

Final Report

ENGAS RI

Environmental Gas Management Research Infrastructure

Transnational Access

Implemented as

Specific Support Action

Contract number: **RITA-CT-2003-506502**

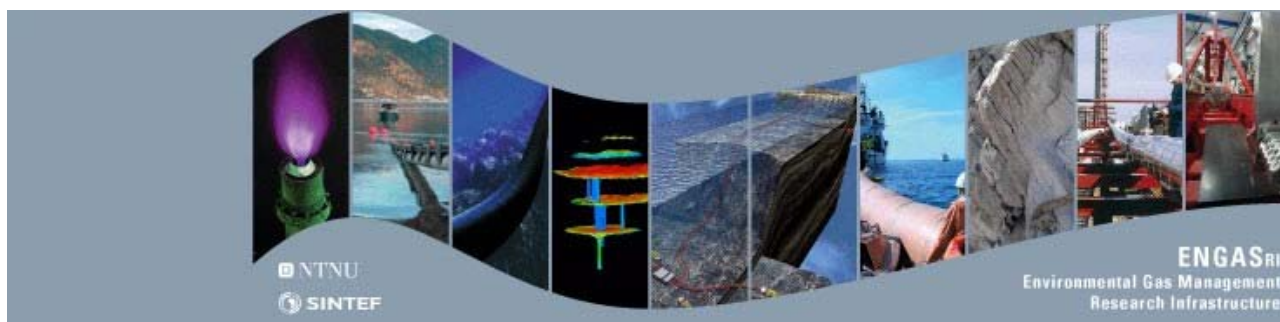
Project coordinator: **Arne M. Bredesen - NTNU**

Project website: **<http://www.ntnu.no/engas/>**

Project Duration: **60 months from 01.01.2004 to 31.12.2008**

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A. ACTIVITY REPORT



www.ntnu.no/engas

Over the last 30 years NTNU and its technology transfer partner SINTEF have jointly developed a 8,000 square metre research facility worth 38 million Euro: the ENGAS Research Infrastructure. At this infrastructure, 600 people work at ways of cleaning up CO₂, NO_x, SO_x and other greenhouse gases, and removing them from the oil and gas production processes and their use in industry, buildings and transport. A secondary thrust has been to cross-link this research with the development of clean new renewable energy technologies.

The ENGAS Research Infrastructure has had as an objective to open the laboratories to a larger European research community as to enhance science by international collaboration and cross-disciplinarity. Through granting qualified scientists access to a wide range of experimental gas facilities not within their reach, either for economic or geographical reasons, new scientific opportunities have been created. An integrated complex of 14 outstanding laboratories for focused and trans-boundary research within the field of environmental gas management were made available. These laboratories are designed to solve problems related to reducing emissions in the whole technology chain from energy source to end-user. The laboratories have been utilised successfully in bringing forward new innovative technology and solutions together with global industrial partners.

The ENGAS laboratory structure is based upon a long-term goal to establish clean electricity and hydrogen as main energy carriers in the future. **Figure 1** shows the range of processes that can be studied at the 14 different laboratories included in the ENGAS research infrastructure.

Regarding the transnational access activities, the daily running of the project was managed by the ENGAS secretariat, whereas the scientific support and guidance of the access projects was performed by a steering committee. In order to secure a smooth running of the infrastructure and of the individual projects, the committee met approximately twice a year for coordination and internal communication purposes.

An ENGAS user selection procedure was defined at the start of the contract, supported by a standard application form, an evaluation form and a set of assessment criteria. A two-stage selection consisted of an evaluation of the feasibility of the proposed experiments by the facility providers, followed by a scientific assessment performed by at least two members of the User Selection Panel. After two years of operating with fixed calls for proposals, an open call was adopted. This change stimulated a more continuous flow of applicants, allowing researchers to apply whenever it was most suitable. Acceptance of an application required a positive evaluation of a majority of the panel members. In case of equal marks, secondary criteria were used for prioritisation, i.e. number of

female group members and first time users. In total, 33 proposals were received. Of those, 27 were approved, corresponding to a success rate of 82 %.

