

Press Release

Open Grid Europe procures substantial weather data from Meteomedia Energy

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Open Grid Europe is regularly procuring weather data from Meteomedia Energy so that it can better forecast temperature-dependent gas sendout and transmission at entry/exit points in its own gas pipeline system. As a result of this assignment, the energy experts at Meteomedia already have 400 clients. Meteomedia Energy is one of the leading data providers for the energy industry.

Starting now, Open Grid Europe will receive daily temperature measurements and Meteomedia's own MOS forecasts from 50 specially chosen weather stations. The weather data will be used for the preparation of statistics and forecasts and for capacity marketing.

The weather stations were assessed according to meteorological and climatological criteria as well as historical gas sendout figures. Against this backdrop, stations were chosen in a sophisticated selection procedure whose locations are representative for gas sendout of Open Grid Europe in conurbations and industrial areas. To achieve the highest possible correlation of temperature data and gas sendout and transmission of Open Grid Europe, account was also taken of differences in altitude, topographical structures and regional meteorological effects when selecting the stations.

Meteomedia MOS (Model Output Statistics) chosen by Open Grid Europe is a statistical prediction model which provides very precise weather forecasts at local level. MOS is based on a correlation of historical measurements of individual weather stations and calculations of numerical weather models. However, every numerical weather model has strengths and weaknesses, depending on the region, weather situation and time-frame. To make optimum use of the advantages of the individual models, Meteomedia has developed the so-called MOS mix. It allows a variable weighting of the different models.

In future, Open Grid Europe intends to forecast not only on a short-term basis but also on a medium-term basis the temperature-dependent sendout and gas transmission at entry/exit points in its own gas pipeline system. Consequently, Meteomedia Energy is also supplying 15-day trends based on joint forecasts for the respective weather stations. These trends are calculated individually for each location and indicate the temperature trend for the next two weeks with the aid of probability data (quantiles).

Meteomedia Energy has been developing products specifically geared to the energy industry for five years now. The centrepiece is its own close-knit weather station measuring network with about 800 stations in Germany and Switzerland alone. The Meteomedia research and development team comprises meteorologists, mathematicians, computer scientists and physicists and is continually working on the optimisation of forecasts so that weather becomes a plannable factor in business operations.

Open Grid Europe, a subsidiary of E.ON Ruhrgas AG based in Essen, is Germany's leading gas transmission company. With its ultra-modern, efficient system of approx. 12,000 km of pipeline and comprehensive technical services, Open Grid Europe offers and arranges innovative, forward-looking transportation solutions for natural gas and biogas. Further company details can be found at:

www.open-grid-europe.com.

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