

Press Release

Concrete Weight Coating of the Nord Stream 2 Pipes Begins in Kotka, Finland

- > Pipe coating and logistics operations to employ 300 persons in Kotka
- > Concrete weight coating to add stability of the pipeline on the seabed
- > Kotka will again play a key role for the project

[Kotka, Finland – 27-Mar-17] Nord Stream 2 AG's Contractor Wasco has started concrete weight coating of the pipes needed for the natural gas pipeline through the Baltic Sea in its pipe coating plant in Kotka, Finland. Almost half of the 200,000 pipes needed for the entire project will be concrete weight coated in Wasco's plant located in the Port of HaminaKotka.

Coating and logistics operations for Nord Stream 2 provide an important economic stimulus to the region for the duration of the project. Wasco has already hired 195 persons for its coating plant operations. During the peak production period, it will employ up to 300 persons directly and approximately 100 persons indirectly for various operations, such as plant maintenance, storage and port operations. Coating for the Nord Stream 2 project will continue in Kotka until late 2018.

Kotka serves as an important hub for the Nord Stream 2 project's challenging logistics. To date Wasco's Kotka storage yard has received over 35,000 pipes from the pipe mills. Once the pipes have been coated with concrete, part of them will be stored in Wasco's storage yard directly in Kotka, and the rest will be transhipped to another storage yard in Koverhar, Hanko in Finland. During construction, coated pipes will be fed from the storage yards to the pipe-lay vessels in time and on-demand.

Concrete weight coating increases the stability of the pipeline on the seabed, as the concrete doubles to 24 tonnes the weight of each 12 metre, 48-inch diameter pipe joint. Coating also protects the pipes from external damage when they are stored, transported and eventually lowered on to the seabed.

The start of coating in Kotka is yet another milestone for the Nord Stream 2 project. The company has already closed all major contracts.



Picture: Over 35,000 pipes are waiting to be concrete weight coated at Wasco's storage yard in Kotka, Finland. (© Nord Stream 2 / Wolfram Scheible)

About Nord Stream 2

Nord Stream 2 is a planned pipeline through the Baltic Sea, which will transport natural gas over 1,200 km from the world's largest gas reserves in Russia via the most efficient route to consumers in Europe. Nord Stream 2 will largely follow the route and design of the successful Nord Stream pipeline. With Europe's domestic gas production projected to halve in the next 20 years, Nord Stream 2's twin pipeline system will help Europe to meet its future gas import needs, with the capacity to transport 55 billion cubic metres of gas per year, enough to supply 26 million European households. This secure supply of natural gas with its low CO₂ emissions will also contribute to Europe's objective to have a more climate-friendly energy mix with gas substituting for coal in power generation and providing back-up for intermittent renewable sources of energy such as wind and solar power.

www.nord-stream2.com

About Wasco Energy

Wasco Energy is a leading integrated energy group that operates in the global market. Headquartered in Malaysia and supported by a robust network of operations in 15 international locations, we provide reliable and competitive products, services and solutions to oil and gas players the world over. Wasco Energy has built an enviable track record of delivering major energy projects across key markets and today we continue to extend our footprint via distinct product and service offerings in the areas of Pipeline Services, Engineering Services, E&P Services & Field Services. www.wascoenergy.com

Media Contact:

press@nord-stream2.com