



WE SUPPORT THE FLOW OF ENERGY

BY CONNECTING MARKETS FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE



2024 Trans Austria Gasleitung GmbH
becomes TAG GmbH

2014 TAG ITO certification

2009 Compression Station Weitendorf
2008 Compression Station Eggendorf

2001 TAG Loop 2

1988 TAG II

1974 TAG I

1974 TAG I

Main artery and interconnector

TAG GmbH: for Austria and Europe

TAG GmbH is the owner of the namesake pipeline system and is certified as an Independent Transmission Operator (ITO) under a decree issued by the Austrian regulatory authority Energie-Control Austria GmbH.

The company's pipeline system connects Baumgarten in Austria with Tarvis in Italy over a distance of 380 km. From the Slovak-Austrian border to the Austrian-Italian border, the pipeline system comprises approximately 1,140 km of high-pressure pipelines. Along the route in Austria, TAG GmbH transports gas for supply in Lower Austria, Styria, and Carinthia as well as gas for transportation to Slovenia via the SOL-pipeline. The Company is an important European interconnector, as the pipeline system's technological design allows for gas transport in both directions: from Italy to Austria and neighbouring countries as well as in the opposite direction.

Gas has been flowing through the pipeline system of TAG GmbH since 1974. Since then, the network has been continuously expanded and the transport capacity has been increased: in 1988 operation of TAG II was started, in 2001 TAG Loop 2, the Eggendorf and Weitendorf compressor stations were put into operation in 2008 and 2009 respectively. During continuous adaptations over the past years, some first-generation gas-powered compressors at the compressor stations along the pipeline have been replaced by state-of-the-art electric compressors.

The jointly authorised owners are the Italian company Snam S.p.A. with a share of 84.47 % and the Austrian company Gas Connect Austria GmbH with a share of 15.53 %.

TAG GmbH is managed by Daniele Gamba and Isabella Pichler-Olearczyk.

Daniele Gamba was born in Bergamo and studied electrical engineering at the University of Pavia. He has been Managing Director since 2018.

Isabella Pichler-Olearczyk was born in Vienna and studied Commerce at the Vienna University of Economics and Business. She has been Managing Director since 2022.



Daniele Gamba
Geschäftsführer



Isabella Pichler-Olearczyk
Geschäftsführerin





The organization



The tasks of a certified transmission system operator are fulfilled by TAG GmbH on the basis of a professional and implementation-strong internal organization. The daily business activities are based on the pillars of transparency, flexibility, efficiency, and reliability.

Our wide range of responsibilities are distributed among the management and subsequently with approximately 170 employees working in the headquarters in Vienna and in the Competence Centers along the pipeline.

The main tasks range from providing transport capacities and market-oriented transport solutions to continuous maintenance and servicing to ensure safe and reliable operation. Additionally, the transport system is being further developed and adapted to the different requirements. The main focus is on ensuring security of supply and measures to implement the energy transition.

Our principles

MISSION

TAG is an essential infrastructure operator, ensuring reliable and efficient energy access across Austria and the neighbouring countries.

VISION

We support the flow of energy by connecting markets for a brighter future.

OUR VALUES

RESPECT

We demand respect from ourselves and our counterparts. Appreciative cooperation builds the trust needed to create longterm partnerships.

RESPONSIBILITY

We take responsibility for ourselves and our environment. We act sustainably and reliably in order to protect the health of all involved parties and to guarantee the secure operation of our facilities.

COMPETENCE

We work professionally and with dedication. We invest continuously in our know-how to ensure the quality and availability of our services for our customers.



