Air Liquide Engineering & Construction has signed a new contract with POSCO, a leading steel producer in South Korea, to design and build an Air Separation Unit (ASU) which will produce Oxygen, Nitrogen, and Argon and have a production capacity of 1,700 tonnes per day of oxygen.

The new unit will be installed at POSCO’s Pohang site in South Korea. The oxygen and argon produced will be used to transform iron into high quality steel and enable POSCO to improve efficiency of the production process.

This new ASU, replacing two existing units on the Pohang site, will be designed and built using Air Liquide’s best-in-class Cryogenics technologies, thereby maximizing energy efficiency and reducing environmental footprint.

POSCO, as the largest integrated producer in South Korea, delivers 41 million tons of crude steel per year. Founded in 1968 and privatized in 2000, Posco has led the Korean steel industry for more than four decades.

Air Liquide has been working with POSCO for more than 30 years and has supplied 20 ASUs to POSCO’s Pohang and Gwangyang sites.

David Maloney, Vice President and Chairman of Air Liquide Engineering & Construction stated “We are proud to continue our partnership with POSCO and contribute to POSCO’s development for more than 30 years. Air Liquide’s strong historical relationship with POSCO and mutual trust are major factors supporting our close collaboration today. We are delighted to provide our customers with innovative, energy efficient technologies to support sustainability efforts.”

Air Liquide Engineering and Construction
Air Liquide Engineering & Construction builds Air Liquide Group production units (mainly air gas separation and hydrogen production units) and provides external customers with efficient, sustainable, customized technology and process solutions. Air Liquide Engineering & Construction’s core expertise in industrial gases, energy conversion and gas purification, enables customers to optimize natural resources. This business unit covers the entire project life-cycle: license engineering services / proprietary equipment, high-end engineering & design capabilities, project management & execution services. As a technology partner, customers benefit from our research and development to contribute to energy transition. In 2019, revenues were €328 million.

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A world leader in gases, technologies and services for Industry and Health, Air Liquide is present in 80 countries with approximately 67,000 employees and serves more than 3.7 million customers and patients. Oxygen, nitrogen and hydrogen are essential small molecules for life, matter and energy. They embody Air Liquide's scientific territory and have been at the core of the company's activities since its creation in 1902.

Air Liquide’s ambition is to be a leader in its industry, deliver long term performance and contribute to sustainability. The company’s customer-centric transformation strategy aims at profitable, regular and responsible growth over the long term. It relies on operational excellence, selective investments, open innovation and a network organization implemented by the Group worldwide. Through the commitment and inventiveness of its people, Air Liquide leverages energy and environment transition, changes in healthcare and digitization, and delivers greater value to all its stakeholders.

Air Liquide’s revenue amounted to 22 billion euros in 2019 and its solutions that protect life and the environment represented more than 40% of sales. Air Liquide is listed on the Euronext Paris stock exchange (compartment A) and belongs to the CAC 40, EURO STOXX 50 and FTSE4Good indexes.