

PRESS INFORMATION

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Pipeline & Gas Expo 2026 spotlights Europe's new energy routes

The event taking place 4-6th February in Piacenza, Italy, will bring together operators, EPC (engineering, procurement and construction) contractors, technology suppliers, and policymakers to provide a clear picture of how Europe's pipeline infrastructure is adapting to a new geopolitical and energy reality.



With Europe's energy system undergoing its most significant reconfiguration in decades, [Pipeline & Gas Expo 2026](#) will return to Piacenza Expo, Italy, 4-6th February 2026 as a key meeting point for companies involved in the planning, construction, and operation of pipeline infrastructure.

This year's event will focus on the strategic role of pipelines in guaranteeing energy supply to Italy and to northern European markets, following the sharp reduction in gas imports from Russia and the rapid diversification of supply sources.

Between 2021 and 2024, [Russia's share of EU pipeline gas imports](#) fell from more than 40% to around 11%, forcing Europe to accelerate investment in new infrastructure. This shift has increased the importance of south-north energy corridors, offshore pipelines linking Europe with Africa and the Middle East, and onshore networks connecting Italy with neighbouring countries.

Italy's growing role as a European gas gateway

Italy has become a crucial entry point for gas into Europe, receiving supplies via pipelines from North Africa and Azerbaijan, as well as liquefied natural gas (LNG) from partners including the United States and Qatar. Part of this gas is already flowing onwards to other European countries, reinforcing Italy's position as a southern energy hub.

This role is expected to grow further as Europe invests heavily in cross-border energy infrastructure. In late 2025, the [European Commission granted Project of Common Interest \(PCI\) or Project of Mutual Interest \(PMI\) status to 235 energy projects](#). These designations allow projects to benefit from faster permitting and access to EU funding, enabling quicker delivery of critical infrastructure. According to the Commission, total investment needs in European energy infrastructure could reach [€1.5 trillion](#) between 2024 and 2040.

“Europe’s energy challenge is no longer only about where energy comes from, but about how it moves across the continent,” says Fabio Potestà, director of Mediapoint & Exhibitions, organiser of Pipeline & Gas Expo. “Pipelines remain essential to connect new supply routes with industrial and residential demand. Gas and green gas will continue to play a central role in Europe’s energy system for many years, alongside the growth of renewables.”



Gas, green gas and multi-gas infrastructure



While renewable energy capacity is expanding, natural gas remains vital for power generation, industrial processes and household heating. Around 30% of EU households are still heated using gas, and LNG imports have increased sharply to replace lost pipeline supply.

At the same time, pipeline networks are evolving to transport biomethane, hydrogen blends, and other low-carbon gases, allowing emissions to be reduced by adapting existing infrastructure rather than replacing it entirely. This shift is driving new investment across the midstream sector, from transmission pipelines and compressor stations to storage, monitoring and control systems.

Trenchless technology and complex construction

As in previous editions, trenchless technology will be a major focus at Pipeline & Gas Expo 2026, with two dedicated conferences addressing no-dig solutions for pipeline installation and rehabilitation. These will be organised by the Italian Association for Trenchless Technology (IATT) and the Association of Trenchless Network Designers Italy (AssoProReTI). Trenchless methods are increasingly important for projects in urban areas, environmentally sensitive locations, and busy transport corridors – conditions common along Europe's new energy routes.

International outlook and global projects

The conference programme will include sessions dedicated to pipeline construction activities worldwide, reflecting the global nature of the sector. Topics will also cover biogas, carbon capture and storage (CCS), and the future development of multi-purpose pipeline networks.

For the first time, ProChile, the Chilean government agency supporting international trade, will officially support the event. A delegation of Chilean companies will attend and present planned pipeline projects in Chile, underlining the exhibition's growing international reach.

Strong industry and institutional support

Pipeline & Gas Expo 2026 is also supported by leading industry bodies including the International Pipe Line and Offshore Contractors Association (IPLOCA), the Federation of Italian Steel Companies (FEDERACCIAI), the Italian Instrumentation Companies Association (G.I.S.I.), the Italian Association of Industrial Plant Engineering (ANIMP), the Italian Biogas Committee (CIB), the Italian Gas Committee (CIG), the Italian Welding Institute (IIS,) and the Italian Hydrogen Association (H2IT). The event also benefits from institutional patronage from Italy's Ministry of the Environment and Energy Security and the Emilia-Romagna Region.

"Pipeline & Gas Expo 2026 is more than an exhibition — it's where the future of Europe's energy networks comes into focus," Fabio Potestà concludes. "With new south-to-north corridors, multi-gas networks, and international collaboration shaping the midstream sector, this event will connect the companies, policymakers, and innovators driving Europe's energy transformation. We look forward to welcoming all participants to Piacenza this February."

Pipeline & Gas Expo 2026 will take place 4–6th February 2026 at Piacenza Expo, Italy.

For more information or to register for your free visitor's pass, visit www.pipeline-gasexpo.it

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CONTACT

Roberto Ambra
Mediapoint & Exhibitions
info@pipeline-gasexpo.it



Hannah Kitchener
SE10 PR
Hannah.kitchener@se10.com

ABOUT PIPELINE & GAS EXPO

Launched in 2020, Pipeline & Gas Expo is a B2B exhibition and conference dedicated to the midstream oil and gas sector and water distribution networks. The event brings together companies involved in the entire pipeline lifecycle, from project management and construction to maintenance, encompassing oil, gas, and water pipelines, primary and secondary gas distribution networks, and water networks. This comprehensive platform fosters collaboration and innovation within the industry. Pipeline & Gas Expo is organised by Mediapoint & Exhibitions, a leading Italian media group with over 30 years of experience in providing trade publications, websites, exhibitions, and conferences across diverse sectors.