LOWER AUSTRIA COMPETENCE CENTRE

T +43 1 597 51 16 89100

In charge of:

TAG (Slovakian/Austrian border – Schäffernbach)

STYRIA COMPETENCE CENTRE

T +43 1 597 51 16 89300

In charge of:

TAG (Schäffernbach – Styrian/Carinthian border)

SOL (TAG is the service provider for Gas Connect Austria GmbH for the south-east pipeline)

CARINTHIA COMPETENCE CENTRE

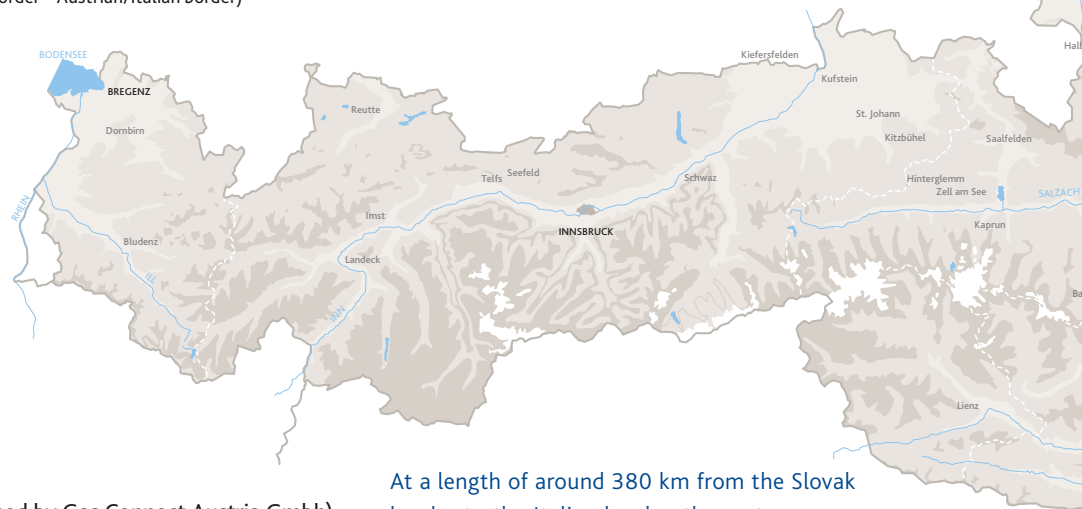
T +43 1 597 51 16 89500

In charge of:

TAG (Styrian/Carinthian border – Austrian/Italian border)

AT TAG, WE THINK OF OUR PIPELINE SYSTEM AS THE ARTERY OF OUR COMPANY.