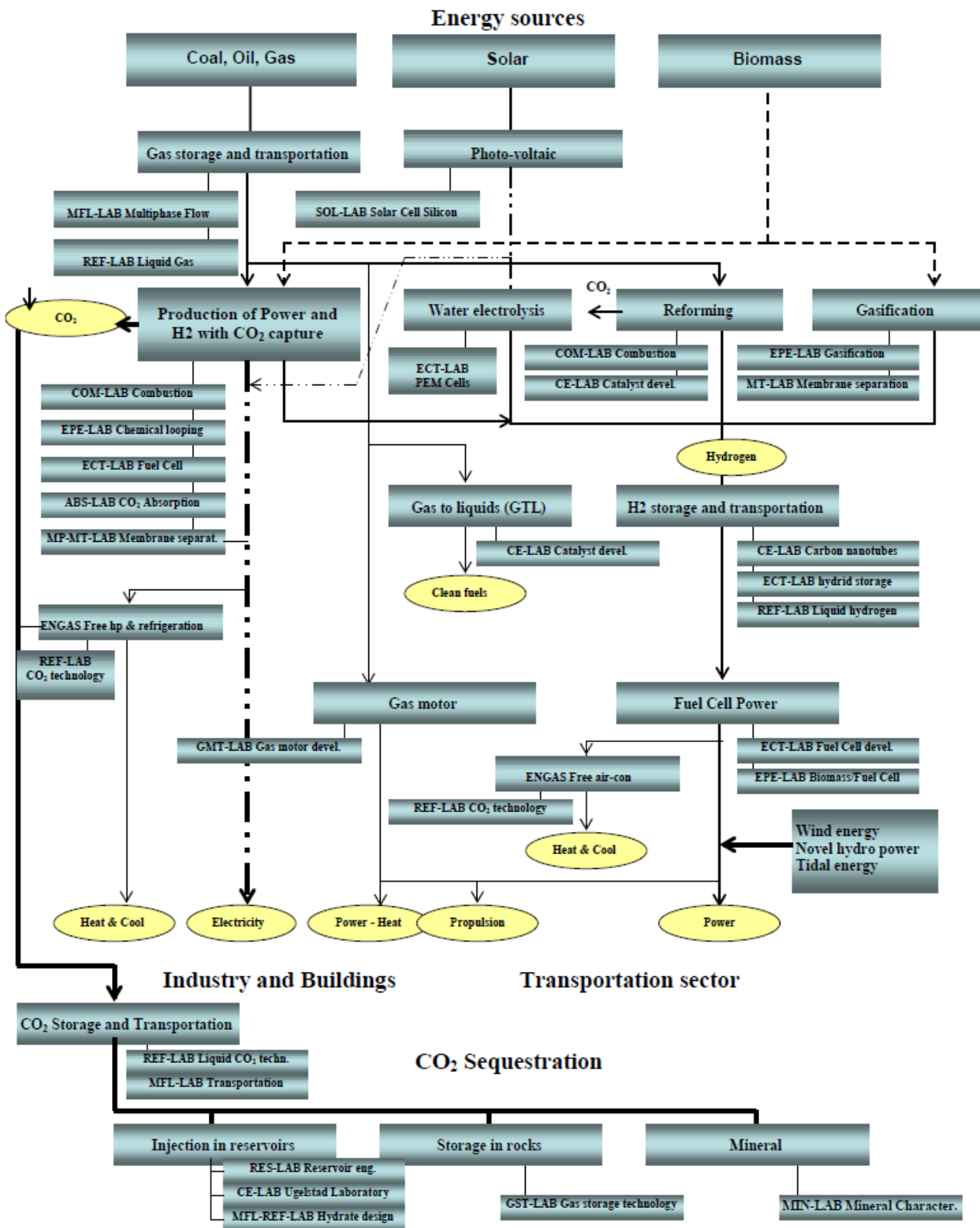


Figure 1. ENGAS Laboratory Roadmap

In total, 27 user groups accessed the ENGAS research infrastructure during the entire project period. This corresponded to 35 users from 13 countries, having used the available facilities for 715 access days.

The development of environmental methods to produce, store and transport different energy sources is becoming increasingly important as evidence of global warming is shown at an increasing pace. Only international collaboration on a high scientific level can advance the sector forward into the desired direction. Cooperation with and training of researchers in experimental gas research across the European Community is crucial in order to strengthen Europe's position in looking for knowledge-based solutions to the climatic challenges the world is facing. The availability of highly specialised laboratory to users not normally having access to these kind of facilities in their home country was explicitly emphasized by many users as an important reason for using the opportunity offered by the ENGAS project. A special contribution to a further integration of new EU Member States was obtained through providing access to users coming from countries such as Hungary, Lithuania, Slovakia, Poland and Turkey.

