



Comune di Udine

**press release**

Udine, 20 September 2021

## **AcegasApsAmga wins the gas tender for ATEM Udine 2**

*The multi-utility, 100% controlled by the Hera Group, won with a bid focused on sustainability and creating value. In the coming months a 12-year contract will be signed with the Municipality of Udine as contracting body.*

The Municipality of Udine, acting as contracting body, has officially awarded to AcegasApsAmga, a 100% subsidiary of the Hera Group, the tender for managing the natural gas distribution service in the Udine 2 Ambito Territoriale Minimo (ATEM).

### **The details of the tender won by AcegasApsAmga**

The Udine 2 ATEM comprises 18 municipalities (including Udine) and over 90 thousand users, with a network stretching over 1,200 km.

Since the tender was awarded to the Hera Group, the new gas distribution network in Udine will be characterized by sustainability and the energy transition, and AcegasApsAmga, already the outgoing operator in 13 of the 18 municipalities, will be responsible for the service for the next 12 years.

The contract, which will be signed in the coming months between the multi-utility and the Municipality of Udine, is worth approximately 115 million euro.

### **A call for tenders generating shared value for communities**

AcegasApsAmga, in order to maintain its management of this service, while competing against some of the most qualified national gas distribution operators, developed a proposal that reconciled management efficiency, hence economic impact, with state-of-the-art safety standards, asset management solutions and environmental considerations.

This proposal, supported by the know-how of the Hera Group, manifested as a management capable of bringing shared value to the community in terms of service quality, protection from adverse events, economic benefits and environmental advantages.

### **80 million in investments to further improve security and resilience**

The AcegasApsAmga project expects a substantial portion of the approximately 80 million euros planned for investments in gas distribution over the next 12 years will be used to prevent failures, upgrade the network and further increase its reliability and resilience, thus guaranteeing the utmost service continuity. In the event of supply failure coming from one direction, for example, a properly meshed network can be counter-supplied by other pipelines.

The investment package also includes a replacement of the current gas meters with "Nexmeters", the latest generation of meters engineered and developed by the Hera Group, provided with cutting-edge functions that guarantee high safety standards even during emergency situations such as earthquakes.

All the service levels guaranteed to date will furthermore be maintained, levels that already significantly exceed the standards set by the Regulatory Authority ARERA. This includes the average response time of emergency services, within 60 minutes of the call in 99% of cases, as well as 5 days as the maximum time for carrying out basic work on the network. Or again, the commitment to ensuring that 100% of gas networks are inspected every year, in order to detect any leaks.



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For some time now, indeed, the investment rationale adopted by AcegasApsAmga has gone from an emergency approach (interventions following significant malfunctions) to a predictive one (interventions planned according to potential fragile points detected in the network).

With these interventions, it will be possible to take advantage of the opportunities offered by the new area management (ATEM Udine 2), overcoming the territorial boundaries traditionally associated with municipal management.

"I believe - is the comment of **Pietro Fontanini, the Mayor of Udine** - that, with the effort to bring together themes like safety, quality of service and environmental sustainability, thus creating an added value for the entire community, AcegasApsAmga highlights a new strategy in gas distribution and, at the same time, the standard to which all operators will have to comply in the near future. As Mayor of Udine, I consider this tender perfectly coherent to the overall context of the efforts that our city is making toward the respect of the environment."

**Chairman Tommasi: "competition in public services leads to shared value for local areas"**

"We are particularly pleased with the victory in the gas tender in ATEM Udine 2", explains Tomaso Tommasi di Vignano, Executive Chairman of the Hera Group and Chairman of AcegasApsAmga. "AcegasApsAmga's bid made available to the territory the best of Hera Group's know-how, not only in terms of safety and service management, but also in terms of environmental sustainability, which will be one of the distinguishing points of the new management. This challenge, of calls for tenders, is one that the Hera Group has long been equipped to deal with, not only in the field of energy distribution, and these results prove yet again that for us, in addition to service quality and continuity, it is important to invest and generate positive repercussions for the areas we serve."

**CEO Gasparetto: "local jobs and professionalism preserved"**

"The spirit with which we sign the new gas distribution contract in the Udine area will not be that of a company simply looking to continue managing a service", states Roberto Gasparetto, CEO of AcegasApsAmga. "Rather, we will work towards a new beginning, with the desire to add new value to Udine and the surrounding municipalities. In this sense, we also feel that we have kept faith with one of the industrial rationales that led, in 2014, to the aggregation of Amga in what was then AcegasAps and hence the Hera Group: to maintain the management of gas distribution in the area, preserving local jobs and professionalism."

**The 18 municipalities included in ATEM Udine 2**

*The 13 ATEM 2 Udine municipalities currently served by AcegasApsAmga gas distribution*

Buttrio, Campofornido, Codroipo, Manzano, Martignacco, Pagnacco, Pasian di Prato, Pavia di Udine, Pozzuolo del Friuli, Pradamano, Premariacco, Sedegliano, Udine.

*The 5 ATEM 2 Udine municipalities not currently served by AcegasApsAmga gas distribution*

Basiliano, Flaibano, Lestizza, Mereto di Tomba, Mortegliano.

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