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Germany**

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## Press Release

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### **NetConnect Germany seeks dialogue with balancing group managers**

**Ratingen (Germany), 29 January 2015.** On 28 January 2015, NetConnect Germany GmbH & Co. KG (NCG) hosted its latest information event for balancing group managers active in the NCG market area. More than 150 national and international participants gathered for a German- or an English-language session to learn about current changes, developments and challenges in the NCG market area.

The focus of this year's information event was on GABi Gas 2.0, the administrative decision issued by the German regulator to lay down new rules for the balancing regime, which comes into force on 1 October 2015. The new ruling will entail extensive changes to the current German balancing regime, among them a new imbalance pricing methodology, new data reporting deadlines and an adjusted merit order list for the procurement of balancing gas and services. The event also covered developments at the virtual trading point, developments in the balancing market and data publication and transparency requirements in the NCG market area.

“The presentations have been informative and instructive. We greatly appreciate it that NCG provides such a service for the market”, said one participant attending the event.

In addition to the information event for balancing group managers NCG and its market area cooperation partners have been holding a series of regional meetings for network operators on an annual basis to discuss current network-related topics with a practical focus. The next round of meetings for network operators is planned for June 2015.

**NetConnect Germany** handles the operational management of the market area cooperation between bayernets GmbH, Fluxys TENP GmbH, Thyssengas GmbH, Open Grid Europe GmbH, GRTgaz Deutschland GmbH and terranets bw GmbH. Its gas market area, which stretches from the North Sea coast down to the Alps, is the largest German market area, with around two thirds of all end-user gas volumes in Germany being transported via the NCG market area.

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