



No. 2 – July 2011
C 46321

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Qatar remains LNG World Champion

by Julian Tucker



H.E. Dr. Mohammed Saleh Abdullah Al-Sada, Minister of Energy and Industry of the State of Qatar and Hans-Peter Floren, Member of the Board E.ON Ruhrgas AG and Member of the Board of NUMOV

Qatar is continuously expanding its leading position in the Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) market. Regarding Germany, Rasgas, one of the two LNG producers owned by the government of Qatar, signed a deal with German-based company E.ON, one of the biggest utilities in Europe. The deal included an initial four LNG cargoes, which were delivered to the UK Isle of Grain terminal earlier this year. More gas is due to follow since E.ON now has a "master spot agreement" with Rasgas, which allows them to purchase LNG cargoes as often as needed. "We want to expand that business, so we are continuously in talks with LNG suppliers. Qatar is a priority", stated Hans-Peter Floren, Member of the Board E.ON Ruhrgas AG and Member of the Board of NUMOV. Sales of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), which is

slowly becoming the fuel of choice for customers around the globe, is rising steadily due to its clean-burning nature and low emission values. Thanks to the reduction in volume, carried out by removing specific components like helium, water, gases and dust, long-distance transportation is much more cost efficient than other, comparable energy commodities. Global LNG production capacity is expected to grow by about 50 percent by 2016, as production has already increased by more than 60 percent, 260m tonnes per year, since 2005. Projections indicate that the estimated industry-wide capital is going to surpass USD 200bn.

The MENA region, with a production of 80m tonnes annually, is, in combination with the Asia-Pacific region, the leading LNG producer world wide.

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