



Achimgaz – partnership with a future

Achimgaz, a joint venture between Gazprom subsidiary OOO Gazprom Dobycha Urengoy (50%) and the wholly owned BASF subsidiary Wintershall (50%), produces natural gas and condensate from the technically complex Achimov formation in the Urengoy field in West Siberia – one of the largest oil, gas and condensate reservoirs in the world.

AO Achimgaz was founded in 2003 as a 50:50 joint venture. Wintershall and Gazprom have produced more than 28 billion cubic meters so far in this joint project. And it still has ambitious goals: according to the government-approved field development plan, the total production is estimated at around 230 billion cubic meters of natural gas and 70 million tons of condensate. This amount of natural gas would be enough to meet Germany's natural gas requirements for three years.¹

Following the launch of six pilot wells in 2008, commercial development and production from the Achimov horizon, from which the joint venture gets its name, began in 2011. Until the end of December 2017, Achimgaz had brought 88 wells into operation and also operates a large-scale facility for separating natural gas and condensate, which now has five processing lines. Around 17 million cubic meters of natural gas are produced there every day. In the coming years, 110 wells in total are planned to increase production to an annual level of over eight billion cubic meters of natural gas.

March 2018

Phone +49 561 301-3301
Fax +49 561 301-1321
press@wintershall.com
<http://www.wintershall.com>

Wintershall Holding GmbH
Corporate Communications
P.O. Box 10 40 20
34112 Kassel, Germany

The Achimgaz project is a perfect example of successful German-Russian cooperation in the energy sector. Both project partners are applying their extensive expertise to the very challenging work at the Arctic Circle. They are investing together – more than two billion euros so far – and are sharing the costs and profits.

The project is distinguished by the excellent collaboration among the staff, who come from various countries all over the world: at Achimgaz, Russians, Ukrainians, Germans, Tatars, Argentineans, Americans and colleagues from many other nations are all pulling together. This means the staff can draw on a wealth of experience in a wide range of fields in their daily work. Thanks to a robust shift system, production continues even in the most adverse weather conditions, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.



88 of 110 wells have already been brought into operation.

Key project data:

- 350 square kilometers is the size of the Urengoy field 3,650 meters under the surface lies the Achimov formation.
- Total production is estimated at around 230 billion cubic meters of natural gas and 70 million tons of condensate.
- 88 of 110 wells have already been brought into operation. Around 17 million cubic meters of natural gas are produced there every day.
- Temperature fluctuations of -56°C to 34°C are common for the gas treatment plant (UKPG-31).



Around 17 million cubic meters of natural gas are produced there every day.

Project chronology

2003

Founding of the Achimgaz joint venture. Wintershall and Urengoy Gazprom (today: Gazprom Dobycha Urengoy) agree to develop Block 1A in the Achimov formation

2004-2005

Surveying work carried out

2006

Preparatory work begins (construction of roads, pipelines and processing infrastructure)

2008-2011

Six pilot wells

2011-2013

Start-up with another 20 wells and beginning of commercial production

2014

The project reaches an important milestone: around 10 billion cubic meters of natural gas have been produced by the joint venture since it was founded.

2015

Achimgaz once again increases the gas processing capacity. The processing plants can provide up to 25 cubic meters of gas each day for further transportation. In October 2015, Wintershall receives 25.01 percent of blocks 4A and 5A in the Achimov formation as a result of the asset swap with Gazprom.

2016

Achimgaz reaches the next milestone: the joint venture has produced 20 billion cubic meters of natural gas since the production activities began. Following on from the success with the vertical wells, the first horizontal well is spudded in a pilot phase to enable even greater production.

2017

The total daily production amounts to 25 million m³ of natural gas.

2019/20

Provisional completion of drilling activities in Block 1A (total of 110 wells).

2020

The first production in Blocks 4A and 5A is planned. The two blocks have hydrocarbon reserves amounting to 274 billion cubic meters of natural gas and 74 million tons of condensate. Wintershall and Gazprom will develop the reserves together.