

## **Media Release**

23 January 2017

# Axpo named best power trader in Europe

Axpo continues to rank among the worldwide best companies in energy trading: In the most recent survey by the trade magazines "Risk" and "Energy Risk" the company was voted the number 1 in numerous categories. As in the previous year, Axpo is the leader among power trading companies in Europe and individual countries, and achieved top ranks in gas trading. Once again, the outstanding performance demonstrates that the consistent expansion of international presence and business activities that began years ago is bearing fruit.

Every year, some 1500 market players and clients are asked to assess counterparties in energy trading according to criteria such as price, flexibility, market making, reliability, integrity and processing speed. Axpo has ranked among the top companies for years. In 2017, the company was once again voted the best power trader in Europe and also upheld its top positions in Germany, Spain, Belgium and the Netherlands. In Italy, Axpo achieved rank 2, in France rank 3. The positive result is rounded off with the number 2 ranking in the category "Research in power – Europe" that Axpo has been awarded three times in a row.

Axpo was also able to maintain its good rankings in gas trading: In the worldwide ranking of "Natural Gas Dealers" the company achieved 4<sup>th</sup> place and landed in 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the category "Research in Natural Gas (Europe)". Axpo was also third in the category "Other European Hubs", which includes various gas hubs in Belgium, Germany, France and Italy.

Rank 8 in the category "Best overall dealers" rounds off the outstanding result. For the first time Axpo ranks among the top ten best commodity traders in the world. This category includes companies that mainly deal in oil, gas, power, fuels, coal, iron ore, metals and emission certificates. Major banks dominate the list. Although Axpo does not trade in all these commodities, the company successfully placed among the best in the world in this category.

Domenico De Luca, Head of Trading & Sales at Axpo, is pleased with the top rankings: "Today local presence, speed and agility are important. We recognised these customer needs early on and focused our strategy accordingly. The results of the survey among our partners and customers confirm that we are moving in the right direction."

## Consistently taking advantage of revenue opportunities in energy trading

Axpo's success rests on the consistent strategic expansion in the energy trading business focussing on growth and income. Risk management, which Axpo has developed and perfected over the years, is an important pillar here. In addition, customers also appreciate Axpo's innovation, agility and flexibility – and the short communication routes to contacts in the individual markets where the company is active.

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Local presence is an advantage particularly in origination, the business with tailored customers solutions. Axpo now has offices in over 25 countries and is active in 37 markets. Specialists who are familiar with the local conditions and literally speak the language of their customers are at work offering individual solutions for the marketing and procurement of power, gas and energy certificates.

Axpo is continuously developing new sources of revenue. Special focus lies on wind power: Axpo markets energy from customer plants with an installed capacity of some 14,000 MW, positioning the company among the leading marketers of renewable energies in Europe. The SME segment holds additional potential: Axpo is active on the markets in Spain, Italy and Poland with growing success.

### Additional information

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#### About Axpo

The Axpo Group produces, trades and distributes energy reliably in Switzerland and in over 30 countries throughout Europe. Around 4500 employees combine the expertise from 100 years of climate-friendly power production with innovative strength for a sustainable energy future. Axpo is an international leader in energy trading and in the development of tailor-made energy solutions for its customers.