Raúl Suárez assumes the presidency of the European Association of Gas Distributors for Sustainability (GD4S)

- The CEO of Nedgia, Naturgy's gas distributor in Spain, highlights the increasingly important role of renewable gases in the European energy system.
- The association represents the main gas distribution groups in Europe with a total of 27.7 million customers.

The European Association of Gas Distributors for Sustainability (GD4S) has appointed the CEO of Nedgia, Raúl Suárez, as the new president of the organization during the celebration of its Annual General Assembly held in Brussels. This entity represents the main gas distribution groups in France, Greece, Italy, Ireland, Spain, Portugal and Romania, with a total of 27.7 million customers in Europe.

Raúl Suárez begins his term in a context marked by the imminent completion of the EU Gas Package, the Methane Emissions Regulation and the completion of the Fit for 55 package. “We need a new look at European energy policy, with a combination greater than the objectives of reducing emissions, energy security and competitiveness”, he stated.

The new CEO of Nedgia, the gas distribution subsidiary of the Naturgy Group, has set itself the goal of promoting collaboration between GD4S members and other associations to promote the relevant role of gas in the debate on the Union’s energy policy European.

"Distribution networks provide reliability and are crucial assets for families, industries and the European economy in general to accelerate the energy transition thanks to renewable gases: biomethane today and hydrogen tomorrow", stated the new president of the association.

**Bet on renewable gas**

Naturgy maintains a strategic commitment to promoting renewable gases through its extensive knowledge of the sector and a gas distribution network of 54,000 kilometers with more than 5.4 million supply points compatible with the injection of biomethane.

In addition, the group already operates two renewable gas production plants in Spain and is working on the development of a portfolio of more than fifty new projects in different stages of processing.

At the distribution level, the group has identified 170 possible plants to quickly boost the presence of renewable gas in the network and its use as a substitute for natural gas by homes and companies. This would be equivalent to 7% of the country's gas consumption.

**Gas in the debate on the energy transition**

GD4S focuses its actions in the area of the EU energy policy for the energy transition, the reduction of emissions and the linkage of the gas and electricity sectors.

The association has also raised more specific issues related to the development of the hydrogen market, especially after joining the Ready4H2 project last year. This initiative brings together more than 90 European operators and aims to define the essential role of gas distributors in the development of the hydrogen market.

In 2021, the association published its White Paper, which includes its strategic vision for decarbonization and the future role of gas networks, and the Joint Declaration on Emissions Reduction. In 2022 it launched its Sustainability Charter, which includes the association’s commitments in this area.

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