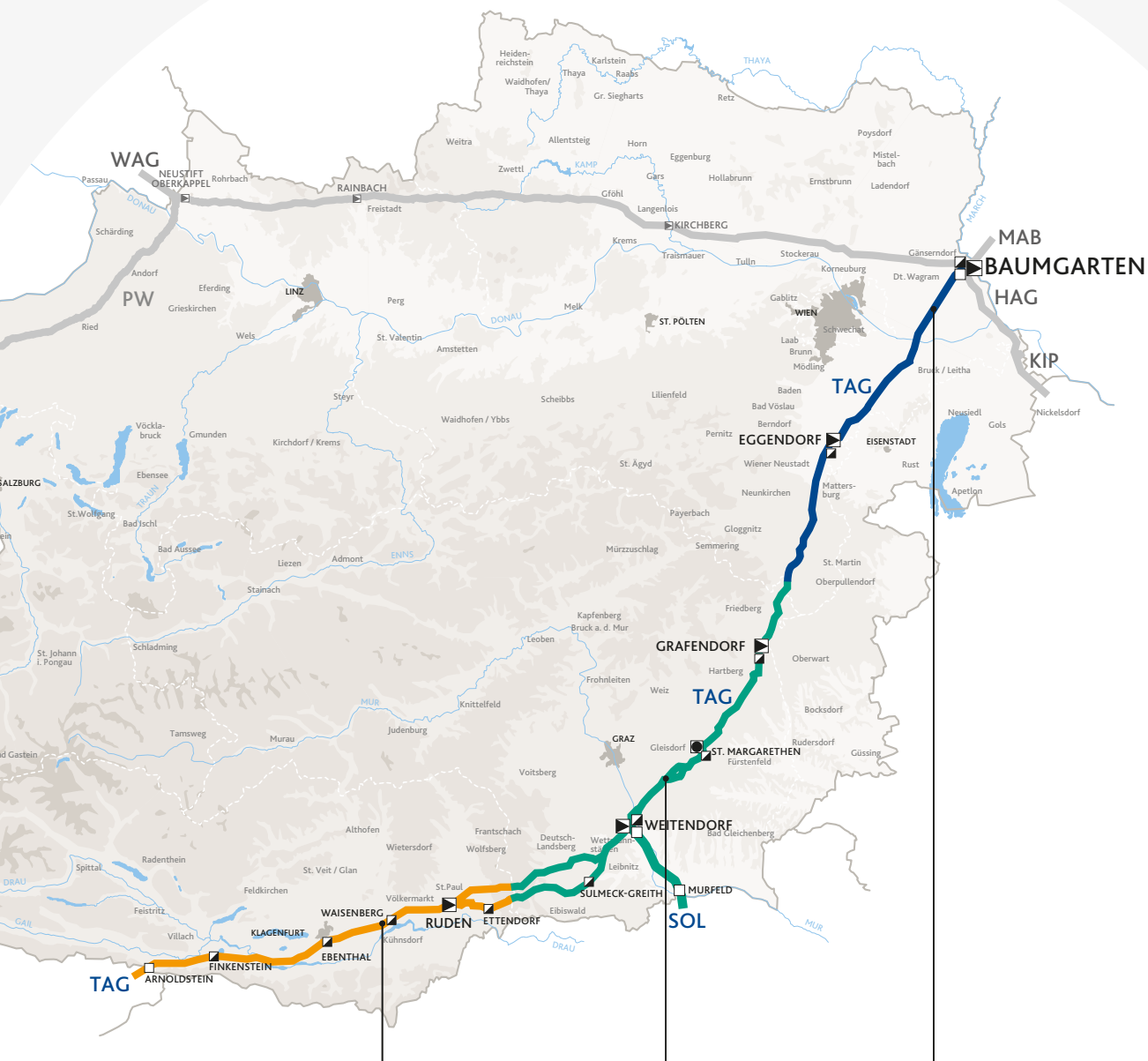
It runs from the Austrian-Slovakian border near Baumgarten/March to the Austrian-Italian border near Arnoldstein and makes a vital contribution to energy security in Austria and beyond. It comprises three parallel pipelines (TAG I, TAG II, TAG Loop 2) and five compressor stations, as well as entry and exit points, auxiliary facilities and a waste heat recovery unit.



- Measuring Station
- ▣ Break Out Point (owned by Gas Connect Austria GmbH)
- ▣ Compressor Station
- Maintenance Center

The pipeline system

At a length of around 380 km from the Slovak border to the Italian border, the system comprises a total of 1,140 km of pipelines, making it Austria's longest high-pressure pipeline system. Pipeline diameters range from 36 to 48 inches and pressure in the lines goes up to 70 bar. There are currently 16 gas compressors and four electrical compressors installed at the five compressor stations. Total installed power at the compressor stations is approximately 420 MW.



**CARINTHIA
COMPETENCE
CENTRE**

**STYRIA
COMPETENCE
CENTRE**

**LOWER AUSTRIA
COMPETENCE
CENTRE**



TAG GmbH is part of the pan-European grid infrastructure

Austria plays an important role in the energy supply of Europe. Due to its central location, Austria's transmission networks are connected to many neighbouring networks. In the northwest, the pipeline system of TAG GmbH is connected to the WAG-system of Gas Connect Austria GmbH for gas transport towards Germany, in the northeast to the system of the Slovakian transmission system operator eustream a.s., in the southeast to the SOL system of Gas Connect Austria GmbH to Slovenia and in the south to the system of the Italian transmission system operator Snam Rete Gas. The flow direction is both from the Slovak-Austrian to the Austrian-Italian border and vice versa.

