




PAST >> FORWARD

WE LOOK BACK. WE GO AHEAD.







“RAG Austria AG has been a formative part of the energy landscape for decades. RAG now stands for ‘Renewables and Gas’.

We are the link and enabler of renewables and committed to security of supply in the past and in the future.”





**“Successful transformation needs
a stable core: innovative strength,
forward-looking action and confidence
in courageous decisions!”**



04

Foreword

Transformation
succeeds with us –
for 90 years now.

12

Hydrogen with a future

10 years of hydrogen –
a green energy future
succeeds with us.

28

Natural gas with a future

60 years of natural gas production –
the innovative use of gas
succeeds with us.

46

Facts & Figures

The history of RAG
in fast-forward – 1935 – 2025:
a chronology.

06

Interview

CEO Markus Mitteregger and
CFO Michael Längle talks about
RAG's development and shaping
the energy future.

18

Storage with a future

30 years of energy storage –
Security of supply
succeeds with us.

36

Crude oil with a future

90 years of oil production –
The non-energy use of oil
succeeds with us.



FOREWORD

Transformation succeeds with us

RAG Austria AG has been shaping the Austrian energy landscape for 90 years now and can look back on an evolutionary development, looking ahead with a focus on providing of needs-based services and products.

From RAG's roots in oil and gas production, we have developed into one of Europe's leading gas storage operators: reliable, safe and flexible. Today, RAG stands for 'Renewables and Gas'.

Our company history shows that a successful transformation needs a stable core: Innovative strength, forward-looking action and confidence in courageous decisions. The energy industry is characterized by structural and technological upheaval like no other. Actively helping to shape this change while ensuring security of supply for our customers and partners at any time requires a clear goal as well as committed and highly qualified employees. This has enabled us to develop new business areas and transform existing ones over the decades.

A decisive milestone on this path was the decision to store natural gas sustainably in underground sandstone reservoirs. Today we have capacities of around 6.4 billion cubic meters of natural gas – the equivalent of 73.5 TWh. RAG thus makes a significant contribution to the secure supply of energy in Austria and Central Europe.

But the challenges of our time demand further, forward-looking answers: We are focusing on the development and use of CO₂-neutral energy technologies, from methane electrolysis for hydrogen and solid carbon production to the storage of green energy. In our current projects, we are demonstrating how innovations can specifically support and drive forward the transition to a sustainable energy future. However, the dynamics of change are largely dependent on political and economic conditions. The energy transition requires forward-looking decisions, security of investments and close cooperation between all social and economic players in order to quickly establish a climate-friendly energy supply.

We would like to thank all our employees, partners, share- and stakeholders whose commitment, loyalty and support have made a significant contribution to this successful history. Together, we look to the future: the further development and transformation of the energy sector remains a huge challenge, but with the knowledge and experience of nine decades, we are convinced that we can make a significant contribution - today and in the future.



Markus Mitteregger
CEO RAG Austria AG



Michael Längle
CFO RAG Austria AG

Energy innovations for decades: We are actively shaping the energy future.

RAG Austria AG CEO Markus Mitteregger and CFO Michael Längle provide insights into the transformation of the company that once began as *Rohölgewinnungs-Gesellschaft* – later *Rohöl-Aufsuchungs Aktiengesellschaft*, a pioneer in Austrian oil and gas production. Today, *RAG Austria AG - Renewables and Gas* is setting new standards as one of Europe's leading energy storage operators and is actively working to shape a CO₂-neutral energy future.



**“It is time to act:
We'll go ahead!”**

A pioneer for many decades: What is RAG's recipe for success?

Our motto is: “We'll go ahead!” Innovation, foresight, reliability and adaptability to the needs of our customers and the energy landscape – these are our strengths. Thanks to the flexibility, expertise and commitment of our highly qualified employees, we have been able to open up new business areas and transform existing ones all these years. Naturally it also takes a certain amount of courage and perseverance to go down unconventional paths and, of course, you need shareholders and partners who support this. This has enabled us to

develop from a traditional oil and gas producer into the fourth-largest energy storage operator in Europe. Today, we can proudly say that we have been shaping the energy sector for nine decades, successfully ensuring security of supply, driving innovation and showing new paths and prospects for the future. Thanks to our decades of experience and geological expertise, we have in-depth knowledge in the areas in which we operate and maintain good relations with our neighbors. This has made us successful over the decades and we will continue to a key role in the future. But the most important thing is that we always have the next step in mind.

What role does RAG play as a vital member of the energy industry?

We clearly see ourselves as a reinsurer and backbone for the security of supply of energy and raw materials, for industry, energy suppliers and also countries in Central Europe - for various goods such as the raw materials crude oil and natural gas and, in future, increasingly hydrogen and solid carbon. We are part of the critical energy infrastructure. With around 6.4 billion cubic meters of natural gas stored underground, we are there when you need us: precise, super-fast, efficient and reliable. We have extensive expertise and experience on many levels - from the production of hydrocarbons and their underground storage to 'green gas' technologies.

What have been the biggest challenges for RAG in recent years and decades?

The biggest challenge was and is change - and taking everyone along on this journey. This applies in particular to the transformation from the traditional business model of oil and gas production, which has been used for decades, to the sustainable use of reservoirs in the form of energy storage. However, the development and implementation of new technologies, such as the production and storage of hydrogen, which position us as a partner for renewable energies, was and is a defining change we initiated 10 years ago.

In addition to the necessary technological transformation, it is of course the people who have to support these changes. This requires openness and flexibility in both thought and action. This applies to employees as well as all other stakeholders. And this challenge of leaving familiar territory without a safety net and venturing into unknown territory was truly enormous for many.

But it is precisely this ability to deal intelligently, creatively and with foresight with crises and changes and to create something new from what already exists that characterizes RAG. We have been doing this consistently, step by step, for decades.

RAG was a pioneer 90 years ago, starting out as a classic exploration and production company and setting itself the goal of 'searching for oil'. What is the state of oil production in Austria today?

The same applies today as in 1935, the year RAG was founded: We need crude oil. But what is currently changing decisively is its use, and here too a long-term 'change in use' is needed. Fossil crude oil is an extremely valuable raw material – far too precious to be just burned on a large scale. In the current energy and geopolitical situation and the uncertain import situation for raw materials, our domestic oil in the reservoirs of the pre-Alps is once again gaining in importance.



**“Our storage facilities
are the backbone of
Security of supply.”**

RAG focuses on 'Oil made in Austria'. Compared to imported oil, it has only a fifth of the CO₂ footprint and is of extremely high quality. The aim must be to use it for non-energy uses and for non-recyclable products for which crude oil is irreplaceable as a raw material. This applies, for example, to sealants, paints, varnishes, lubricants, asphalt and adhesives. Sustainability, economy and efficiency are therefore the top priorities in the production and use of crude oil as a resource. RAG's production currently contributes around 50,000 tons of crude oil per year, or around one tenth of the crude oil required in Austria as non-energy raw material. If we look to the future, it can be assumed that by 2050 a sharply increasing proportion of today's annual global oil production of around 4.5 billion tons will be needed for non-energy purposes. The reason for this is the rapidly growing world population and the increase in prosperity.



“The major challenges of the energy transition can only be overcome together!”

RAG was also a pioneer in the field of gas production in Austria. Gas production started 60 years ago in Upper Austria. How relevant is natural gas in times of the energy transition?

The first natural gas discoveries in Upper Austria in the 1960s were initially just a ‘by-product’ of oil production. However, it soon became clear what an opportunity domestic natural gas offered for a secure and affordable energy supply. Due to the wide range of possible uses, the efficiency of underground, barely visible transportation and storage and the comparatively lower emissions, natural gas experienced a rapid upswing as an energy source in industry, households and electricity generation and contributed significantly to the economic rise of the country. Today the rapidly increasing production of volatile renewable electricity requires immediately available gas to supply electricity from gas-fired power plants at any time in a highly flexible and controllable manner. To date, natural gas is the important high-intense energy source that can be used flexible, is also easy to produce synthetically. However, as with crude oil, the use of natural gas must also change in the long term. We must increasingly view the all-rounder natural gas as a valuable raw material. CH₄, i.e. methane, is urgently needed, for example, in the production of fertilizers for agriculture or urea, which is used for the exhaust gas purification of diesel engines (AdBlue). Methane is also indispensable for numerous raw materials for plastics.

Recently, natural gas has become particularly important in the CO₂-free production of hydrogen using methane electrolysis. Hydrogen production by methane electrolysis is an innovative, clean and efficient production process that produces pure solid carbon as well as hydrogen without any CO₂ emissions. Hydrogen is an energy carrier and can therefore be stored seasonally and carbon is a valuable soil additive for agriculture. In addition, once the CH₄ (natural gas) has been used, its combustion product CO₂ can be returned to a storage facility and safely stored there (CCS).

It can therefore be expected that natural gas will continue to be used for many decades to come. However, the long-term goal will be CO₂-free or carbon-neutral use, which means turning a gas that has an impact on the climate into a valuable material. Innovations in this area are therefore in demand worldwide, as global natural gas reserves will certainly be explored and should be used without additional CO₂ emissions. As RAG, we have a neutral stance on various solutions - including CCS technologies. The projects we have already implemented in our oil and gas reservoirs have enabled us to gather a wealth of experience. The know-how we have gathered in this way will make an important contribution to avoiding CO₂ emissions in the future.

What began 30 years ago with the first large-volume commercial storage of natural gas in underground sandstone reservoirs has become a milestone for RAG and a guarantor for the secure supply of natural gas in Austria and Central Europe. What strategy was pursued?

The long-term strategy behind this is sustainable energy mining. The idea is impressively simple: the underground porous sandstone reservoirs that have been discovered are incredible treasures. Austria has geological structures that are ideal for seasonal energy storage. Formed more than 20 million years ago in the primordial sea of the foothills of the Alps, the reservoirs contain natural gas in the pore spaces of the sandstone, completely sealed off by water-bearing clay layers. So why not pump the gas back to where we got it from? And thus not only decisively strengthen security of supply, but also use valuable resources efficiently? This was a question we were particularly concerned with at the end of the 1990s and we devoted all our innovative strength to it. In this area, too, we were and are pioneers throughout Europe and show what is possible.