A large majority of the users had never used the facilities at ENGAS earlier, indicating that the contribution of the European Commission had a decisive role in the promoting of experimental research on greenhouse gasses in Europe. An overview of access details is given in

Table 1.

Table 1. Overview of estimated and actual access provided, number of supported users and user groups per installation

Installation (s)		Unit of access	Estimated access provided for the whole duration of the project			Actual access provided for the whole duration of the project		
Short name(s)	No#		Minimum quantity of access to be provided	Estimated number of users/persons	Estimated number of user groups	Quantity of access provided	Number of users/persons	Number of user groups
MFL	1	days	25	3	1	25	2	1
REF	2	days	55	1	1	55	1	1
COM	3	days	100	6	4	111	7	5
EPE	4	days	125	11	7	137	10	7
GMT	5	days	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABS	6	days	110	3	3	103	2	2
MP	7	days	60	3	3	102	4	4
MT	8	days	70	4	3	58	3	2
CE	9	days	130	4	4	110	3	3
ECT	10	days	0	0	0	0	0	0
RES	11	days	20	1	1	0	0	0
GST	12	days	0	2	0	0	0	0
MIN	13	days	20	3	2	14	3	2
SOL	14	days	0	0	0	0	0	0
SUM			715	41	29	715	35	27

In total, researchers from 14 different countries came to Trondheim for a period of 4 up to 49 days to perform tests at one of the ENGAS laboratories. An overview of the users at the infrastructure is given in **Table 2**, whereas the geographical distribution is illustrated in **Figure 2**.