The pipeline system is continuously monitored and controlled remotely by a complex SCADA system (supervisory control acquisition data system) via the control room of a dispatching centre. The control room is staffed 24/7 all year round and guarantees the response to emergency calls and the activation of on-call services.

Along the pipelines there are a total of ten break-out points, supplying the domestic market, as well as a branch to the SOL pipeline, operated by Gas Connect Austria GmbH, leading to Slovenia. Safe and uninterrupted transport through Austria is therefore not only important for our neighbouring countries. The domestic supply of Lower Austria, Styria and Carinthia is directly related to the smooth operation of our pipeline system.

Also in the future, TAG GmbH in its role as a transmission system operator is and will remain an essential player for pan-European energy supply with gas and other grid-based renewable energy forms such as biogas and hydrogen.

Wide-ranging

Safe operation

Safety first for all

Health, safety, security, environment & quality (HSSEQ) are core values, both in ongoing operations and in the implementation of investment projects. As an infrastructure company, we bear responsibility for people and the environment. Our aim is to take a proactive and holistic approach to this responsibility towards our employees, partners and neighbours, as well as towards society and the environment as a whole. Our most important goals are the protection of the health of all those involved and the safe operation of the pipeline. Therefore, our key principle: safety first!

High standards for health, safety and the environment are guaranteed.

We use certified management systems to integrate the high standards regarding health, safety and environment into the company's processes and activities and to regularly check compliance with those standards by independent inspection bodies. In this context, the certifications according to the standards ISO 14001:2015 for environmental management and ISO 45001:2018 for occupational health and safety management are proof of our living HSSEQ culture.

The employees of the company are committed to their work and do a professional job. A comprehensive training programme supports our staff to provide high quality and availability

of the services offered. We perform our tasks carefully and considerately, thus helping ensure the supply of energy to society.

The pipeline system is inspected at regular intervals.

Maintenance and inspections of all facilities are carried out systematically according to defined processes. The annual maintenance programme of the pipeline and compressor stations is regularly reviewed and adapted, maintenance is carried out on specified dates. Internal inspection of the pipeline is carried out using ultrasound technology at regular intervals. For this purpose, pigs and ultrasonic measurements are planned down to the smallest detail, while the impact on the transport performance is kept as low as possible.





Reliable and environmentally conscious security of supply

TAG GmbH is a reliable partner in energy infrastructure. All pipelines transport safely and reliably. To ensure that this remains to be the case, the company is constantly initiating new projects with the aim of keeping the pipeline system's technology at state-of-the-art. Over the past few years, some first-generation gas-powered compressors at the compressor stations along the pipeline have been replaced by state-of-the-art electric compressors, resulting in lower maintenance requirements and almost emission-free operation.

Biogas and biomethane

Biogas, which is produced from biomass from agricultural waste, can also be fed into the pipeline system after several processing steps in the form of biomethane or used to produce electricity. In Austria, biogas has great growth potential due to the large number of farms and agricultural businesses.

Biomethane can substitute conventional gas: It can be used for households and for power generation, mobility, industry, and energy storage. The existing gas storage facilities in Austria are used to store energy in the form of biomethane for times of increased demand.

Hydrogen

As a CO₂-neutral energy source, hydrogen is considered a key resource for the success of the climate and energy transition. For this reason, TAG GmbH, together with other European system operators, is actively working to advance the enabling of hydrogen transport via the existing and for this purpose to be adapted infrastructure in Austria and Europe.

To achieve the European climate targets, green gases such as hydrogen – in addition to electricity from renewable sources – will make a significant contribution in the future to ensuring climate-friendly and diversified energy supply in Austria and throughout Europe. The possibility of transporting hydrogen in TAG GmbH's pipeline system now opens new avenues, as the energy source hydrogen can play an important role in energy transport and as a storage medium for green energy in the future.

