



## IGU Newsletter - February 2017

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**IGRC 2017: Attend and join the debate on the role technology will play in fueling the future of the natural gas industry.**

**Early Bird Registration now open!**



The International Gas Union Research Conference (IGRC) is the most important technical event in the natural gas industry. The next conference will take place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in May 2017, and registration is now open.

The 2017 edition of the event has the theme "Natural Gas: Catalysing the Future", which will look at technology as a strategic key enabler to the future gas industry growth. The conference will map out the technological trends, as one of the fundamental pillars to industry development.

IGRC 2017 will gather business leaders across all areas of the natural gas sector to debate the most relevant topics relating to both the national and international scenarios. It will bring together specialists who will propose solutions to confront the challenges to the development of the natural gas sector to create business opportunities. The conference topics include several segments on production & exploration, gas transmission & distribution, industrial gas utilization, climate and environment [and more](#).

IGRC 2017 is organized by IBP – Brazilian Petroleum, Gas and Biofuels Institute, in partnership with IGU.

The Conference is every three years and the host is selected by the IGU's Executive Committee.

Register for the event [here](#). We encourage you to not miss the Early Bird registration discounted fee!

Learn more about [the conference](#) and the [registration fees](#).



### **Fuel Cell Break Through**

Focus on reducing CO2 emissions continues to be a high-priority, especially after the landmark framework reached at COP21. Although using renewable energy is the most direct and effective way for this subject, it takes so long time to come to self-sufficient by renewable energy. Thus during the transition period to the low carbon society, we must continue using fossil fuels. Using fossil fuels as effectively as possible is another practical solution to reduce CO2 emission and we must consider how we make efficient use of them.

Fuel cells are expected as one of the effective methods to use fossil fuels because electricity can be produced successfully through the electrochemical reaction of fossil fuels. While over several decades, much effort has been paid to the research and development of them, it is not easy to implement their technology. The past few years, however, at last several fuel cell technologies were exploited and they are now under popularization. Various types of fuel cells, such as polymer electrolyte, phosphoric acid, molten carbonate, and solid oxide fuel cells have been developed intensively and commercialized in Asia, Germany and the United States.

In this report, the current status of fuel cell technologies, especially in Asia is reported.

**[Follow this link to read more](#)**



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## Global Overview of the Outlook for the Gas Industry

On January 26, the WGC 2018 Financial Advisory Board hosted a breakfast session for sell-side analysts from the financial community to provide them with an outlook of the global gas industry. David Goldwyn, formerly Special Envoy for International Energy Affairs at the U.S. Department of State was the featured speaker. The meeting provided the opportunity to hear and discuss the globalization of natural gas and the outlook for natural gas under the new U.S. Administration. To read more about the event or download the presentations, [click here](#).

For more information on WGC 2018 or the WGC Financial Forum, please contact [Jay Copan](#) or [Liliana Fonnoll](#).

## IGU Influence

Strategic partnerships continue to be important for IGU in its work to raise the voice of gas. Ensuring a good transfer of relationships and activities related to this area has been important in the IGU Secretariat transition. During December and January, the new IGU Director, Rafael Huarte, has met with UNEP, UNESCO, UNECE, SE4ALL and OFID with the aim to foster a greater cooperation towards common goals. The topics of discussion were energy access, methane emissions, energy efficiency, gas and renewables, biomethane and synthetic gas, and gas for transportation.

With SE4ALL and UNEP especially, IGU is looking at ways to increase cooperation in issues such as energy access, sustainability, and renewables, air quality, biomethane. This will help raise the voice of gas amongst governments and policy makers.



## IGU Committee Meetings March-May 2017

DATE	COMMITTEE	LOCATION	CONTACT
Spring 2017			
1-2/03/2017	R&D AND INNOVATION COMMITTEE	Brisbane, AUSTRALIA	Uwe Klaas Klaas@dvgw.de
7-10/03/2017	EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION COMMITTEE  SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE <i>Joint meeting</i>	London, UNITED KINGDOM	Im Xaxanuhani Zulkifli Im_xaxanuhani@petronas.com.my  Gabriela Roselló gabriela.rosello@total.com
6-8/03/2017	STRATEGY COMMITTEE	Madrid, SPAIN	Jeanet van Dellen j.j.van.dellen@gasunie.nl
7-9/03/2017	TRANSMISSION COMMITTEE	Lima, PERU	Daniel Rein daniel.rein@net4gas.cz
13-16/03/2017	LNG COMMITTEE	Oran, ALGERIA	Ichiro Baba ichiro-baba@osakagas.co.jp
14-17/03/2017	MARKETING & COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE	Ljubljana, SLOVENIA	Geja Popken, G.Popken@gasunie.nl
14-16/03/2017	GAS MARKETS COMMITTEE	Lisbon, PORTUGAL	Tarik Taffar Tarik.taffar@sonatrach.dz
20-21/03/2017	WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE	Groningen, NETHERLANDS	Reham Gharib r.gharib@taqa.com.eg
21-23/03/2017	DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE	Paris, FRANCE	Carlos Villalonga cvillalonga@sedigas.es
21-24/03/2017	STORAGE COMMITTEE	Buenos Aires, ARGENTINA	Iuliia Bektishkina A.D.Zvonkova@adm.gazprom.ru
27/03/2017	STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS & OUTREACH TASK FORCE	Muscat, OMAN	Harry Whitaker Harry.Whitaker@shell.com
21-23/05/2017	UTILIZATION COMMITTEE	Florianopolis, BRAZIL	Hedayat Omidvar omidvar@nigc.ir/ hedayatomidvar@yahoo.com



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