How has RAG changed as a result of its focus on energy storage?

This was a decisive step for our company and opened up completely new dimensions. Our deposits became commercial energy storage facilities. A large proportion of the underground natural gas reservoirs we have developed have already been converted into energy storage facilities, which can provide the stored energy at any time and with high performance. The storage capacities operated by us of around 6.4 billion cubic meters of natural gas are located in the heart of Europe and are therefore enable the security of supply in Austria and Central Europe that is necessary for the business location, especially in the current changed import situation.

What role will RAG's energy storage systems play in the energy system of the future?

With the possibilities offered by our storage facilities, the future of energy has already begun. After all, it is no longer just about storing natural gas, which is where started.

The future lies in storing green electricity in the form of green gases such as hydrogen.

Everyone now agrees that the sustainable transformation of the energy system can only succeed with large-volume, high-performance storage options for gaseous energy sources. The expansion of renewables alone is not enough and misses the all-important question: How can green electricity be brought into the winter? We not only need clean electricity production, but also maximum security of supply with electricity. Energy must be available flexibly and on demand in large quantities – all year round – not just in summer when the sun is shining, wind is blowing or there is a lot of water in our rivers. It is therefore particularly important in our geographical latitudes to bring the summer sun into the windless winter periods, to decouple generation from short-term consumption and thus create security of supply all year round. This can be achieved by converting electricity into hydrogen and storing it in our storage facilities and finally provide it when it is needed.

RAG has been pushing ahead with large-volume, underground hydrogen storage for 10 years. What potential do you see in this?

Our motto is: 'RAG – Renewables AND Gas'. The future belongs to the production of green gas with electricity from the sun and wind AND large-volume storage in underground gas reservoirs. Hydrogen is the ideal and transport and storage medium. RAG was the first company in the world to store hydrogen in underground pore storage facilities. We are currently operating our own 100% hydrogen storage facility in Rubensdorf as a demonstration project and basis for planning large commercial seasonal storage facilities. And the demand for hydrogen production and storage will increase significantly in order to cover the increased electricity consumption from heat pumps and e-mobility and, in particular gas/hydrogen power plants as a replacement for coal-fired power plants.



**"The future belongs to
'Renewables AND Gas'."**



“Reliable and powerful, providing energy all year round.”

Experts assume a seasonal energy transfer requirement of 10 TWh per year by 2030 only in Austria. With our regional projects, we are impressively demonstrating how the energy transition can be achieved. However, politicians must urgently establish the necessary legal framework, to ensure investment security and adapt the infrastructure. We are facing a fundamental technical transformation of energy systems, which requires considerable investment. Declarations of intent alone are not enough.

What specific projects is RAG working on?

After a decade of experience in the production and geological storage of hydrogen, we are now taking the next step. The transformation of energy systems urgently requires cross-sector planning and cooperation. Together with partners from industry, the energy sector and science, we are demonstrating the potential of hydrogen along the entire value chain in the central region of Upper Austria in the current EU-funded ‘EUH2STARS’ project: from production and storage, to transport in existing natural gas pipelines adapted for hydrogen, district heating and electricity production in modern combined heat and power plants – without any CO₂ emissions.

This allows us to mitigate weather risk, avoid seasonal fluctuation, and protect ourselves against political and technical uncertainties. The project is a milestone and showcase project for the regional, green energy supply of the future for metropolitan areas and, among other things, an essential component on the city of Linz’s path to covering its district heating needs from renewable sources.

In the ‘RAG Energy Valley’ in Kriitz near Kremsmünster (Upper Austria), we focus on a sustainable energy cycle economy. Energy is produced, stored and used here all year round without CO₂ emissions – a model region for the flexible and scalable green energy supply of industry and households with electricity and heat and for mobility. The major challenges of the energy transition can only be overcome together.

What made RAG’s transformation into Austria’s largest energy storage operator possible, and how has it managed to be a pioneer in so many areas?

We are driven by technical success, it’s in our DNA. With our resources, our infrastructure and the expertise of our highly trained, experienced and ambitious employees, we work on sustainable solutions for the production, storage, efficient use and high-quality processing of energy and raw materials. In this way, we are making a decisive contribution to the energy future. Our work demands the highest level of expertise. This is what has made us so successful for decades. However, it is not just technological innovation that is required, but also responsible, forward-looking action and the recognition of economic and social needs. In the 1950s and 1960s, the availability of affordable energy was a key factor in the economic upturn. Today, it is necessary to make this security of supply climate-neutral and fit for the future – a task to which we are devoting ourselves intensively. The importance of our projects and innovations is demonstrated by the high level of international interest, for example in hydrogen storage and methane splitting.

**Finally, let's take another look into the future:
100 years of RAG – what will the energy world look like in
ten years' time?**

Climate policy is not an either-or proposition: the expansion of renewables alone is not enough. We need to reconcile climate protection and security of supply, while affordability and competitiveness must be maintained. The challenges for everyone involved are therefore enormous. We are convinced that the long-term future belongs to a sustainable, CO₂-neutral energy landscape with individual energy solutions. We are working hard to build this up. Using various projects, we demonstrate in a technology-open way how a green and secure energy and raw materials supply can be achieved and scaled up.

The goal must be a perfect interplay between the production, conversion, storage and use of green energy and important raw materials – available at all times as electricity and heat for industry and households.

Strong international networking is also essential, because energy knows no borders. It is an illusion to believe that we can solve these challenges nationally. That is why we rely on international, cross-sector energy partnerships in many of our projects. It is time to take concrete action. While others are still preparing studies, we are already implementing them. We are not waiting for specifications and regulations but are actively working on the future of energy.



“We are convinced that a sustainable energy system of the future can only be achieved through close cooperation between energy production, storage and infrastructure, with industrial companies as well as regions and municipalities.”

2015 – 2025

We look back
on 10 years
of hydrogen.

We think ahead
for a climate-neutral
energy future.



10 YEARS
ra9
HYDROGEN WITH FUTURE



A green energy future succeeds with us.

For ten years, RAG has been focusing on hydrogen as an energy source in order to make renewable energies storable in large volumes and on a seasonal basis. This means that the summer sun can be brought into the winter and is then available at any time.

We make the summer sun storable

Hydrogen is the energy source of the future and plays a decisive role in achieving climate targets and increasing security of supply. Solar and wind power in the summer months can be stored using hydrogen. This means that it is available on windless and sunless winter days when green energy is urgently needed. Experts expect a seasonal energy transfer of 10 TWh per year to be required in Austria alone by 2030, as there will be a lot of electricity production in the summer months, and in winter there will be a significant electricity power shortfall.

» “Hydrogen is the link between the sectors and along the value chain from energy production to energy use.”





“Together with natural gas, green gas will be the solution, to implement the required climate targets in a real and reliable manner.”



H2EUpusStore –
Import route
from Western Ukraine



Climate-neutral with the help of renewably generated electricity from the sun and wind, hydrogen can be used in a variety of ways - whether for applications in industry, in heat generation and covering peak electricity demand during the winter wind still or even in mobility.

The big plus: like natural gas, hydrogen can be stored seasonally in large quantities in our sandstone pore reservoirs and transported almost invisibly in existing pipelines. It can be used clean and flexible in all sectors. Hydrogen can be produced CO₂-neutral in two sustainable ways: by electrolysis from water or from methane.

Transformation of energy storage

In the long term, RAG Austria will convert up to 30 TWh of storage volume to hydrogen by 2050, depending on demand at that time, and convert further underground reservoirs into energy storage facilities. Due to the lower energy content of hydrogen, larger storage capacities are required to store a comparable amount of energy. In addition, in the coming years the storage facilities for conventional gas for security of supply will be needed in Central Europe.

UNDERGROUND SUN.STORAGE

Harvesting summer electricity

The regionally produced summer electricity is harvested during surplus periods, converted into hydrogen and stored so that it can be used on windless and low-sun winter days when green energy is urgently needed.

The green path to hydrogen succeeds with us.

Innovative projects related to hydrogen

- USS 2030
- EUH2STARS
- USC-FlexStore
- Carbon-Cycle Economy Demonstration
- RAG Energy Valley
- H2EU+Store
- H2 cross border
- HyUSPRe
- hystories
- HyStorage
- SeasonalStorage4EG

Further information can be found here



Pioneering work and innovative strength

RAG has been working intensively with hydrogen technologies for over 10 years. This includes the production and storage of hydrogen. RAG is the first company worldwide to demonstrate that hydrogen can be stored seasonally and in large volumes in underground natural gas sandstone reservoirs.

The basis was formed by an initial demonstration project for hydrogen storage and production at the Pilsbach site in 2015, funded by the Austrian Climate and Energy Fund. Thanks to its innovative strength, RAG has developed into a technology leader in European energy storage and supply. Global patents in the field of green gas technologies, such as 'hydrogenotrophic methanogenesis', the natural production of natural gas (CH₄) underground using H₂, CO₂, and microorganisms ('Underground Sun Conversion'), underscore RAG's expertise.

We are already implementing the energy future

Today, RAG operates several hydrogen production and storage under the 'Underground Sun Storage' brand. In 2023, the world's first geological energy storage facility used to store 100% hydrogen was put into operation in Rubensdorf near Gampern. It stores 4.2 GWh of summer electricity – roughly equivalent to the surplus solar power from photovoltaic systems in 1,000 family homes – converted into green hydrogen and stored in an underground natural gas reservoir.

In addition, there are ambitious flagship projects such as the 'RAG Energy Valley' in Krift near Kremsmünster and also in Gampern (Upper Austria), which focuses on a perfect interplay between the production, conversion, storage and use of green energy and valuable raw materials.

» "The only way to make a large proportion of the energy mix greener is to use hydrogen as an energysource."