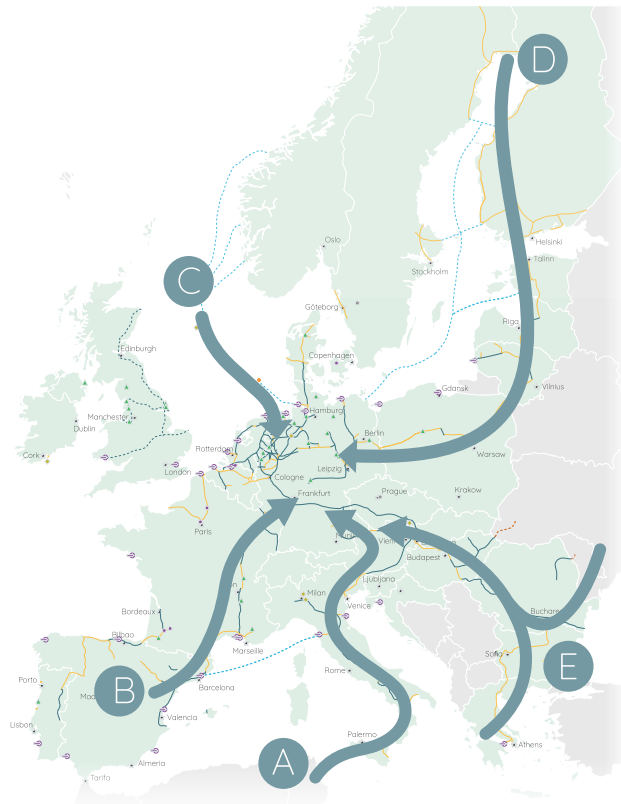
As hydrogen may be transported via the already existing pipeline system of TAG GmbH in the future, grid operators such as TAG GmbH will play a key role in this important initiative.

Power2Gas technology

Power2Gas technology is a sustainable technology, in which hydrogen can be generated

Future partner for energy supply

from surplus electricity, for example from wind and photovoltaic facilities, by electrolysis and stored without any loss in the existing gas infrastructure, for example to meet demand at a later time and in a different place. The pipeline infrastructure is essential for transporting the hydrogen and connecting it to the power grids.



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Hydrogen for the future

According to EU forecasts, future hydrogen demand cannot be met by production in Europe only. In the medium to long term, hydrogen imports from non-European countries will become necessary. It is therefore necessary to open new routes for the targeted import of hydrogen. The European Hydrogen Backbone (EHB) initiative, in which TAG GmbH is involved together with more than 30 other European system operators, envisages several corridors for importing hydrogen to Europe. The TAG GmbH strongly supports the southern corridor (Corridor A), which connects the low-cost production areas in North Africa via the mostly existing pipeline systems with the consumption regions in Austria and Europe. This can open the gateway from North Africa to Europe and create an urgently needed alternative to existing energy sources. The southern corridor would also form the backbone for future energy supply of our domestic economy.

The Baumgarten hub will continue to play a central role in Europe's energy supply in the future due to the planned distribution of hydrogen. Hydrogen could be transported via Baumgarten from Austria to Germany, Slovakia, and other neighbouring countries.





Dialogue is the key

4 Austrian municipalities – 90 provinces – 10,000 properties

This is the path over which our pipelines run.

The pipelines run underground through a clearly defined area of each of these 10,000 properties in eastern and south-eastern Austria. Access to these areas is secured by easements in favour of TAG GmbH.

Accordingly, we are in constant contact with the more than 4,000 property owners, the municipalities, the district authorities as well as the provincial governments in Lower Austria, Burgenland, Styria and Carinthia, and also with the federal ministries and the responsible national regulatory authority Energie-Control Austria.

Ongoing contact with this variety of interlocutors is important – it is the only way to ensure the smooth and safe operation of our pipeline. Therefore, it is of great importance that all essential information is exchanged, and all concerns of all parties involved are discussed and clarified.