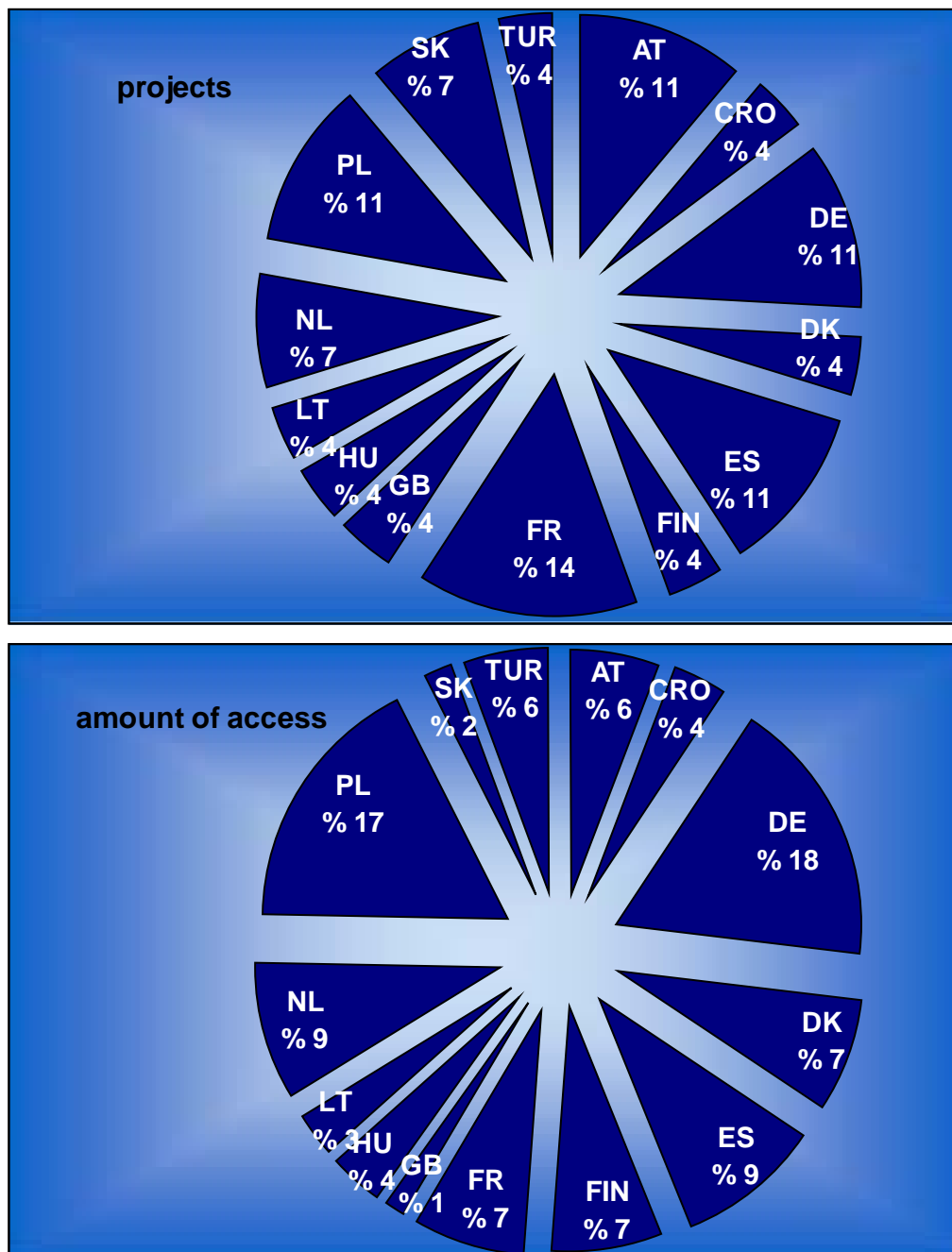


Figure 2. Access at the ENGAS research infrastructure project distributed according to participating European countries as number of projects (top) and amount of access (bottom).

After amendment of the contract in 2007, it was anticipated that 10 out of the 14 different laboratories would be accessed by 29 user groups. In reality, the total number of access days to be provided was achieved by 27 groups using in total 9 facilities. Hence, there was only a limited discrepancy between estimated and actual access. The large variety of laboratories offered was clearly appreciated by the European research community, which was given the chance to select the facility that was answering best to its needs.

The participation of female users was stimulated through inviting in particular women to apply for access, and through using the share of female group members as a criterion for selection. The

gender balance in the 27 access projects performed was 29 male against 6 female researchers, corresponding to a female representation of about 17 %. This was somewhat under the preset expectations, but is nevertheless experienced as a satisfactory result as the target group is a clearly male dominated energy research community. It is therefore believed that the ENGAS research infrastructure has contributed to making a research career in the field of gas technology more attractive, in particular to female and young scientists.

Due to a late start of the access activities in the first reporting period, combined with applications arriving late in the 4th reporting period, an extension of the contract to 5 years was applied for and granted by the Commission. The additional time allowed the contractor to fulfil its obligations towards the Commission regarding the quantity of access provided.

Table 2. Overview over all access projects with users, their home institution, the facilities used and the period of access, from 2005 to 2008.

User project acronym	Name of visitor(s)		Home Institutin	Country
Boubert	Pascal Boubert		Université de Provence – IUSTI	FR
Installation name	Installation No	Duration of stay	Amount of access delivered	
COM-LAB	3	11	8	
Project title				
<i>NO LIF in Hydrogen Flame</i>				

User project acronym	Name of visitor(s)		Home Institutin	Country
Mészáros/Várhegyi	Erika Mészáros, Gabor Varhegyi		Hungarian Academy of Science	HU
Installation name	Installation No	Duration of stay	Amount of access delivered	
EPE-LAB	4	48	25	
Project title				
<i>Pyrolysis and Gasification of Biomass from Energy Plantations</i>				

User project acronym	Name of visitor(s)		Home Institutin	Country
Sacher/Kutchi	Stephan Sacher, Klaus Kutsch		Technical University Graz	AT
Installation name	Installation No	Duration of stay	Amount of access delivered	
EPE-LAB	4	20	11	
Project title				
<i>Influence of liquid water activation on the reaction of SO₂ with calcium hydroxide</i>				

User project acronym	Name of visitor(s)		Home Institutin	Country
Zukauskas	Gerardus Zukauskas		Lithuanian Energy Institute	LT
Installation name	Installation No	Duration of stay	Amount of access delivered	
EPE-LAB	4	27	20	
Project title				
<i>Development possibilities of small scale CHP in Lithuania</i>				