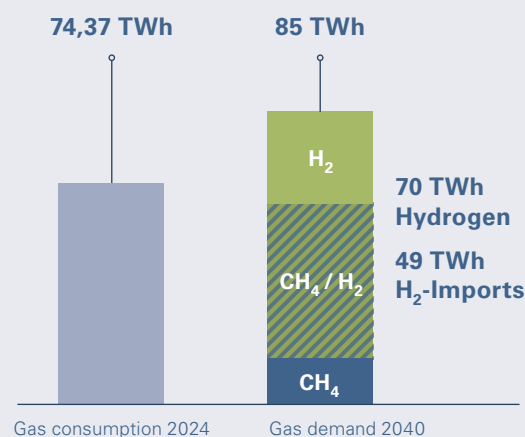
In these energy model regions, RAG is demonstrating how urban areas in particular can be reliably supplied with green energy all year round in the future.

RAG is working on numerous projects along the entire value chain at regional, national, and international levels in cooperation with strong partners from industry, the energy sector, and science, whereby technical feasibility and economic viability are also being investigated..

Climate-neutral production

RAG is a pioneer not only in the storage of hydrogen, but also in production. Hydrogen can be produced in a climate-neutral way either by water electrolysis or methane electrolysis from solar and wind power. However, the splitting of methane offers a double advantage: only one fifth of the energy input is required and valuable carbon is obtained at the same time. This serves as an industrial raw material for the production of steel, batteries, carbon fibers and many carbon-based structures and materials - including fuel cells and electrical appliances. In addition, carbon can significantly promote plant growth as a valuable soil additive.

Gas and hydrogen demand in Austria today and in 2040



Source: E-Control, BMK Energy in Austria (2024)

According to the Austrian hydrogen strategy, 70 TWh of climate-neutral hydrogen is to be used by 2040. In order to cover the hydrogen gap between domestic production and demand, in the long term around 70% of this will be imported. The southern and eastern corridor is to become the main import route. The European hydrogen strategy predicts an import demand of 10 mn t (around 340 TWh) per year by 2030.



1995 – 2025

**We look back
on 30 years
of energy storage.**

**We think ahead
for the future of
security of supply.**



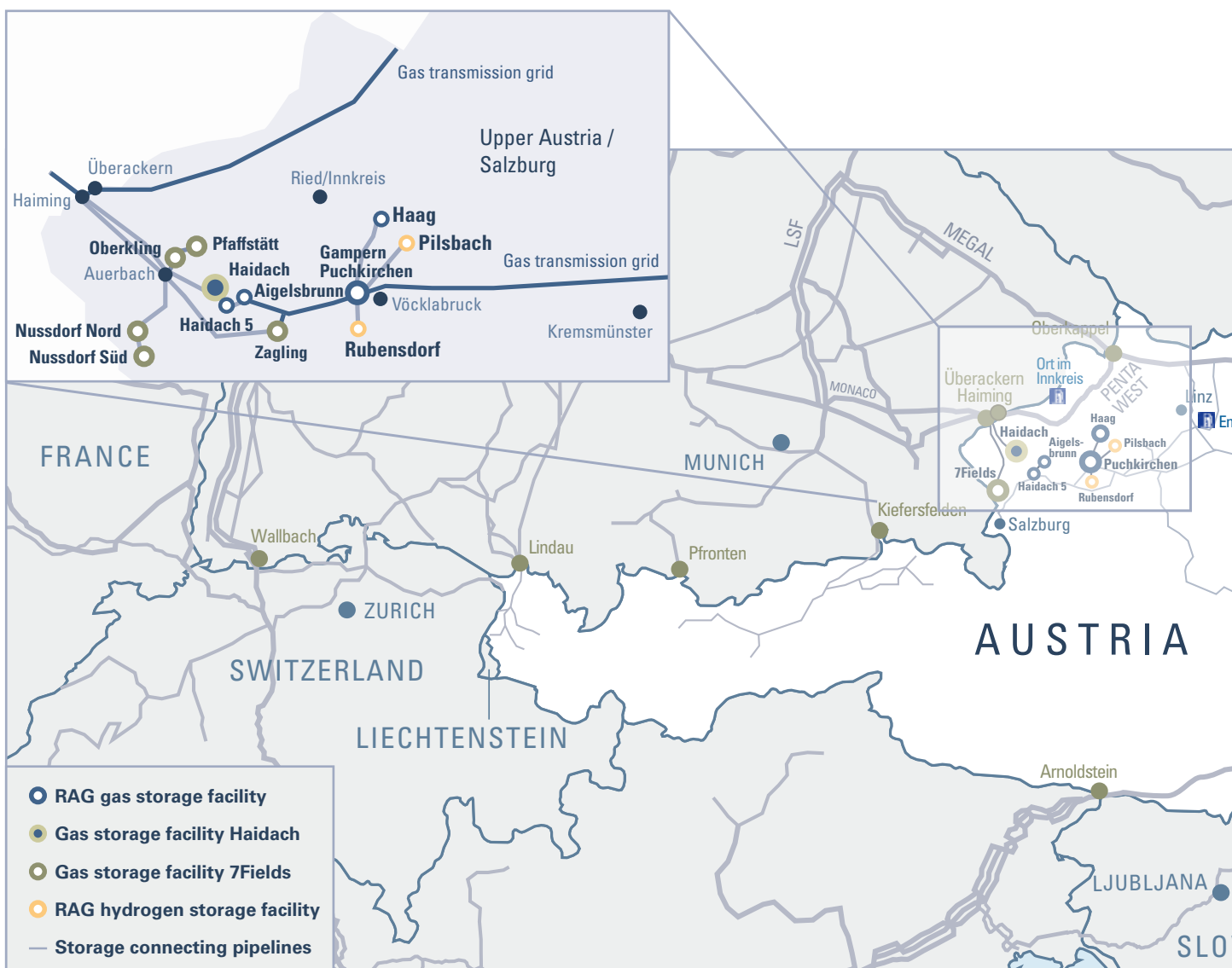
30 YEARS
ra9

STORAGE WITH FUTURE



Energy security of supply succeeds with us.

RAG's gas storage facilities are indispensable for security of supply in Austria and Europe. They are at the heart of a secure energy future.



»
“Over 50 % of RAG’s gas reservoirs have already been converted into energy storage facilities.”

Around
6.4 bn cu m

Working gas volume that is available at high performance anytime

With a withdrawal capacity of
32 GW

RAG’s energy storage systems can be used precisely and provide energy in the shortest possible time.



Security of supply: today and tomorrow

Sustainable, seasonal and large volumes of traditional natural gas and, in future, increasingly green gas such as hydrogen will be stored in our underground pore storage facilities so that it can be made available at high capacity whenever it is needed.

With a working gas volume of around 6.4 billion cu m, RAG is Austria’s largest energy storage company and one of the leading technical storage operators in Europe. RAG operates around 6% of all gas storage facilities in the EU. RAG storage facilities in Upper Austria and Salzburg include the Puchkirchen/Haag, Haidach, Haidach 5 and Aigelsbrunn storage facilities and the 7Fields storage network. 50% of RAG’s gas reservoirs have already been sustainably converted into gas storage facilities. This enables to ensure security of supply for Austria and Europe.

Energy is not just about exploration and production, but above all about transportation, logistics, storage are the key. Energy is required and needed at a different time than it is generated. Gas storage facilities therefore perform the important task of long-term, large-volume storage in order to balance seasonal fluctuations between production, supply, and demand.



Efficient and safe

Austria has geological structures that are ideal for gas storage. Where over 20 millions of years in over 1,000 meters depth, natural gas in the pore spaces of the sandstone naturally has been accumulated, gaseous energy is stored again after exploration. These underground gas storage facilities are sealed by layers of clay, as they have been for millions of years, giving them a high degree of natural safety.



“Large-volume energy storage in underground porous sandstone reservoirs ensures security of supply.”



Saving the summer sun for the winter

The RAG energy storage facilities are indispensable for the gradual reduction of CO₂, the increased use of renewable energies and the achievement of climate targets. This is because the expansion of renewable electricity production and the change in import conditions also increases the need for storage facilities that can balance out the seasonal fluctuations between energy production (summer sun) and energy demand (winter shortfall) and thus ensure security of supply.

In future, storage systems will therefore be increasingly needed for the flexible and seasonal storage of green energy. Only by storing wind and solar power, the necessary transformation of energy systems can be successfully implemented. The key technology of power-to-gas makes it possible to generate emission-free energy sources from renewable wind and solar power that can be used all year round.

Starting from abundant basis materials such as water or (bio)methane, hydrogen and oxygen can be produced by water electrolysis or hydrogen and the valuable raw material solid carbon can be produced by methane electrolysis. The hydrogen can then be safely stored in RAG's gas storage facilities so that it can be extracted whenever it is needed.

Large storage capacities remain important

Even today, industrial energy requirements can only be met grid stability ensured through large-volume, high-performance energy storage systems. Pumped storage and batteries contribute to hourly and daily balancing. However, large-volume gas storage facilities are essential for reliable security of supply and seasonal balancing. RAG's storage facilities have 500 times the capacity (73.5 TWh) of all Austrian pumped storage facilities (0.14 TWh). These energy quantities are available flexibly and at high performance when needed – whether for electricity, heat, industry, or mobility. That is supply security in practice.

30 years of energy storage.

Starting from a storage capacity of 50 million cu m in the Puchkirchen natural gas storage facility, RAG has increased its capacity by the last 30 years to around 6.4 billion cu m, making it one of the leading technical storage operators in Europe.



Natural gas storage facilities secure Europe's energy supply

The importance of the large supply of natural gas in former reservoirs has already been proven on several occasions: when supply chains are interrupted, the gas in the pipelines does not flow or during cold spells that have a firm grip on the country. Our storage facilities also play a crucial role in the Blackout prevention, as they can supply gas at any time even in the event of a power failure.

RAG recognized the importance of energy storage as early as the late 1970s. In addition to storing crude oil, the company therefore began planning the use of underground natural gas reservoirs for natural gas storage in 1977, primarily to compensate for interruptions in production during maintenance work. In 1982, natural gas storage began at the Puchkirchen site in Upper Austria, where gas had first been discovered in 1956. With the gradual expansion from 1995 into a commercial storage facility, RAG took a pioneering step and was able to demonstrate that the large-volume storage of natural gas in underground pore reservoirs is technically feasible and can be economically viable.

By 2009, the Puchkirchen storage facility had been expanded to a working gas volume of around 1.1 billion cu m in several phases.