The safety of the pipeline is our top priority. This is essential for the entire population – and of course also for our stakeholders and employees. According to Section 133 of the Austrian Natural Gas Act (*Gaswirtschaftsgesetz*), TAG GmbH, as the owner, must comply with the "technical rules" when operating the gas pipeline system.

For our facilities, these are derived from the technical rules of the Austrian Association for Gas and Water (*Österreichische Vereinigung für das Gas- und Wasserfach, ÖVGW*) and require a safety corridor along the pipeline on which no construction is permitted. This protective strip has been secured under civil law by means of servitude agreements with the property owners. It is important that the pipelines of TAG GmbH are already considered within the framework of the local land use planning – when handling the legal provisions for the issuance and approval of zoning plans.

Our pipelines run underground and are marked with a pipeline marker at certain points. Of course, we are available as a contact point for precise information on the location of the pipelines and servitude strips. In case of digging, excavation, civil engineering, or other construction works in the vicinity of the pipelines, prior plan information and notification to geodata@taggmbh.at is mandatory.

TAG GmbH in the European context

National and European planning processes

Regarding the further development of the transmission system, TAG GmbH actively participates in various national and European planning processes. In Austria, relevant projects are included in the Coordinated Network Development Plan during the planning process and submitted to the regulatory authority Energie-Control Austria for approval. At the European level, relevant projects of TAG GmbH are submitted for integration in the Ten-Year Network Development Plan (TYNDP) of ENTSOG (European Network of Transmission System Operators for Gas) and are included in the corresponding Gas Regional Investment Plans (GRIPS). This ensures that our projects can be developed in a pan-European context.

PRISMA

TAG GmbH is a founding member and co-owner of PRISMA European Capacity Platform GmbH. The platform was founded in 2013 and implemented the European Commission's Network Code on Transmission System Capacity Allocation Mechanisms ahead of schedule. A total of 37 transmission system operators from more than 15 countries offer their harmonized capacity products on the joint auction platform. TAG GmbH is actively involved in the continuous development of the platform..

ENTSOG

On a European level, TAG GmbH is a member of ENTSOG (European Network of Transmission System Operators for Gas) and continuously contributes its know-how to different working groups on various aspects of the internal energy market. The role of ENTSOG is to facilitate and improve cooperation between network operators in Europe. ENTSOG's main tasks include the efficient and coordinated operation and technical development of the European gas network.

Austrian Association of Gas and District Heating Supply Companies

Topics around gas are a matter of concern for TAG GmbH. As a member of the Association of Gas and District Heating Supply Companies (*Fachverband der Gas- und Wärmeversorgungsunternehmen, FGW*), the company can comment on current issues of the Austrian gas sector. The FGW is an independent statutory body representing all companies in the gas and heat supply industry in Austria and is committed to the economic, safe and environmentally friendly use of gas, biogas, district heating, district cooling and, in the future, also hydrogen in Austria.

European Hydrogen Backbone (EHB)

As hydrogen can be transported in the existing pipeline system of TAG GmbH, the company participates in the European Hydrogen Backbone (EHB) initiative together with more than 30 other European system operators. The aim of this initiative is to achieve climate-neutral supply in Europe by establishing a renewable and low-CO₂ hydrogen market.

UN Environment Programme (UNEP)

Since 2020, TAG GmbH has been an active partner in the Oil & Gas Methane Partnership 2.0 led by UNEP. The objectives of this international programme are the uniform collection and reporting as well as the continuous monitoring of methane emissions using state-of-the-art technology, joint research and development of new technologies for the detection of leaks and a professional exchange of best practice projects for emission reduction. As part of this partnership, TAG GmbH has been awarded the Gold Standard for the last three years.

We are passionate about Energy, particularly Natural Gas, Lumpy Natural Gas, Hydrogen and Renewables. As an active player in the energy market, we want to contribute to shaping it for the future and are members of the following national and international organisations:



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