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Congo commissions first LNG station in Pointe-Noire

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The Republic of Congo has commissioned its first liquefied natural gas refuelling station in Pointe-Noire, with Hydrocarbons Minister Stev Simplicie Onanga officially opening the facility on 19 September. The station was developed by the Southerpec Group through its subsidiaries Wing Wah and SCI, and is framed by the government as a concrete step in its domestic energy policy.

The commissioning marks a modest but symbolically significant milestone for Congo's LNG ambitions. Pointe-Noire is the country's principal oil and gas hub, and the establishment of an LNG refuelling station there signals an intention to develop downstream gas infrastructure alongside the upstream production base the city already supports. The government's backing of the project through ministerial presence at the opening underscores that this aligns with official energy diversification objectives, though the article does not specify the station's throughput capacity, feedstock sourcing arrangements, or intended customer base.

The Southerpec Group, operating through Wing Wah and SCI, appears to be the primary developer and likely operator of the facility. No international oil companies, state enterprise SNPC, or other partners are mentioned in connection with this specific installation. The article does not indicate whether further LNG refuelling infrastructure is planned across other locations in Congo, nor does it reference any associated upstream gas monetisation agreements that might feed the station.

For Norway's oil and gas service sector, the immediate commercial significance of a single small-scale LNG refuelling station is limited. However, the commissioning is a

directional signal: Congo is beginning to build out gas infrastructure beyond the wellhead, and Pointe-Noire — already home to a concentration of service company offices, logistics bases, and fabrication yards — is the chosen starting point. If this station represents the leading edge of a broader LNG infrastructure programme, it could over time create demand for gas handling equipment, cryogenic storage technology, small-scale liquefaction units, and associated metering and safety systems, segments where Norwegian supply chain companies carry recognised competence.

At this stage, the instrument is a commissioning event rather than a tender, contract, or investment decision for follow-on infrastructure. Norwegian companies with existing operations or relationships in Pointe-Noire should track whether Southerpec Group or the Ministry of Hydrocarbons announces expansion plans, additional station roll-outs, or a broader small-scale LNG programme that would open procurement opportunities. Engagement at the relationship and intelligence-gathering level is the appropriate posture for now.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

This commissioning is an early-stage market signal, not yet an open procurement opportunity. Norwegian companies should monitor whether Southerpec Group or the Congolese Ministry of Hydrocarbons announces follow-on infrastructure tenders — particularly for small-scale liquefaction, cryogenic storage, or gas metering systems — before initiating supplier or procurement outreach. Firms already present in Pointe-Noire through other contracts are best placed to build the relationships now that could position them for future LNG infrastructure work.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **LNG:** Monitor Southerpec Group's expansion plans; if Congo scales the LNG refuelling network, demand for small-scale liquefaction units and cryogenic storage — Norwegian specialisms — could emerge.
- **Subsea/FPSO:** Track whether upstream gas tie-in or FPSO-based gas monetisation projects are linked to feeding this and future LNG stations, which could generate associated offshore scope.

- **Pipeline:** Any scale-up of the LNG refuelling network in Pointe-Noire will require gas distribution and transfer pipework; monitor for engineering and supply tenders as the programme matures.
- **Service:** Firms with existing logistics or maintenance operations in Pointe-Noire should use current presence to establish contact with Southerpec Group and position for future service contracts on the LNG facility.

[Original source: ACI - Agence Congolaise d'Information - Economie \(Rep. Congo\) →](#)

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