Haidach natural gas storage facility

Thanks to the discovery of the Haidach underground gas reservoirs in Upper Austria in 1997 – with a volume of 4.3 billion cu m – Austria's largest natural gas discovery for over 15 years at the time – plans to convert further gas reservoirs into storage facilities gained new momentum. Haidach is ideal for gas storage: The reservoir extends over 17.5 km² and the sandstone, which is up to 100 m thick, has excellent permeability. Thanks to RAG's many years of experience and its highly specialized technical team, the Haidach storage facility was put into operation in two expansion stages in 2007 as Austria's largest storage facility. The joint venture project was managed by RAG as planner, storage facility constructor and operator. With a storage volume of 2.9 billion cu m, Haidach, in which the German SEFE currently holds a 56% stake, is the second largest storage facility in Central Europe.

7Fields natural gas storage facility

Building on the success of Haidach, the next storage project, the 7Fields natural gas storage facility, was initiated by RAG as a joint venture in 2009 and went into operation in 2011. Here, too, new ground was broken. The 7Fields natural gas storage facility consists of several underground gas storage reservoirs in Upper Austria and Salzburg. Such a combination of several natural gas storage facilities to form a joint storage network, characterized by high efficiency is unique in this form in Europe. Following an expansion phase in 2014 and a capacity adjustment in 2019, 2.1 billion cu m can now be stored. 7Fields, in which the German company Uniper Energy Storage currently holds a 50% stake, has five storage sites that are connected to the national and international grid via natural gas pipelines and a total of three metering stations.



Puchkirchen



Nussdorf Nord



Oberkling
(7Fields)



Haidach



Parallel to these major projects, the Haidach 5 and Aigelsbrunn reservoirs were developed at the end of the 2000s. Together with the latest projects in the field of hydrogen storage, they complete RAG's portfolio.

Excellent safety management

In over 30 years of experience, RAG has continuously refined and expanded the necessary technical know-how in order to be able to offer customers tailor-made solutions. However, RAG is not only a leader in the technical field, but also in terms of safety. The entire safety management of storage operations is based on tested processes. Back in 2009, RAG was the first European company to be certified for its entire storage operations, receiving the TSM (Technical Safety Management) certificate from the German Technical and Scientific Association for Gas and Water.



“Over the last 30 years, natural gas storage has developed into a central task in the European energy industry and an important business segment for RAG.”



Sustainable energy mining

The expansion of gas storage in Upper Austria and Salzburg in the last few 30 years is a decisive contribution to strengthening security of supply in Austria and Central Europe. Not only has the value chain been expanded by an important element, but sustainable energy mining has also been developed. In the meantime, RAG has converted a large part of the natural gas deposits it has discovered in its 90-year history into storage facilities, thus enabling them to be used on a permanent basis: today mainly for natural gas, but increasingly also for green gas and hydrogen in the future.

This makes RAG an international pioneer. In this way, we are making a significant contribution to overcoming one of the biggest challenges in energy supply: the storability of green energy.

1965 – 2025

**We look back
on 60 years of
natural gas production.**

**We think ahead
for an emission-free,
innovative use.**



60 YEARS
ra9
NATURAL GAS WITH FUTURE



Innovative use of natural gas succeeds with us.

The versatile natural gas is an important partner for the transition to a sustainable energy system and a sustainable future.

For the
Splitting of CH₄
you only need
**¼ of the electrical
energy input**
compared to
water electrolysis.

Gas persuades
with high
efficiencies of
> 90 %
in combined heat
and power plants
(CHP).



» “Methane – CH₄:
The simplest
hydrocarbon compound
has great potential.”



Natural gas – versatile and promising

Natural gas (CH₄ – methane) is the simplest compound of hydrocarbons, can be produced synthetically and is a flexible, storable all-rounder. Natural gas is the backbone of security of supply not only as a high-energy flexible energy source for industry, households and electricity generation, but also as an important and indispensable raw material for the chemical industry.

And natural gas can be utilized in diverse ways. In future, RAG will use methane-electrolysis to receive CO₂-free solid carbon from natural gas, which can be used as a soil additive for agriculture, as well as seasonally storable hydrogen. In this way, the summer sun can be made available as green energy in the form of electricity and heat throughout the year to meet demand.

From here, for us

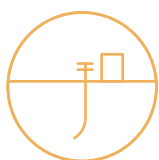
The use of local natural gas resources is urgently needed: RAG has extensive experience in the careful production of underground raw material treasures. The gas is extracted under the strictest environmental and safety conditions, stored and transported underground in large quantities. This means it can be used directly and locally, reducing the dependence on imports. The supply of regional natural gas is of economic and industrial policy relevance and secures Austrian jobs and domestic value creation.

RAG is continuously improving the efficiency of its natural gas production through technologies developed in-house. The existing gas reservoirs in Upper Austria and Salzburg will continue to be operated without new exploration in order to optimize storage capacities and ensure the sustainable, long-term use of the valuable reservoirs for green gas such as hydrogen, biogas or synthetic natural gas.



60 years of regional natural gas production.

Since the 1960s, RAG has been producing natural gas from underground sandstone reservoirs. Thanks to its efficiency and flexibility, natural gas has experienced rapid growth in industry, households, and power generation since then



Natural gas production

Domestic natural gas production rose continuously, from around 760 million cu m in 1955 to a peak of 2.5 billion cu m in 1978. In 1970, Austria was able to cover 66% of its natural gas demand with its own production. Since the production peak, production has declined and now stands at around 550 million cu m per year. This volume covers the demand of domestic industrial companies, in which natural gas is processed into high-quality materials in areas where it is irreplaceable.¹

RAG currently produces 52.56 million cu m per year from 51 gas wells. A total of around 27.5 billion cu m of natural gas has been produced over the past 60 years.



Originally, RAG's first natural gas production were 'by-products' of RAG's oil production. The exploration and development of the Voitsdorf oil field in Upper Austria in the early 1960s also brought natural gas to surface and marked a milestone for RAG in many respects. Voitsdorf was not only the largest oil field in the Upper Austrian molasse zone, but also marked the beginning of RAG's natural gas business, which was one of the company's significant mainstay for many decades.

Regional gas production and utilization

Demand for domestically produced natural gas was particularly high in Upper Austria, with its industrial companies around Wels and Linz. Thanks to the gas produced in Voitsdorf, RAG was able to supply larger industrial companies with natural gas for the first time. This was the prelude to the rapid development of natural gas as an energy source in Austria.

Within a few years, RAG discovered and developed several smaller natural gas reservoirs in Upper Austria. The reservoirs around Schwanenstadt, Lindach, Offenhausen, Wels, Pfaffstatt, Puchkirchen, Friedburg and other locations were produced over many years and are now largely used as natural gas storage facilities.

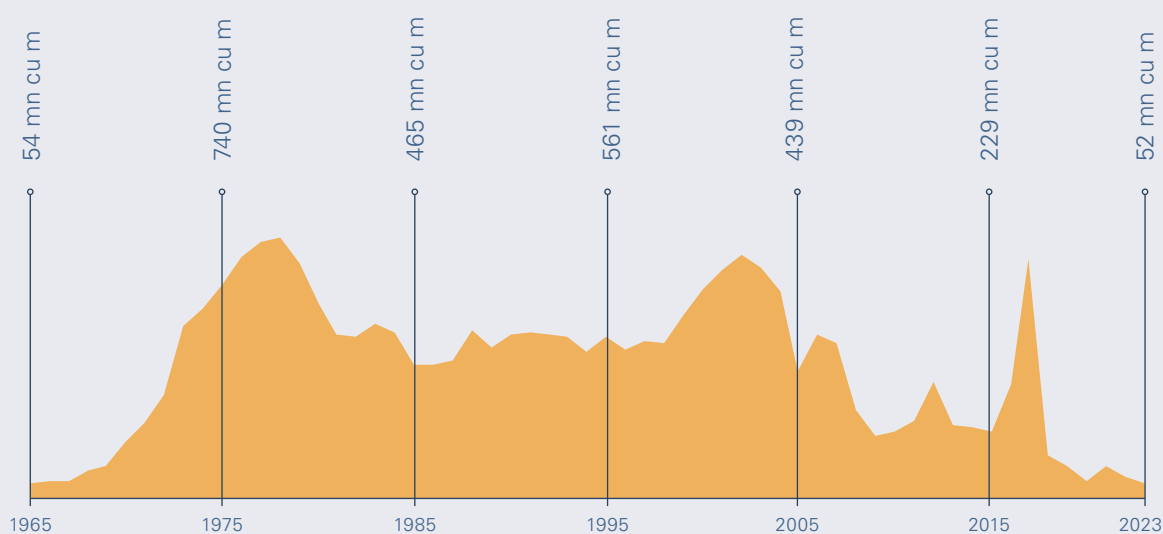
To this day, RAG is an important partner for the province of Upper Austria in the provision of energy.

Development of geological know-how

With improved, modern seismic methods such as 3D seismics, the exploration and production of natural gas became even more targeted from the 1970s onwards.

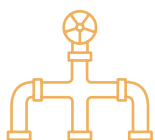
From 1992, RAG used this technology on a large scale to build up geological expertise in its exploration areas. The first pilot project was launched in 1984 in the existing Voitsdorf field. The Munderfing area was the first area to be investigated, followed by the far west of the RAG exploration area in the province of Salzburg between Salzach and Straßwalchen. Thanks to 3D seismics, numerous oil and gas reservoirs were discovered in the following years and those already in production were significantly expanded. With the Haidach, Nussdorf, Zagling and Aigelsbrunn gas fields – today important energy reservoirs of RAG – further significant gas reserves were discovered and developed from 1997 onwards.

RAG Net production gas





Expansion stage 1 Haidach gas storage facility



Careful production

RAG has extensive experience in the field of the careful production of domestic natural gas and has thus been making an important economic contribution to sustainable, regional raw material production and supply for decades. Specially developed technologies increase efficiency and support the optimization of natural gas production.

