PRF Newsletter

# PRFNEWS #23 /// DECEMBER 2020

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Message from the CEO ///

## A YEAR FULL OF CHALLENGES

Dear friends, where I include all our customers, suppliers, employees and all those who have contributed in some way to another excellent year. We are finishing what will surely have been the most atypical year of our lives.

This pandemic has greatly conditioned our activity, changed our way of life and the way we relate to society. It has brought us new challenges, forced us to quickly rethink our procedures and find different ways of carrying out our activities and fulfilling our commitments and objectives.

The constraints we have experienced this year have been another great test of our ability to change and quickly adapt to new realities and new ways of living and working. The agile and precise training with which we have operated these changes have undoubtedly been determinant for the success of yet another great year that ends with results and objectives met.

In a world in constant change and where changes are taking place at an ever-increasing pace, also in our area of energy, the world is witnessing great changes, from the way we use energy, to the diversification of its sources, to the alteration of the entire energy value chain, and eventually to the alteration of the entire paradigm of the economic model that we have associated with energy today, due to the increasing ease with which we have to produce our energy locally.

The energy transition that we all have to make, rather than a necessity, is an opportunity for the economy and for business. Therefore, PRF is once again a reference company for the construction of all the infrastructures that will be necessary to materialize this energy transition, where it already has once again a decisive role as a provider of turn-key solutions for the production, storage, distribution and use of renewable gases such as hydrogen and biogas/biomethane.

Along with the important investments that we are making to provide services and supplies in the area of renewable energy and the energy transition, we are also making large investments in new digital



systems to be able to provide new and better services to our customers, where we highlight "webCOP" which is the remote management and supervision platform, and "weKEEP" which is a management platform for all preventive and corrective maintenance, both for all the stations or systems that we have installed. These systems that are fully developed by PRF, together with all the permanent support service of the entire PRF team, are important tools that we make available to our customers to support the operation of their infrastructures.

I can only praise and thank the fantastic contribution, support and availability of the whole PRF team that during this difficult period has always been fully focused and determined to find solutions to overcome the difficult barriers and obstacles that circumstances have crossed in our path. In fact, only with such a team could we make another year with satisfied customers and with fantastic results at all levels despite all the constraints we have experienced. It remains for me to thank the confidence that one more year our clients have placed in PRF, and to reiterate our determination that for the future, despite all the uncertainties and limitations that will continue to exist in terms of public health, we will remain totally focused on our clients and on the scrupulous fulfillment of all the goals and commitments assumed, with a view to their total satisfaction.

I wish everyone, co-workers, customers, suppliers and partners in general, a Merry Christmas and a healthy and successful 2021.



Main ///

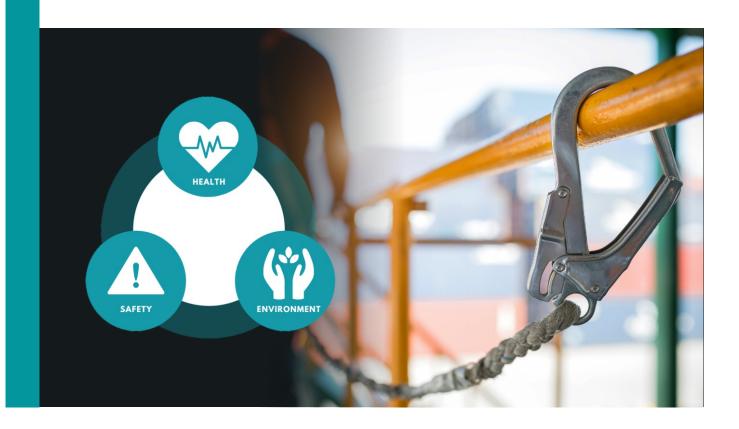
### THE IMPORTANCE OF HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT AT WORK

Nowadays working conditions play an extremely important role in the daily life of companies. Good working conditions are usually synonymous of better productivity, better quality of services provided, reflected in greater competitiveness of companies. In this sense, it is essential that organizations have a structure that allows them to manage this issue, namely compliance with legal aspects, investigation of accidents and analysis of their causes in order to implement measures for their reduction/elimination and thus reduce costs in their repair and also develop prevention as a way of reducing the likelihood of accidents at work or occupational diseases.

