

## Wintershall takes over Vega operatorship from Statoil

- **First operated subsea tie-in field in Norway**
- **Expansion of operated production on the shelf**

04.03.2015  
Stefan Leunig  
PI-15-8  
Phone +49 561 301-3301  
Fax +49 561 301-1321  
press@wintershall.com  
www.wintershall.com

**Stavanger.** Today, Wintershall has taken over the operatorship of the subsea oil and gas field Vega from Statoil. Vega is the BASF subsidiary's first operated subsea tie-in field in Norway. With this transfer Wintershall now operates two production fields on the Norwegian Continental Shelf, Brage and Vega.

The takeover of the Vega operatorship is part of the transaction with Statoil that was completed in December 2014. By the acquisition of additional shares in the producing fields Vega and the nearby Gjøa Wintershall firmly established itself as one of the large producers on the Norwegian Continental Shelf. The company is currently producing more than 60,000 barrels of oil equivalent per day in Norway. With the further purchase of shares in the Aasta Hansteen gas development and the Polarled pipeline project as part of the same deal, Wintershall strengthened its strategic partnership with Statoil and reaffirmed its long term commitment to Norway.

The Vega field is located in the Norwegian section of the North Sea. It is tied back to the Gjøa platform, 28 km to the east. The production on Vega started in 2010. Wintershall is the operator of the field with a 55.6% working interest. Partners are Petoro (28.3%), Bayerngas (7.3%), GDF Suez (4.4%), and Idemitsu (4.4%).

Wintershall Holding GmbH  
Corporate Communications  
P.O. Box 10 40 20  
34112 Kassel, Germany

## **Increasing importance of subsea developments**

“Becoming the operator of Vega means that we are building up our expertise as a subsea operator on the Norwegian Continental Shelf. Subsea fields are already a vital part of the oil and gas infrastructure in Norway and we believe they will grow in importance. With Vega we are gaining the experience that will be crucial in operating our future own developments, like the Maria Field in the Norwegian Sea,” said Bernd Schrimpf, Managing Director of Wintershall Norge.

Yesterday, Alv Bjørn Solheim, Wintershall Norge Technical Director and Øivind Dahl-Stamnes, Statoil Vice President for Troll Production, signed the Main Transfer Protocol marking today’s completion of the process to transfer the operatorship of Vega from Statoil to Wintershall.

“It has always been our plan to operate a growing proportion of our own production. Taking on our second operatorship underlines our long-term approach in Norway: We are operating fields and are among the major producers on the shelf, and we are involved in some of the most exciting developments in Norway,” said Solheim.

**Wintershall Holding GmbH**, based in Kassel, Germany, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of BASF in Ludwigshafen. The company has been active in the extraction of natural resources for 120 years, and in the exploration and production of crude oil and natural gas for over 80 years. Wintershall focuses on selected core regions where the company has built up a high level of regional and technological expertise. These are Europe, Russia, North Africa, South America, and increasingly the Middle East region. The company wants to expand its business further with exploration and production, selected partnerships, innovation and technological competence. Wintershall employs some 2,500 staff worldwide from 40 nations and is now Germany’s largest, internationally active crude oil and natural gas producer.

**Wintershall. Shaping the future.**

More information on the Internet at [www.wintershall.com](http://www.wintershall.com) or follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) or [YouTube](#).