Development of new gas fields

The discovery of the Haidach underground porous sandstone reservoir near Straßwalchen in 1997 at a depth of over 1,600 meters was a milestone for RAG and the natural gas production in Austria. With a volume of 4.3 billion cubic meters, it is one of the largest discoveries in Austria. Since the start of production in 1998, more than 2.9 billion cubic meters of natural gas have been explored. As a result, RAG's natural gas production increased to over 800 million cu m per year, a remarkable increase on the approximately 500 million cu m produced in previous years.

The discoveries of Nussdorf West 1 in 2000 and Zagling 1 in 2004 also contributed to the peak in natural gas production in Upper Austria and Salzburg. Since then, production has declined and the focus has shifted. Instead of exploration of new reservoirs, RAG is now concentrating on efficiently managing existing gas fields using specially developed technologies. Underground gas storage reservoirs are to be used sustainably as energy storage facilities for natural gas or hydrogen. This change reflects the need to use resources sustainably and responsibly.

Technological pioneer

RAG's innovative strength and pioneering role in the fields of equipment technology, drilling technology and environmental protection was fully developed from 1955 onwards. After the challenges of the post-war period, which were characterized by difficult working conditions, inadequate equipment and a shortage of materials, the company was able to set new standards thanks to innovations and investments.

Regional value creation, close cooperation with domestic partners and the integration of Austrian know-how into its technologies have always been important to RAG. One example of this is Austrian partnerships, such as in the development of self-propelled winches for drilling operations, which were produced in Austria and made it possible to drill to depths of up to 4,000 meters. These winches were technological leaders and a significant advance in drilling technology. RAG's successful concept therefore includes not only continuous investment in modern technology, but also the strategic use of regional expertise and partnerships to achieve technological excellence.



Mapping and seismics

RAG began operations in 1947 in the molasse zone of Upper Austria and Salzburg, thereby breaking new ground. These areas first had to be mapped as part of research contracts. Scientific groundwork was laid through reflection seismic surveys, which were used for the first time in Austria. After the transfer of exploration and production rights, the gradual development of this second 'hydrocarbon district' after Lower Austria began in 1955 with the Puchkirchen 1 well.

Pioneer in resource conservation and neighborhood protection

In addition to the use of state-of-the-art equipment and the application of new technologies, the geologically favorable conditions and the high standard of training of the workforce also contributed to RAG's success. RAG was already a pioneer in the field of environmental protection and the protection of local residents at a time when this issue was still receiving little attention from the general public.

The company introduced its own innovations and new technologies at an early stage. For example, RAG invested in noise protection measures at a very early stage. In addition regional natural gas from its own production was increasingly used instead of conventional fuels, both in drilling operations and in other areas. Today, RAG is also increasingly relying on green gas such as hydrogen for its own energy supply.



Seismic-measurements



Gas production



1935 – 2025

**We look back
on 90 years of
oil production.**

**We think ahead
for an emission-free
utilization of the
raw material.**





CRUDE OIL WITH FUTURE



Non-energy use of crude oil succeeds with us.

The sustainable, regional production of crude oil for non-energy purposes makes an important economic contribution to the production and supply of domestic raw materials.

2050

an increasing amount of annual world oil production of today's around 4.5 billion tons will be needed for non-energy purposes.¹⁾

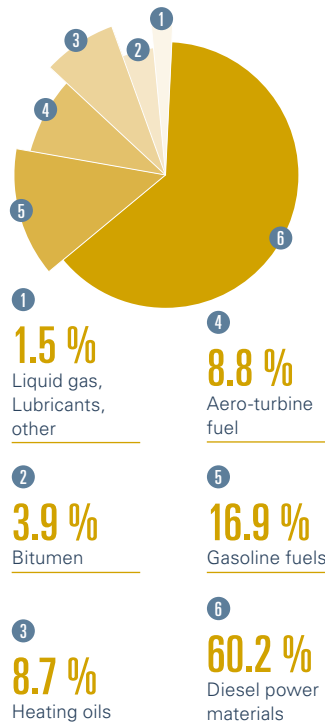
Around
98 %

of the mineral oil of Austrian industry's non-energy use is covered by domestic oil production.*





Mineral oil products Domestic consumption 2023: 9.68 million tons



Source: Mineral oil industry report 2023/24

Crude oil: too precious to be burned

Crude oil is the valuable raw material behind countless products and technologies that shape our everyday lives today and will continue to do so in the future. It cannot be artificially reproduced and is extremely versatile. Sustainability, economy and efficiency must therefore be priorities in the production and use of crude oil as a valuable resource. Crude oil should be used in a targeted and responsible manner over the long term where it is indispensable and recycling is currently not an option for various reasons, such as for sealants, paints, varnishes, lubricants, asphalt and adhesives.

Efficient and careful production of regional treasures

In times of uncertain import situations, regional production of crude oil as a valuable resource must be reevaluated. Domestic oil reserves in the pre-Alps not only reduce dependence on imports, they are also of the highest quality and, thanks to regional production and use, produce only one-fifth of the CO₂ footprint of imported oil.



Krift tank farm strengthens security of supply

Around 240,000 tons of crude oil are stored at the RAG tank farm in Krift, Kremsmünster (Upper Austria), connected to the rail network. Oil importers are obliged to store a quarter of their previous year's imports. RAG offers storage capacity for this purpose at its tank farm as a service, thereby ensuring the legally required 'emergency reserve' for its customers.

This strengthens Austria's security of supply and creates a strategic reserve to maintain oil supplies in an emergency – particularly important in times of energy and geopolitical tension.

Sustainable management of reservoirs

It is therefore in the public interest to manage the existing reservoirs and fields in Upper Austria and Salzburg in a sustainable manner. Specially developed technologies and automation solutions increase efficiency and optimize oil production, ensuring that an economically viable supply of domestic crude oil is guaranteed in the future. With around 50,000 tons of annual production, RAG currently covers around 10% of Austria's demand for crude oil for non-energy purposes.¹ The high-quality crude oil produced in Upper Austria is marketed exclusively in Austria and is ideally suited for high-quality industrial processing.

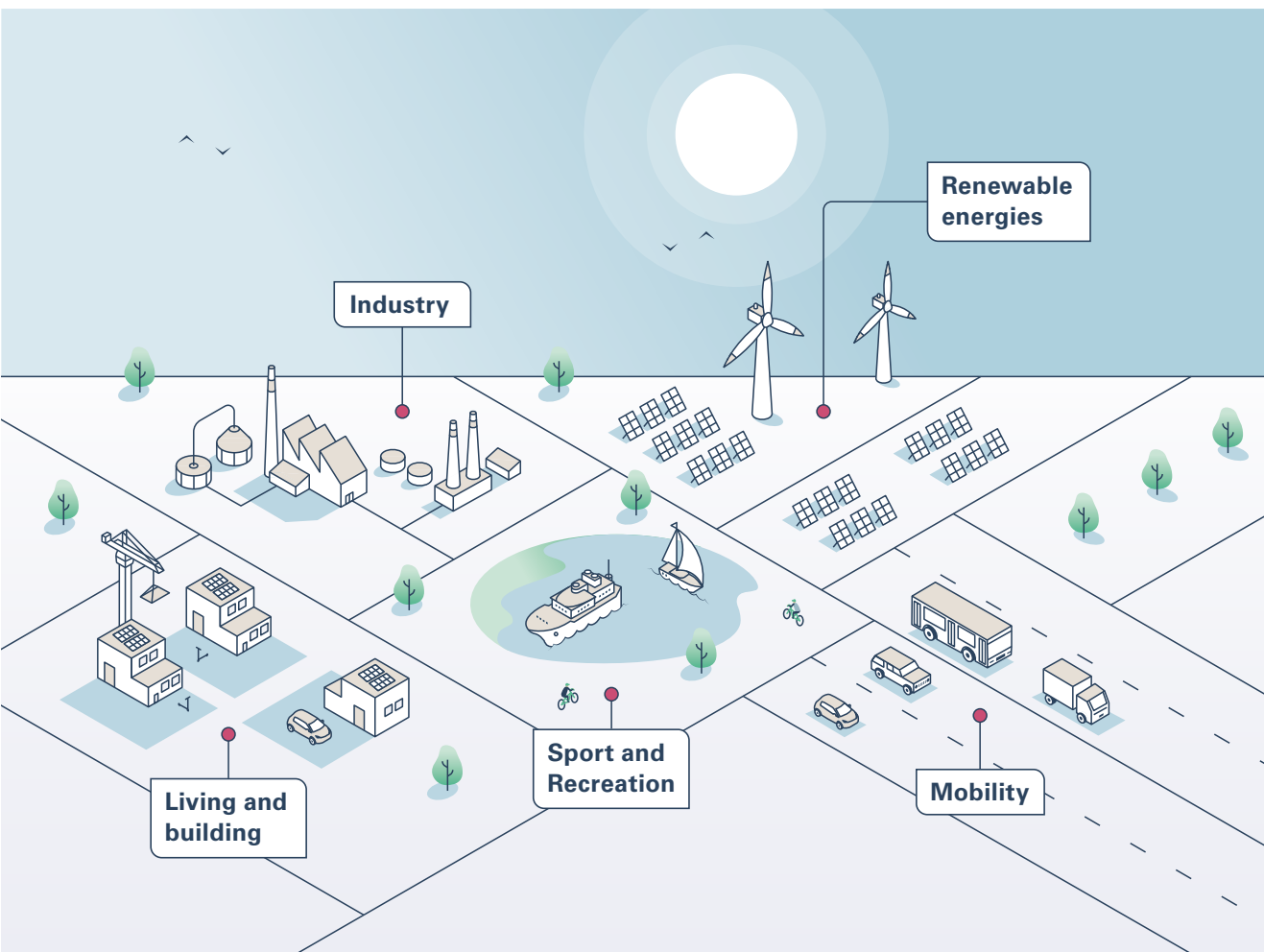
As Austria's oldest oil production company, we have extensive experience and geological expertise in the careful production of domestic crude oil. With the highest level of technological expertise and innovative methods that set an international example, crude oil is extracted, stored, transported over short distances and used directly and locally in accordance with the strictest environmental and safety regulations. Our primary goal remains to keep this valuable domestic raw material available in sufficient quantities for non-energy use by Austrian industry.

