10 of which are international partners) and has achieved methane emissions reductions of over 690 billion cubic feet (Bcf) domestically and abroad.

For more information about the Natural Gas STAR Program, visit epa.gov/gasstar