User project acronym	Name of visitor(s)		Home Institutin	Country
Nitzsche	Jörg Nitzsche		TU Bergakademie Freiberg	DE
Installation name	Installation No	Duration of stay	Amount of access delivered	
CE-LAB	9	49	30	
Project title				
<i>Investigation of catalysts for steam reforming of natural gas for residential fuel cell applications</i>				

User project acronym	Name of visitor(s)		Home Institutin	Country
Sebastian	Victor Sebastian		University of Zaragoza	ES

Installation name	Installation No	Duration of stay	Amount of access delivered
MP-LAB	7	20	15
Project title			
<i>Study of CO₂ separation with different zeolite membranes</i>			

User project acronym	Name of visitor(s)	Home Institution	Country
Balaz	Peter Balaz	Slovak Academy of Sciences	SL
Installation name	Installation No	Duration of stay	Amount of access delivered
MIN-LAB	13	8	4
Project title			
<i>Carbon dioxide sequestration by mechanically activated minerals</i>			

User project acronym	Name of visitor(s)	Home Institution	Country
Balas	Peter Balaz/Martin Fabian	Institute of Geotechnics, Slovak Academy of Sciences	SK
Installation name	Installation No	Duration of stay	Amount of access delivered
MIN-Lab	13	16	10
Project title			
<i>Carbon dioxide sequestration by mechanically activated minerals</i>			

User project acronym	Name of visitor(s)	Home Institution	Country
Benmami	Mohamed Benmami	University of Paris 13	FR
Installation name	Installation No	Duration of stay	Amount of access delivered
EPE-Lab	4	33	26
Project title			
<i>Acid flue gas cleaning at low concentrations</i>			

User project acronym	Name of visitor(s)	Home Institution	Country
de Lathoudour	Karen de Lathoudour	Delft University of Technology	NL
Installation name	Installation No	Duration of stay	Amount of access delivered
CE-Lab	9	54	40
Project title			
<i>Developing Large-Scale Production of Carbon Nanotubes for Membrane Applications</i>			

User project acronym	Name of visitor(s)	Home Institution	Country
Gabrielsen	Jostein Gabrielsen	Technical University of Denmark	DK
Installation name	Installation No	Duration of stay	Amount of access delivered
ABS-Lab	6	56	52
Project title			
<i>Absorption and desorption of CO₂ from AMP solutions in a packed column</i>			

User project acronym	Name of visitor(s)	Home Institution	Country
Kautz	Martin Kautz/Steffen Giesel	TU Bergakademie Freiberg	DE
Installation name	Installation No	Duration of stay	Amount of access delivered
COM-Lab	3	76	55
Project title			
<i>Determination of the radical concentration (OH, CH) in CH₄-H₂-flames by means of laser measuring technique</i>			

User project acronym	Name of visitor(s)	Home Institution	Country
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Knuutila	Hanna Knuutila	Tampere University of Technology	
Installation name	Installation No	Duration of stay	Amount of access delivered
ABS-lab	6	55	51
Project title			
<i>Use of sodium carbonate in CO₂ separation</i>			

User project acronym	Name of visitor(s)	Home Institution	Country
Maurer	Christoph Maurer	Technical University of Graz	AT
Installation name	Installation No	Duration of stay	Amount of access delivered
EPE-Lab	4	27	20
Project title			
<i>Calorific value of volatiles released of a bed of biofuels under pyrolysis condition</i>			

User project acronym	Name of visitor(s)	Home Institution	Country
Mühle	Tobias Mühle	TU Bergakademie Freiberg	DE
Installation name	Installation No	Duration of stay	Amount of access delivered
CE-Lab	9	57	40
Project title			
<i>Screening and comparison of different catalysts for steam reforming in fuel cell systems</i>			

User project acronym	Name of visitor(s)	Home Institution	Country
Ozturk	Bahtiyar Ozturk/Emin Okumus	Ondokuz Mayıs University	TU
Installation name	Installation No	Duration of stay	Amount of access delivered
MT-Lab	8	58	40
Project title			
<i>Membrane Characterization for Gas separation</i>			

User project acronym	Name of visitor(s)	Home Institution	Country
Banasiak	Krzysztof Banasiak	Silesian University of Technology	PL
Installation name	Installation No	Duration of stay	Amount of access delivered
REF-Lab	2	72	55
Project title			
<i>R744 (CO₂) as a working fluid in refrigeration systems</i>			