» **“Careful and economical
use: Oil is far too valuable
to be burned.”**

Crude oil as a raw material - Made in Austria

Austrian industry requires around 522,000 tons of crude oil per year as a raw material - i.e. for non-energy use. This corresponds to around 5.4% of the total mineral oil consumption of 9.68 million tons in Austria. Austria's annual production of around 512,000 tons of crude oil therefore just about covers the raw material requirements of domestic industry. An important contribution to security of supply and to safeguarding Austria as a business location.

Source: Mineral oil industry report 2023/24



90 years of oil production in Austria

RAG has been producing domestic crude oil since the mid-1930s – initially in the Vienna Basin and today in Upper Austria and Salzburg. Then as now, the aim was to secure the domestic availability of this valuable hydrocarbon and reduce dependence on imported crude oil.

The history of Austrian oil production is closely linked to RAG. After the first wells in the Vienna Basin around Zistersdorf (Lower Austria), the Gösting II well in the Steinberg region yielded the first profitable oil discovery in 1934 and proved that investments in Austrian oil production were worthwhile. This marked the birth of RAG.

On October 15, 1935, the international corporations Socony Vacuum Oil Company, Inc. predecessor of Mobil corporation and N.V. de Bataafsche Petroleum Maatschappij, part of the Royal Dutch/Shell Group, each founded Rohöl-Gewinnungs Aktiengesellschaft, now RAG Austria AG, in equal.

RAG was intended to consolidate the domestic raw material base for the processing plants of the two groups in the Vienna area in order to become less dependent on imported oil. It was not until more than 50 years later, in 1992, that the ownership structure of RAG changed.

Pioneering technical achievements

The successful development of the oil reservoirs in the Vienna Basin included the exploration, development and production of crude oil. In all three areas, RAG set standards in the use of state-of-the-art technologies right from the start, supported by the expertise of its international owners.

Thanks to the Austrian couterflush drilling system used for the first time, a number of new oil fields, including the RAG- and Gaiselberg-fields, were quickly developed. The central Vienna Basin was systematically mapped and investigated by structural drilling. RAG was a pioneer in many areas: From the use of steel drilling rigs and the whipstock method for tapping into deeper geological horizons to the individual design and manufacture of drilling tools – always with the aim of maximum efficiency.

German occupation and expropriation

When the National Socialists came to power in 1938, RAG was practically expropriated. The 'Bitumen Act' meant that bitumen – in solid, liquid or gaseous form (crude oil, natural gas) – could only be explored and produced by the state. From 1941, all of RAG's property was also declared 'enemy property'.

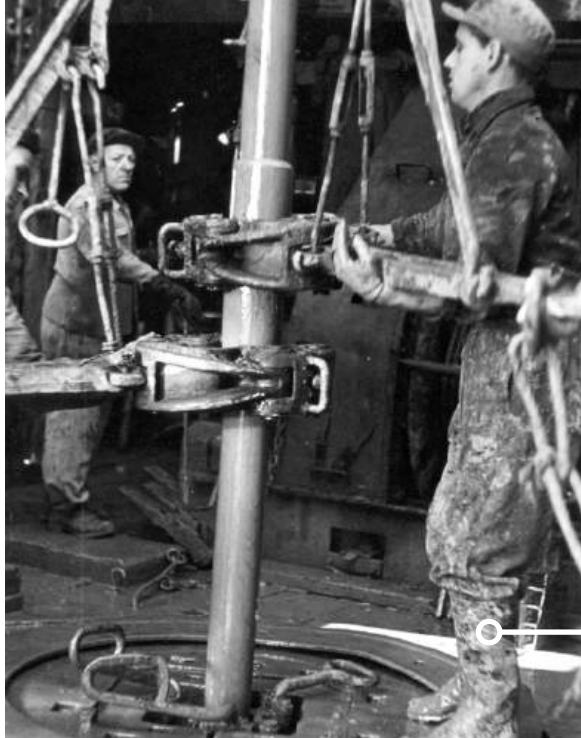
The oil fields of the Vienna Basin were of great strategic importance and were ruthlessly exploited during the Second World War. Drilling activities were controlled centrally, intensified and annual production increased twenty-fold from 56,000 tons in 1938 to 1,200,000 tons in 1944. This meant that the Vienna Basin supplied almost two thirds of the entire oil production of the 'German Reich'.

With the liberation of Austria in 1945, RAG's production areas were confiscated by the Soviet occupying power and the company was formally nationalized in 1946. Under the supervision of the Soviet army, RAG was able to partially resume production, but had to transfer the oil it produced to the Soviet Mineral Oil Administration (SMV, later OMV). In addition to this external control, the lack of technical resources made operations particularly difficult. During this challenging time, RAG employees carried out impressive reconstruction work under often extremely adverse conditions and demonstrated great improvisation skills.

Departure for the West

From 1947, RAG was entrusted with four research contracts for the exploration of hydrocarbons in Upper Austria, Salzburg and Styria, which opened up new prospects for the company. The initial focus was on comprehensive geological mapping. The first reflection seismic surveys in Austria revealed signs of structures worthy of drilling. Even though the first wells did not yield any oil discoveries, these steps marked an important start.

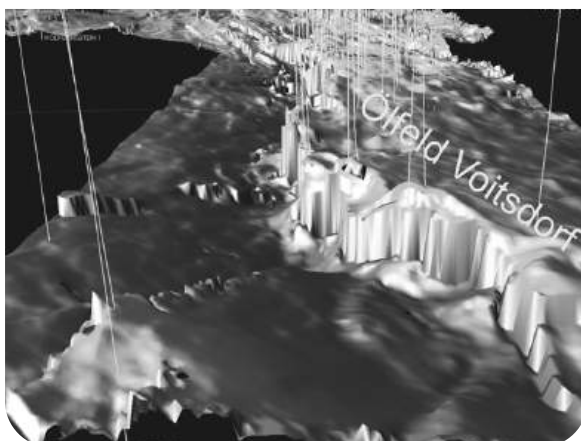
In the course of the State Treaty of 1955, RAG finally received official exploration and extraction contracts for areas in Upper Austria, Salzburg and Styria, but had to relinquish the majority of its extraction areas in the Vienna Basin except for the fields around Zistersdorf, which were transferred to the newly founded Austrian Mineral Oil Administration (OMV) in 1957.



Drill hole



Signing of state treaty





Oil production

In 1955, Austrian oil production reached a historic high of 3.7 million tons. With Austria's independence, resource-conserving management was established. For over two decades, production remained at around 2.5 million tons per year. Although significant oil and gas reservoirs were discovered in Upper Austria in the late 1950s, this could not compensate for the decline in the Vienna Basin. From the mid-1980s, production stabilized at around one million tons per year but has been declining for over ten years. Until 1958, Austria's entire oil demand was covered by domestic sources. Today, the self-sufficiency rate is around 7%, with approximately 500,000 tons of oil produced.

RAG currently produces around 42,000 tons per year from 57 oil wells. A total of around 16.2 million tons of oil have been produced over the last 90 years.



It was not until 1960 that the nationalization of RAG in 1946 was reversed: the company returned to the hands of its original owners and received financial compensation. Additional concessions in Upper Austria, Salzburg and Styria followed in 1964. After lengthy negotiations, these were finally granted on a long-term basis in 1981 on the basis of the new Mining Act of 1975 and, in addition to exploration and production but also storage rights covering a total area of 6,600 km².

Exploration and production of crude oil in Upper Austria from 1955

With the new legal basis, RAG began its drilling activities in Upper Austria in 1955 - and achieved immediate success: the very first well, Puchkirchen 1 near Vöcklabruck, struck oil at a depth of 2,700 meters. After three unproductive years, the Ried im Innkreis oil field was discovered in 1959, followed by smaller finds near Schwanenstadt. In the 1960s and 1970s, further reservoirs were added in Sattledt, Trattnach and Kemating, although these were significantly smaller than those in the Vienna Basin.

The decisive breakthrough in Upper Austria came in 1963 with the Voitsdorf 1 well south of Kremsmünster. This led to the discovery of the largest oil field in the Upper Austrian molasse zone to date. This field quickly became the main source of RAG oil production in the region and soon surpassed the production of the Lower Austrian fields around Zistersdorf. The many challenges involved in developing the Voitsdorf field led to numerous technical innovations and provided important impulses that significantly advanced exploration in this area.

The discovery of the Voitsdorf oil field also opened up new investment opportunities: the railroad loading station in Kremsmünster-Krift was built to make transportation more efficient.

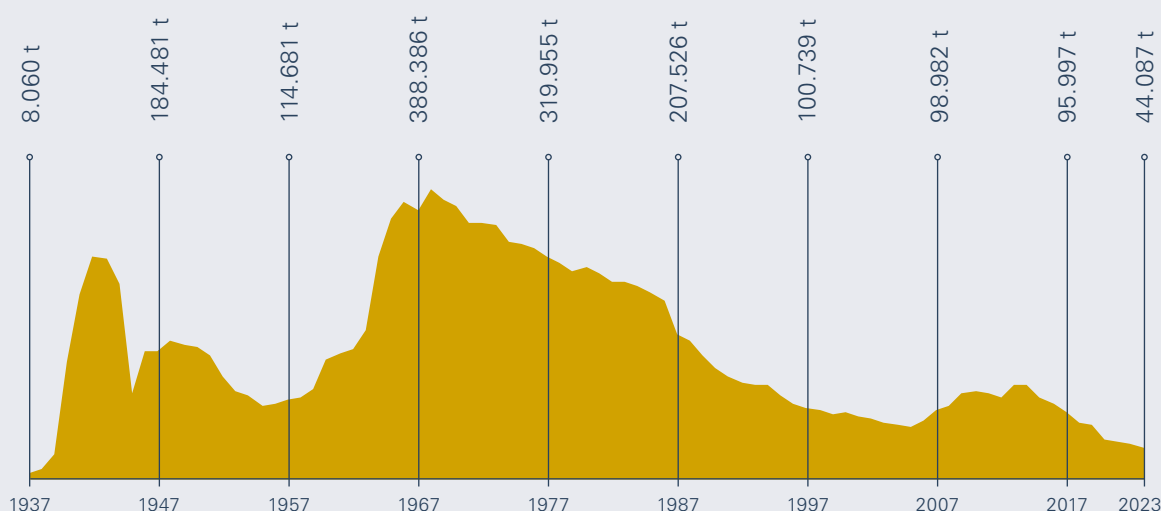
In the 1970s and early 1980s, the high oil price made the economic production of even smaller reservoirs possible. Fluctuations in world market prices and demand have a significant impact on the profitability of oil production, as smaller or difficult-to-access reservoirs can only be explored economically when prices are high enough and demand is stable.

