



Promoting Technical and Operational Excellence Throughout the European Gas Industry

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**** Save the Dates! ****

Date & Time	What	Where
25 th September, 11.30am-12.30pm UK time	Free Technical Webinar <i>Theme: gas to X</i>	On-line
20 th November 2025	GPAE Technical Meeting & AGM <i>Theme: general gas processing</i>	London, UK
3 rd –5 th June 2026	GPAE Annual Conference <i>Theme: decarbonisation</i> ** includes a visit to The Northern Lights Project **	Bergen, Norway
April 2026 – date to be confirmed	Free Technical Webinar	On-line

Be part of our conferences promoting a new energy future and the transition of our industry towards that future: we are looking for stories about the development of technology and best practices affecting Natural Gas processing. As well as a look at Hydrogen, Biogas, Ammonia, Carbon Capture and Storage, and LNG amongst others, to inspire the gas processing community. Email your abstracts to: admin@gpaeurope.com.

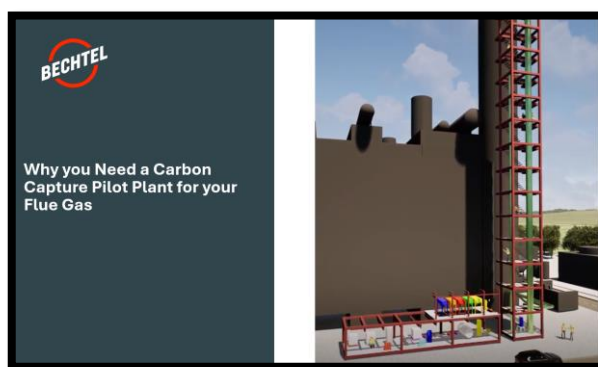
Awards: each year we present an award at our AGM for the best paper. The Best Paper Award is selected by our conference attendees and is based on the feedback scores received.

The Aungier Award is also granted for the best paper presented by one of our Young Professionals at our conferences. The winner is decided by our Technical Committee. Alongside the award, the winner will also receive £1,500.

[Get Involved](#)

[April Webinar](#)

The latest Technical Webinar took place on 17th April, with a presentation from Jade Gray and Martin Curtis of Bechtel on “*Why You Need a Carbon Capture Pilot Plan for your Flue Gas*”



To view and/or download the Webinar, [click here](#).

[Download/View](#)

[Call for Papers!](#)

Be part of our conferences promoting a new energy future and the transition of our industry towards that future. We are looking for stories for the following events:

Technical Webinar, 25th September 2025

Webinar Theme: Gas to X

All our slots are filled for the September 2025 webinar, but there is still opportunity to present your paper at the following events:

Technical Meeting and AGM, 20th November 2025, London, UK

Technical Meeting Theme: Gas Processing topics such as Natural Gas processing, Hydrogen, Biogas, Ammonia, Carbon Capture and Storage, and LNG, etc.

2026 Conference 3rd to 5th June in Bergen, Norway

Conference Theme: decarbonisation

Please submit your abstract title, author, and 100-200 words to admin@gpaeurope.com

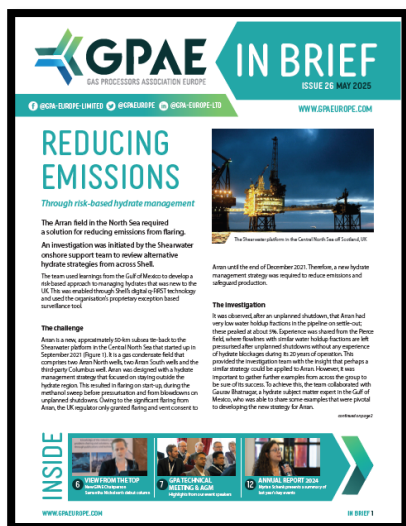
We would love to hear from you... come and share your story with us!

[Submit Your Abstract](#)

The Bi-Annual In Brief Publication

**** The Spring/Summer 2025 In Brief is available for download ****

If you have an article or something to share with the community, or would like to sponsor an In Brief publication, let us know at admin@gpaeurope.com



Our Spring/Summer 2025 issue of In Brief is available - [Click here to check it out!](#)

This issue includes a call to the next generation of Engineers, a report out on the 2024 AGM & Technical Meeting, held in London, UK, the 2024 Award recipients, and the Chairperson's Annual Report.

The lead article, contributed by Tom Brawley of Shell, is titled "Reducing Emissions Through Risk-Based Hydrate Management".

Please contact the GPAE Team if you would like to contribute towards our next issue. Opportunities include: contributing towards the lead article, advertising, or giving an update to our members - email admin@gpaeurope.com

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Paper/Presentation of the Month – July 2025

In this month's Newsletter, we are pleased to announce that the most popular downloaded paper/presentation of July 2025 was ...

[LNG Pre-treatment - Heavy Hydrocarbon Removal from Lean Natural Gas](#)

Speaker: Dr. Tobias Eckardt - BASF

Aromatic compounds, such as benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene (BTEX), have relatively high frost points in methane, leading to early freezing in the cold section of an LNG plant. Traditionally, these hydrocarbons have been removed in a Scrub Column or in a NGL Recovery unit with a turbo-expander process. Increasingly, LNG plants, especially in North America, are fed by natural gas from the pipeline grid. NGL's have been extracted from this gas, resulting in a lean gas with a tail of heavy hydrocarbons in trace concentrations.

Liquefied natural gas (LNG) is produced by cooling natural gas to negative 160°C. Prior to cooling to these low temperatures, impurities must be removed from the gas to ensure proper performance of the downstream liquefaction process. A standard pre-treatment line-up consists of an acid gas removal unit (AGRU), a molecular sieve dehydration unit to remove water to <0.1ppm, and a mercury removal unit. It wasn't until the first baseload LNG plants in the United States processing lean gas started up in the mid-2010s and began to experience freezing in the cryogenic heat exchangers that this typical pre-treatment approach was questioned. Meanwhile, the industry has acknowledged and started to address the freezing problem, which reduces LNG throughput throughout the region.

The freezing of coldboxes in US LNG plants is due to traces of heavy hydrocarbons (HHCs) in otherwise lean natural gas, which are not removed prior to the cold section of the plant. Depending on the design of the plant, HHC freezing can occur as far upstream as the gas/gas heat exchanger upstream of the turboexpander. However, it is more

common for the freezing to occur in the cryogenic heat exchanger of the plant. US LNG plants have addressed the HHC freezing problem by reducing throughput or completely shutting down the trains to warm up the coldbox to derime. This process leads to flaring of natural gas and excess energy consumption due to warming and cooling of the coldbox.

It has been shown that for an existing plant and for new LNG development projects adsorptive removal of heavy hydrocarbons and water in a TSA system is a viable option to prevent HHC freezing. Especially as a drop-in solution, implementing adsorptive HHC removal in the pre-treatment section is a powerful approach to debottleneck LNG plant without or with minimal CAPEX spending.

The interactive workshop will address technology fundamentals as well as limitations and advantages of different approaches to address HHC freezeout. Operational data from existing plants will be discussed.

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