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## Contents

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# The Baumgarten interview: Stefan Wagenhofer and Harald Stindl, managing directors, Gas Connect Austria

The Baumgarten gas hub on the Austrian-Slovak border celebrated its 60th birthday in September. The infrastructure came under scrutiny in 2017 when an explosion at the facility caused one fatality and the temporary closure of the plant: the ensuing price spike on European markets in the depths of winter served as a reminder of Baumgarten's significance as an east-to-west gas gateway into Europe. Gas Connect Austria (GCA), which operates the plant with Trans-Austrian Gasleitung (TAG), has since completed its Trading Region Upgrade (TRU) pilot, to connect the Austrian and Czech markets. Gas Matters speaks to GCA's joint managing directors, Harald Stindl and Stefan Wagenhofer, about the future of the hub and how the changes in European flows are affecting its business model.



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