Falling prices and declining demand led to a reduction in activities from the mid-1980s onwards. RAG shifted its focus to the exploration and development of gas reservoirs. In the mid-2000s, modern 3D seismic technology with computer-aided data evaluation and new interpretation methods led to new reservoir discoveries at Hiersdorf, Bad Hall and Sierning and increased production in the short term.

With RAG's increased focus on energy storage and green gas technologies at the time, improving efficiency and optimizing production from existing oil fields remained essential to the success of sustainable field management.

Production has stabilized at around 50,000 tons per year in recent years. In the future, modern extraction methods are expected to further increase the utilization rate of the reservoirs in order to keep domestic oil available as an important raw material for many decades to come.

RAG Net production oil



Chronological overview



1935

RAG Austria AG (RAG) is founded on October 15, 1935 as Rohöl-Gewinnungs AG by Socony Vacuum Oil Company, Inc. (now Exxon Mobil Corporation) and N.V. de Bataafsche Petroleum Maatschappij (now Shell plc).

1938

'Anschluss' of Austria to the 'German Reich' on March 13.

Start of development of the Gaiselberg oil field.

The German Bitumen Act enters into force on August 31 in force. As a result, RAG loses the open-cast mines in the Vienna Basin.

1940

Appointment of an 'enemy assets administrator' for the Royal Dutch Shell share on June 22. In accordance with the Bitumen Act of August 31, 1938, all old mining rights to Bitumen as of July 31.

1942

In 1942 and 1943, the 'German Reich' concludes prospecting and extraction contracts in the 'Ostmark' with oil companies from the 'old Reich' on the basis of the Bitumen Act (1938). Some of these relate to earlier RAG excavations.

Maximum oil production from the Zistersdorf fields (319,610 tons).

1937

First oil discovery in the RAG 2 well in Zistersdorf.

Start of primary production.

1939

Outbreak of the Second World War on September 1.

1941

Declaration of war by the 'German Reich' against the USA. As a result, the appointment of a 'enemy asset manager' for the Socony Vacuum Oil Company's share in RAG (1942).

1945

German capitulation – end of the Second World War on May 8. Oil production in RAG's Zistersdorf mines exceeds a total of 1.5 million tons at the end of the war.

Request for restitution of previous mining rights on May 2 and September 4.

RAG must deliver the crude oil it produces to the newly founded Soviet Mineral Oil Administration (SMV) at a price set by the SMV.

1946

'Potsdam Conference' of the Allies: 'German property' in the occupied territories falls to the respective occupying power. Order No. 17 of the Supreme Command of the Red Army in Austria: takeover of German assets (including the Lobau refinery, concession rights, etc.). The federal law of 26 July nationalizes all oil companies, including RAG. On 13 September, the Federal Government publishes a statement in the 'Wiener Zeitung': The holdings of United Nations nationals affected by the Nationalization Act will not be nationalized until the compensation issue has been settled.

1951

RAG receives further research contracts in Bad Hall and Feldbach in accordance with Section 2 of the Deposits Act.

Introduction of modern reflection seismics in Upper Austria; preparation of a cross-section of the molasse zone.

Start of geological mapping of the Styrian concession area.

1947

Deposits Act (Federal Law Gazette 246), start of geological mapping of the Salzburg-Braunau and Ried areas.

1948

RAG is awarded research contracts in Salzburg, Braunau and Ried in accordance with Section 2 of the Austrian Deposits Act.

1949

The Soviet Petroleum Administration discovers the largest oil field in Central Europe, Matzen-Auersthal. Even before the war, RAG had already planned an exploratory borehole not far from the discovery borehole.

1953

In the fall, agreement is largely on future exploration and extraction contracts between the Republic of Austria and RAG.

1955

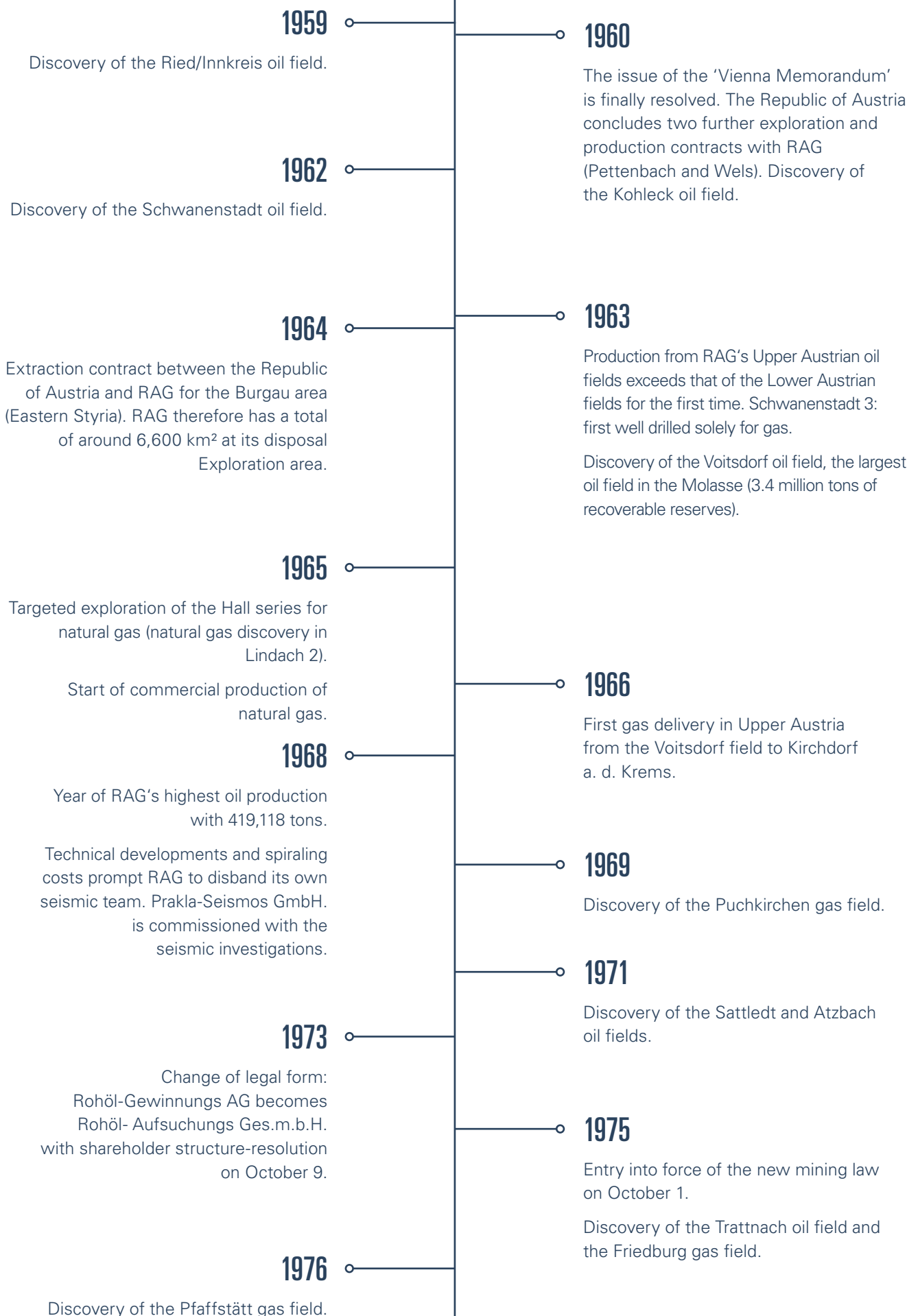
Signing of four exploration and production contracts between the Republic of Austria and RAG on April 29. Signing of the Austrian State Treaty on May 15. 'Vienna Memorandum' between the Western Allies and the Austrian Federal Government.

Start of drilling in Puchkirchen 1 on September 22.

1956

Production begins in the discovered Puchkirchen 1 well on May 27: Upper Austria is developed as a crude oil region.







1977

Year of the highest gas sales. From own production 880 million Nm³.

1978

Maximum gas production of 882 million Nm³.

Opening of the Kremsmünster-Krift tank farm (1st expansion stage) as part of the Petroleum Stockpiling and Reporting Act 1982 (453 d.B.)

1980

Opening of the Kremsmünster tank farm Krift (2nd expansion stage).

1982

Construction of a gas storage facility in Puchkirchen for around 40 million Nm³ of working gas. The Oberhofen well (near Lake Irrsee) is drilled to 4,597 m (RAG's deepest well to date). It did not strike a well, but yielded important geological findings. Opening of the 2nd expansion phase of the Zistersdorf tank farm on September 16. The Ried rail loading facility goes into operation.

1984

Recording of a pilot test with CO₂ flooding in the Ried/Innkreis oil field.

First use of 3D seismics in the Voitsdorf field.

1988

Start of gas deliveries to Salzburg (SAFE) and Styria (Steirische Ferngas Ges.m.b.H.). Imports of North Sea gas are terminated.

1979

Conclusion of a general agreement between RAG and Oberösterreich's Ferngas GmbH.

Opening of the Zistersdorf tank farm (1st expansion stage).

Discovery of the Kemating oil field.

Merger of RAG with Österreichische Mineralölwerke (ÖMW) on September 18.

1981

The existing rights from nine exploration and production contracts are adapted to the new legal situation (Mining Act 1975). Three new exploration, production and storage contracts are concluded between the federal government and RAG (RAG-Oberösterreich, RAG-Salzburg, RAG-Steiermark).

Import of natural gas from fields in the North Sea.

1983

Inclusion of the partial supply of Kremsmünster with district heating.

Eggerding discovery well: first investigation of heavy oil deposits in Upper Austria by RAG.

