

Press release

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GRTgaz and the CEA launch a jointly run lab to help deliver the energy transition

The CEA and GRTgaz have given new impetus to their collaboration by signing a research agreement to create a joint lab designed to help create the energy landscape of the future. The joint initiative was formalised on Tuesday 28 June at the CEA's Saclay site (south-western Paris) in the presence of GRTgaz CEO Thierry Trouvé and the CEA's Technical Research Director, Stéphane Siebert.

The CEA and GRTgaz – via its [RICE](#) Research and Development centre – have been working together for a number of years now on various research projects, in particular [“Jupiter 1000”](#), [GRTgaz's renewable hydrogen and e-methane production demonstrator](#).

Both parties want to use this joint laboratory to explore a number of areas, including:

- ways of producing renewable and low-carbon gas, including pyrogasification* or Power-to-Gas**,
- comparative assessments of these production technologies and their various environmental merits,
- analysing the effects of hydrogen on the materials used to make the gas transport pipe systems,
- the way in which energy networks interact and complement one another (gas, electricity, heat, etc.) so as to address future challenges associated with transporting renewable energies from where they are produced to consumers, These issues will include balancing the networks, developing energy storage solutions and searching for ways to optimise the energy system.

“We are proud of this wide-ranging collaboration with the CEA. As a public service company, it will enable us to increase our energy sovereignty and open up new prospects for supporting the development of renewable energies through a multi-energy approach – one which will place emphasis on the way in which molecules and electrons complement one another”, said Thierry Trouvé, CEO of GRTgaz.

“Thanks to our teams at the CEA, who are totally invested in embracing energy-related challenges, we have built a solid relationship based on trust with our partner's engineers, all of whom are utterly focused on developing a sound understanding of these new technologies and delivering solutions that will completely change the environmental circumstances, while at the same time remaining relevant from an economic perspective”, says Stéphane Siebert, Technical research director at the CEA.



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GRTgaz is Europe's second-largest gas carrier, with 32,500 km of pipes and 640 TWh of gas transported. The company has 3000 employees and generated nearly €2.3 billion in turnover in 2020. GRTgaz has a mission statement: "Together, we enable an energy future that is safe, affordable and climate neutral". GRTgaz is an innovative company undergoing a major transformation to adapt its network to new ecological and digital challenges. It is committed to a 100% carbon-neutral French gas mix by 2050. It supports the hydrogen and renewable gas sectors (biomethane and gas from solid and liquid waste). GRTgaz carries out public service missions to guarantee the safety of gas transmission for its 945 clients (shippers, distributors, industrial companies, biomethane plants and producers). With its subsidiaries Elengy, the European leader in LNG terminal services, and GRTgaz Deutschland, operator of the MEGAL transmission network in Germany, GRTgaz plays a key role on the European gas infrastructure scene. The company exports its expertise internationally, in particular services developed by its research centre, RICE. Find us at <https://www.grtgaz.com/>, or on Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram and Facebook.

ABOUT CEA

The CEA is a major player in research, serving the State, the economy and citizens. It provides concrete solutions to their needs in four main areas: energy transition, digital transition, technologies for the medicine of the future, defence and security. As the only French public research organisation in the world's top 100 innovation players (Derwent 2020), the CEA acts as a catalyst and accelerator of innovation for French industry. It improves the competitiveness of companies in all sectors through the creation of high-performance, differentiating products and provides innovative solutions to shed light on changes in our society. The CEA deploys this dynamic in all regions of France by supporting its local partners in their innovation process and thus contributes to the creation of value and sustainable jobs on the territory, as close as possible to industrial needs. At the same time, it supports the development of its 222 startups, which are agile vehicles for transferring know-how and disruptive technologies from the laboratories.

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Translated with www.DeepL.com/Translator (free version)

* Pyrogasification: a process whereby solid waste and biomass are converted into renewable gas.

** Process whereby electrolysis is used to transform electricity of renewable origin into hydrogen or synthetic methane (by getting the hydrogen to react with CO₂): Power-to-Gas.

