



GTE Position Paper on Harmonisation of Units

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1. Context and scope

In the Madrid Forum attention is asked for the interoperability of networks. Easy transition from one network to another is requested in order to facilitate the international gas trade. The use of the same units by all involved companies will help the easy exchange of information.

The sub-working group on harmonisation of units has studied the units used by different companies and the possibility to harmonise them.

2. Aim of the study

The aim of this study was to recommend units for pressure, energy, volume and gross calorific value which can be used by all GTE members and to indicate ways to implement them.

3. Starting situation

In June 2001 GTE presented an Interoperability Report which contained recommendations for different measurement units. For calorific value this recommendation was not complete and no attention was paid to the possibilities to implement the recommended units.

4. Achievements & Recommendations

All GTE members were asked to send information on these topics. Finally 18 companies sent information on the units used and 16 companies on the possibilities to change units. Based on this information the recommended units were chosen. The data are collected in a GTE report: Harmonisation of Units, dated 25 September 2002. It was further concluded that:

- The members of GTE can not fully change the units independent from other players in the gas market including the government;
- The costs are sometimes significant but unlikely to be prohibitive for implementing the recommended units when enough time (e.g. 5 years) can be used.

The recommended units are:

Pressure bar

Energy kWh

Volume m³ (at 0°C and 1.01325 bar) (normal m³)

Gross Calorific Value kWh/m³ (normal m³), with a combustion reference temperature of 25°C



5. Next Actions

1. Start the EASEE-gas working group on Harmonisation of units with representatives of producers, shippers and transporters of gas as soon as possible.
2. When the EASEE-gas working group has finished his work, the change of contracts and legislation can start.
3. Use the recommended units in agreements between TSO's, unless legal restrictions make this impossible.
4. Implement the possibility to use the recommended units in the moment new equipment or software is installed.
5. Propose ISO to change the recommended combustion reference temperature for the GCV from 15°C to 25°C.