

*The Regional Initiatives – Europe's
Key to Market Integration
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*What industry can do now to help
the regional markets join up*

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- Eurogas supports the Gas Regional Initiative – potential to achieve pragmatic progress on a voluntary basis
- Important objectives for users and a well functioning gas market benefiting consumers
 - (1) seamless flow of gas across Europe contributing to a competitive market
 - (2) efficient TSO operators
 - (3) timely necessary investment
- Industry's involvement is crucial – major role for TSOs and the shippers and traders

The GRIs have brought some benefits but much more progress is required

- Investments – cross-border and related infrastructure
- Interoperability
- Harmonised and convergent balancing regimes
- Capacity and congestion management
- Development of hubs
- Secondary market opportunities
- Compatible services and products

underpinned by the required user-friendly transparency.

Individual TSOs should be anticipating the Third Package requirements to deliver better co-ordination of their decisions and activities of TSOs.

Eurogas welcomes the setting up of GTE+, the work being done on the Transparency and Interoperability Platforms.

Market-driven initiatives enhancing non-discriminatory access bring opportunities for all round improvements in regional approaches.

Responsibilities of shippers

- Be clear about their service needs – contribute to design of technical rules/also rule changes.
- Respond to consultations on future demand/supply forecasts - important indicator of investment needs.
- Initiate and participate in market instrument development.

- Industry should be present in the GRI work as much as possible – GRIs bringing results will incentivise involvement.
- Associations can provide framework policies, but practical output will depend on company input.
- Share in the opportunities/responsibilities.

So much can be done by industry, BUT it is essential that pending the measures to strengthen and formalise regional co-operation in the Third Package.

- Regulatory co-ordination and co-operation, including exchange of necessary information contributes to meeting regional aims, notably facilitating cross-border investment and transactions.
- Current NRA decisions should take account of regional cross-border issues and interests.
- Political commitment supports the process.

Eurogas views on Achieving Regional Markets

Website: www.eurogas.org