1987

The RAG field in Zistersdorf has been in production for 50 years.



1989

First commercial gas discovery in the province of Salzburg - Berndorf field.

Expansion of the Puchkirchen gas storage facility to a working gas volume of 90 million Nm³.

1992

Conversion of Rohöl-Aufsuchungs Ges.m.b.H. into a public limited company. EVN Energie Versorgung Niederösterreich acquires 50% in equal shares from Mobil Oil Austria and Shell Austria AG.

Signing of a gas storage contract with Austria Ferngas Ges.m.b.H. for a working gas volume of 450 million Nm³.

Surveying with 3D seismics is becoming the rule; 2D lines are only measured in exceptional cases.

Decision to expand the storage facility Puchkirchen.

1996

After a total of ten failed wells, the 'RAG Styria' concession is relinquished. Three wells are still used today as thermal and medicinal spas – Loipersdorf, Waltersdorf and Blumau.

1998

Mobil Oil Austria sells its 25% share to the other shareholders.

2000

Discovery of the Nussdorf West gas field.
The Gas Industry Act GWG I enters into force on August 10, 2000 in force.

2001

First gas sales to Germany & Italy.

1991

Total oil production in Austria reaches 100 million tons; RAG's share is 13 million tons. First production of natural gas in the province of Salzburg - Berndorf 1 well.

1993

EVN brings its shares to a RAG Beteiligungs-Aktiengesellschaft (RBG). Bayernwerke AG acquires 40%, SAFE and Steirische Ferngas Ges.m.b.H. each 10% of this RBG.

Start of horizontal drilling for the Puchkirchen reservoir.

1995

Commissioning of the expanded Puchkirchen storage facility with a working gas volume of 500 million Nm³.

1997

Largest gas discovery in the Austrian molasse zone – Haidach with around four billion Nm³.

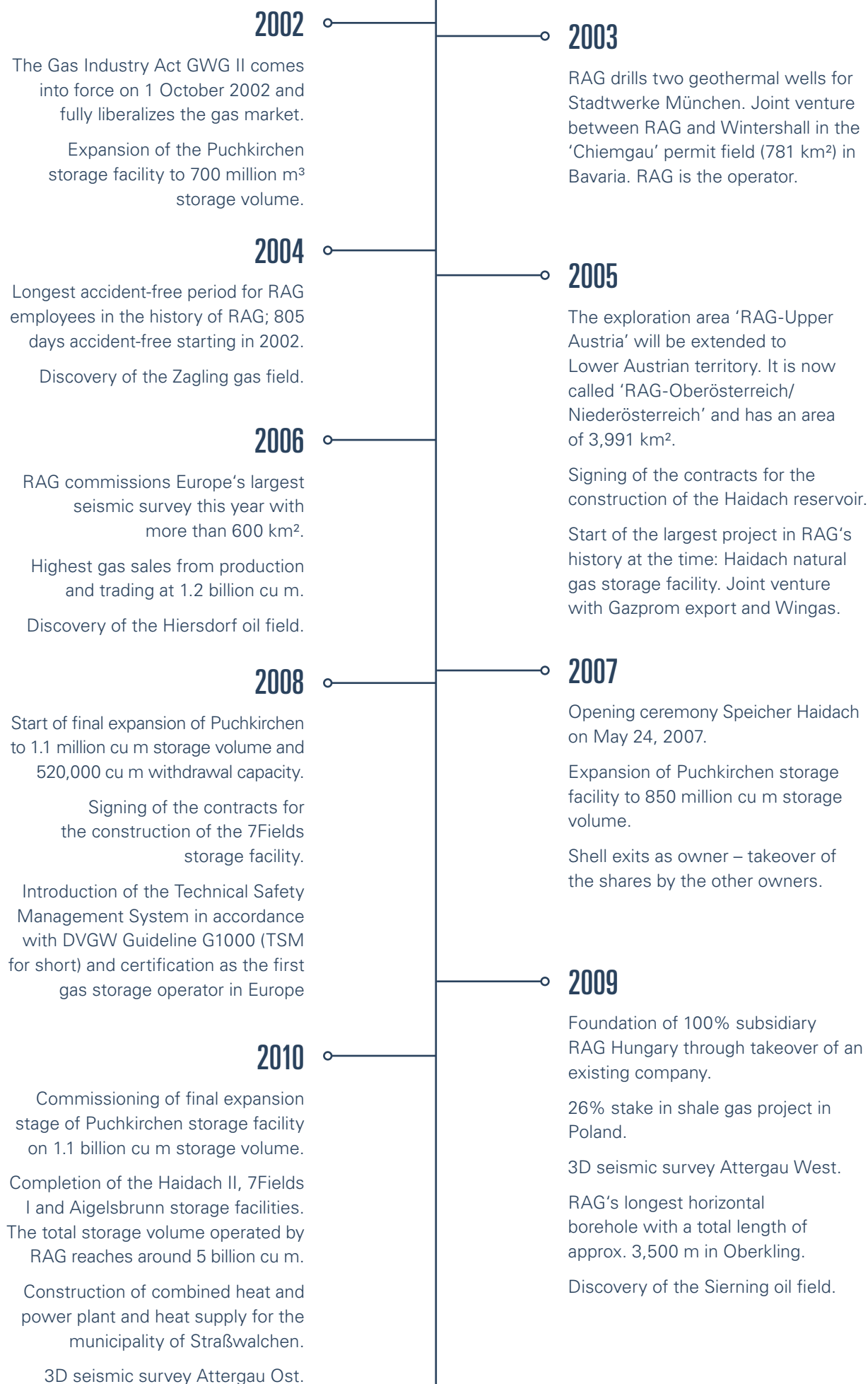
With the 'Salzach-Inn' exploration permit (approx. 2,300 km²), RAG receives its first concession outside Austria from the Free State of Bavaria.

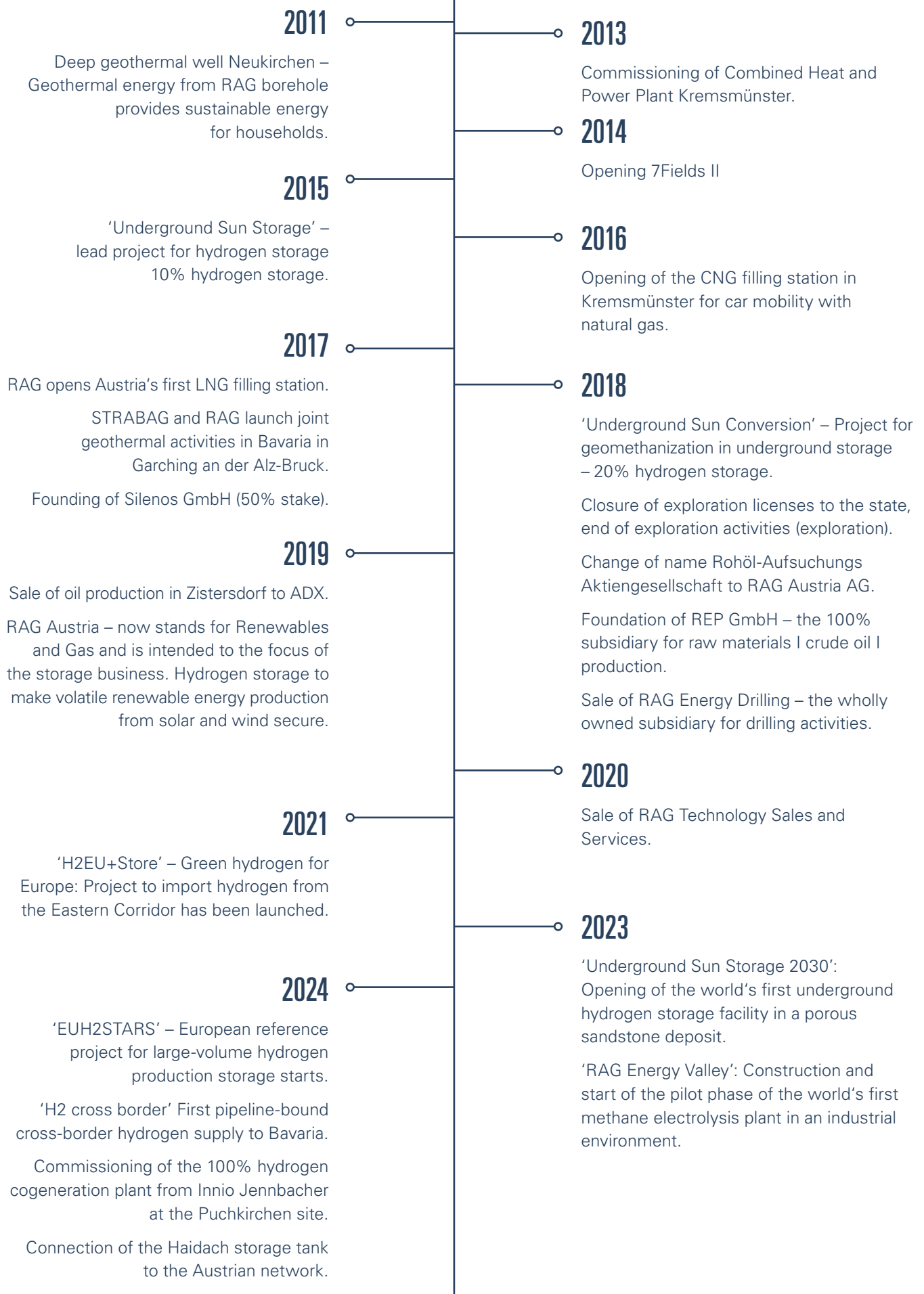
1999

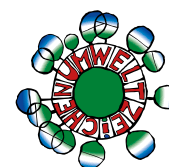
The Mining Act 1975 is replaced by the Mineral Resources Act (MinroG), which comes into force on January 1, 1999.

RAG takes over the 'Rosenheim-Traunstein' concession (approx. 835 km²) from RWE-DEA in Bavaria.

RAG deep wells for geothermal projects in Fürstenfeld (Styria) and Simbach-Braunau (Bavaria/Upper Austria). The first deep well in Bavaria (Titmonning R1) is started at the end of the year. It remains dry.







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