

# Purchase of minority shareholding in Air Liquide W.A. PTY LTD

Air Liquide Australia Limited (ALA) today announced that it has purchased Wesfarmers Chemicals, Energy and Fertilisers division 40 per cent interest in the Western Australian-based industrial gas producer and supplier Air Liquide Western Australia (ALWA). Air Liquide Australia owns now 100 per cent of ALWA.

ALWA was formed in 1965 as a joint venture between Air Liquide Australia and Wesfarmers to service the Western Australian market with industrial and medical gases, gas equipment and welding products. The business owns and operates an Air Separation Unit in Kwinana which produces oxygen, nitrogen and high purity argon for the Western Australian and Northern Territory markets.

MacPherson Redfern, Managing Director, Air Liquide Australia Limited declared: ***"We are pleased to have taken over the full ownership of ALWA. This will support driving the performance of the business through greater integration into the systems and structures of the Air Liquide group."***

## Air Liquide in Australia

Air Liquide entered Australia in 1957. Today Air Liquide employs around 750 people servicing a range of industries including healthcare, automotive, food & beverages, chemicals, energy, metallurgy, mining, and metal fabrication.

## CONTACTS

### **Air Liquide Australia Communications**

Judy Coulson  
+61 (3) 9697 9888

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World leader in gases, technologies and services for Industry and Health, Air Liquide is present in 80 countries with close to 50,000 employees and serves more than 2 million customers and patients. Oxygen, nitrogen and hydrogen have been at the core of the company's activities since its creation in 1902. Air Liquide's ambition is to be the leader in its industry, delivering long-term performance and acting responsibly.

Air Liquide ideas create value over the long term. At the core of the company's development are the commitment and constant inventiveness of its people.

Air Liquide anticipates the challenges of its markets, invests locally and globally and delivers high-quality solutions.

The company relies on competitiveness in its operations, targeted investments in growing markets and innovation to deliver profitable growth over the long-term.

Air Liquide's revenues amounted to € 15.3 billion in 2012, and its solutions that protect life and the environment represented around 40% of sales. Air Liquide is listed on the Paris Euronext stock exchange (compartment A) and is a member of the CAC 40 and Dow Jones Euro Stoxx 50 indexes.