The activities developed in the field of Health,

Safety and Environment (HSE) are aimed at ensuring the well-being of workers. In this sense, HSE comprises a set of methodologies aimed at preventing accidents with the objective of identifying and controlling the risks present in the workplace. On the other hand, action on aspects related to workers' health is aimed at preventing occupational diseases by controlling dangerous agents present in the workplace.

In the same way, Environmental Management is also an added value for companies, being a tool that allows not only to control and reduce the impacts caused by the activity, namely the production of waste and the management of resources, but also to guarantee compliance with legal and normative requirements.







#### Main ///

#### **OUR COMMITMENT**

At PRF we consider that providing good working conditions and promoting compliance with safety and environmental protection rules are factors of the utmost importance for the improvement of performance, through the increase in productivity obtained in conditions of lower absenteeism and accidents and also environmental sustainability. Leadership and commitment from top management are two crucial aspects for the success of the Health, Safety and Environmental Management Systems, as well as the involvement and participation of all employees at all levels and functions of the organization.

This commitment is established in our Occupational Health and Safety Policy (OHS) which is based on the following points:

- Satisfying the needs of our customers and stakeholders;
- Compliance with compliance obligations including legal and other requirements underwritten by the PRF;

- Commitment to the protection of the environment including the prevention of pollution;
- Commitment to providing safe and healthy working conditions for the prevention of work-related injuries and illnesses:
- Commitment to eliminate hazards and reduce risks to OHS:
- Continuous improvement of the effectiveness of the management system and of environmental and occupational health and safety performance;
- Commitment to consultation and participation of employees:
- Value creation.

Main ///







#### **MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS**

HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT AT WORK

The Environmental Management Systems (ISO14001) and Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems (ISO45001), is assumed as a strategic and operational option of the company that allows to give guarantees to all stakeholders, namely employees, customers, suppliers and others, that the activities developed by PRF are carried out in accordance with all safety rules and complying with the best environmental practices.

The certification in both systems since 2012, is fundamental in the strategy of management and control of risks and environmental impacts arising from PRF's activities, which assumes several responsibilities in this area including identification, elimination, reduction and control:

 Carrying out risk and environmental impact assessments in the workplace;

- Identification of hazards and environmental aspects:
- Investigation of incidents/accidents at work and environmental accidents;
- Collection and analysis of safety and environmental indicators:
- Provide environmental and safety training;
- Ensure compliance with legal and regulatory requirements;
- Managing safety, health and environmental programs;
- Improving operational performance.

If on the one hand the Environmental Management System Certification allows to ensure a high level of legal compliance, on the other hand, it keeps us focused on our path as a sustainable company.





The investment in professional training is seen by PRF as an added value for the valorization of its human resources, assuming a decisive role in the performance of the Health, Safety and Environment Management System at work.

In addition to the technical actions, several training actions are also promoted in the area of Health, Safety and Environment, covering topics such as emergency response, first aid and work equipment.









Testimonial ///

### **JOÃO FERREIRA**

**HSE Manager** 

At PRF we consider that Sustainable Development and Social Responsibility are two concepts to be considered in each project we develop.

In this way, we assume the commitment to reduce the ecological footprint caused by the activity we develop, always taking into consideration factors such as environmental protection, pollution prevention, and consequently ensuring the satisfaction of the surrounding communities in the places where we carry out our projects.

On the other hand, the work developed for several years in the area of Health, Safety and Environment at work is reflected in a culture of safety evidenced by the responsibility of the employees both in their daily work as well as their active participation in the improvement of the Safety Management System.

Congress ///

### 35<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC AND EXPERT MEETING OF GAS PROFESSIONALS

The 35th International Scientific and Expert Meeting of Gas Professionals, organized by Croatian Gas Association (HSUP) and the Croatian Gas Centre Ltd. (CPH), was held from 21–23 October 2020. This year's gathering, the largest in southeast Europe, will be remembered as the first time it was held in a virtual environment. This year the Proceedings of the entire, professionally reviewed papers were prepared and published, and are available on the Croatian Gas Association's website. Over the three days, the conference gathered approximately 450 participants from 21 European countries and the Republic of Korea. Numerous representatives of the gas sector participated in the virtual meeting. A total of 116 different gas and energy companies and organisations (24 from abroad) were present, with 13 exhibitors, including PRF, presenting their products and services on virtual stands.