User project acronym	Name of visitor(s)	Home Institution	Country
Kadri	Usama Kadri/Renè Oliemans	Delft University of Technology	NL
Installation name	Installation No	Duration of stay	Amount of access delivered
MFL-Lab	1	39	25
Project title			
<i>Long liquid slugs in stratified gas/liquid flow in horizontal and slightly inclined tubes</i>			

User project acronym	Name of visitor(s)	Home Institution	Country
Lianbo	Lianbo Liu	Imperial College London	GB
Installation name	Installation No	Duration of stay	Amount of access delivered
MT-Lab	8	27	10
Project title			
<i>Membranes for CO₂ capture</i>			

User project acronym	Name of visitor(s)	Home Institution	Country
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Pucher	Peter Pucher Andrei Kanaev	Graz University of Technology University Paris-Nord	AT FR
Installation name EPE-Lab	Installation No 4	Duration of stay 15	Amount of access delivered 10
Project title <i>Photocatalytic gas cleaning</i>			

User project acronym Shaffel	Name of visitor(s) Natalie Shaffel/Sebastian Werle	Home Institution Silesian University of Technology	Country PL
Installation name COM-Lab	Installation No 3	Duration of stay 46	Amount of access delivered 30
Project title <i>Experimental investigations of partially premixed flames</i>			

User project acronym Tiscornia	Name of visitor(s) Inès Silvia Tiscornia	Home Institution University of Zaragoza	Country ES
Installation name MP-Lab	Installation No 7	Duration of stay 34	Amount of access delivered 23
Project title <i>Zeolite membrane characterization by a novel defect detection</i>			

User project acronym Torrecilla	Name of visitor(s) Jorge Bosque Torrecilla	Home Institution University of Zaragoza	Country ES
Installation name MP-Lab	Installation No 7	Duration of stay 35	Amount of access delivered 29
Project title <i>Adsorption measurements on several zeolitic samples</i>			

User project acronym Boubert	Name of visitor(s) Pascal Boubert	Home Institution Université de Provence – IUSTI – Marseille	Country FR
Installation name COM-Lab	Installation No 3	Duration of stay 18	Amount of access delivered 13
Project title <i>Determination of Raman spectra of CO2 in a high temperature optical cell</i>			

User project acronym Cabot	Name of visitor(s) Gilles Cabot	Home Institution CORIA CNRS UMR 6614	Country FR
Installation name COM-Lab	Installation No 3	Duration of stay 8	Amount of access delivered 5
Project title <i>Effect of CO2 dilution on Flame Stability</i>			

User project acronym Klenovcanova	Name of visitor(s) Alexandra Klenovcanova	Home Institution Technical University of Kosice,	Country CR
Installation name EPE-LAB	Installation No 4	Duration of stay 35	Amount of access delivered 25
Project title <i>Study of mechanisms of biomass gasification processes</i>			

User project acronym	Name of visitor(s)	Home Institution	Country
Szczepanowicz	Krzysztof Szczepanowicz	Institute of Catalysis and Surface Chemistry PAS (ICSC)	PL
Installation name	Installation No	Duration of stay	Amount of access delivered
MP-LAB	7	50	35
Project title			
<i>Preparation of capsules with silica shells for high temperature applications</i>			

Along with the start of the ENGAS activities, four European Integrated Projects were initiated at NTNU / SINTEF dealing with related research fields. This strengthened the international profile of the research infrastructure even more and further reinforced the dynamism and quality of the scientific environment that was offered to the visiting researchers.

List of Publications

By the end of the project, 24 publications have appeared or are accepted in peer-reviewed journals or peer-reviewed conference proceedings. Many of those publications are a result of joint efforts between the users and the hosting researchers at NTNU / SINTEF, which is illustrated by a co-authorship. This was experienced as an important additional benefit of the ENGAS project. The user project Banasiak even resulted in a new research initiative, i.e. the project "Development of High-Efficiency, Small-Scale Heat Pumping Units Using an Environmentally Benign Working Fluid R744 and Expansion Work Recovery with Ejectors". It involves the Silesian University of Technology in Poland and the refrigeration team at NTNU/SINTEF and is financed by the Polish-Norwegian Research Fund.

Most of the users in 2008 are still processing their results. It is difficult to monitor and keep track of publications of previous users, since many of the PhD students leave their home Institutions/Universities after earning their PhD-degree and by this changing e-mail address.

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