Highlight ///

# GREEN PIPELINE PROJECT

A pioneering project developed in Portugal involving PRF, Gestene and Galp is the first Portuguese field test for the mixing of hydrogen in the natural gas network, covering 80 final consumers.



The project involves the participation of Galp Gás Natural Distribuição (GGND), the company that controls Setgás, concessionaire for the operation of the natural gas network in the Setúbal region, including Seixal. It also involves other Portuguese companies, such as PRF and Gestene. The Portuguese Association for the Promotion of Hydrogen (AP2H2) is also involved, as well as ISQ, among other entities.

It will be a demonstration project which will run for two years, injecting green hydrogen into the natural gas network and serving a cluster of 80 customers, including 70 households and a dozen companies, including one industrial consumer. This project results from GGND's willingness to engage in the search for decarbonization solutions, but it is also boosted by the fact that Gestene already owns an electrolyser and a solar panel installation. The electrolyser will produce 10 cubic meters of hydrogen per hour, using electricity from the photovoltaic panels. With the conditions met for the production of green hydrogen, GGND now intends to test its incorporation into the gas network. The project, to be developed in Seixal, includes the construction of 1.4 kilometers of polyethylene piping that will connect Gestene's hydrogen production site to an infrastructure that will mix the renewable hydrogen into the natural gas network.

The mixture will then be distributed through a little over of 6 kilometers of existing piping network (mainly made of polyethylene) up to 80 points of consumption. In an initial phase, the mixture will be of 2% to 3% hydrogen. The project will run for two years, reaching the ultimate goal of 20% blending.

One of the challenges of injecting hydrogen into the natural gas grid will be at the final consumption points. The project in Seixal aims precisely to act as a controlled and safe, but living laboratory to test the behavior of household (and business) equipment when using the mixture of natural gas and hydrogen and to check that the combustion equipment works well.















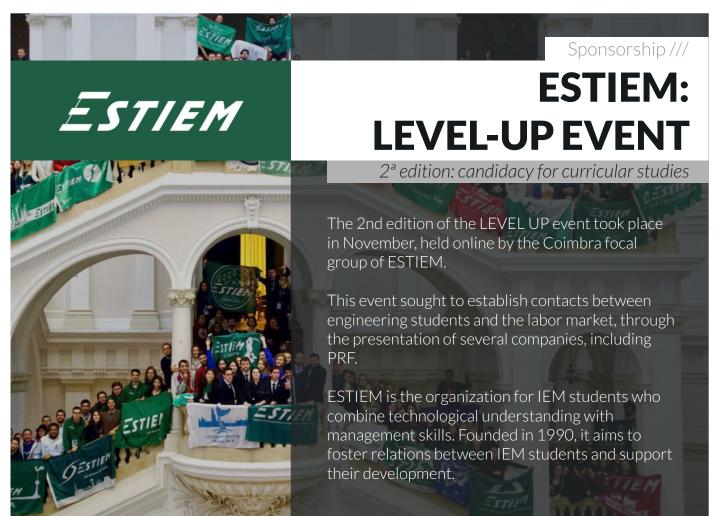












#### Sponsorship ///

#### **WEBINAR BEST**

"How to achieve success? A Multinational Idea, meet PRF-Gas Solutions"



PRF was the company invited by BEST to the webinar "How to achieve success? Multinational Idea, by PRF - Gas Solutions", in December 2020.

BEST (Board of European Students of Technology) is a non-profit, non-political organization, founded in 1989, and provides communication, co-operation and exchange possibilities across all over Europe.

BEST strives to help European students of technology to become internationally minded, by reaching a better understanding of the European cultures and developing capacities to work on an international basis. Therefore, they create opportunities for the students to meet and learn from one another through our academic and non-academic events and educational symposia. They also offer services like an international career centre to broaden the horizons for the choice on the job market.









