Air Liquide in the United States

*Historical timeline*

1916: The Air Reduction Company, a U.S. based joint venture between Air Liquide and David Rockefeller was established, with Air Liquide holding 32% of the company. Following World War II, Air Liquide was unable to further invest and eventually disposed of all its shares.

1968 – 1972: Air Liquide re-enters the U.S. with the acquisition of American Cryogenics, an Exxon subsidiary, followed by Industrial Air Products of Oregon, forming Liquid Air Corporation.

1979: Liquid Air acquires Chemetron (National Cylinder Gas), significantly increasing its U.S. position.

1982: Liquid Air acquires Cardox, the second largest producer of carbon dioxide in the U.S.


1986: Air Liquide acquires Big Three Industries, giving its pipeline operations a strong position on the Gulf Coast. Liquid Air and Big Three are held separate and continue to operate independently.

1989: Médal, a joint venture between Air Liquide and DuPont, is established to develop membrane technology for air separation. Air Liquide became the sole owner of Médal in 1991, when DuPont withdrew from the project.

1991: Air Liquide becomes sole owner of Médal.

1994: Air Liquide America Corporation is formed with the merger of Liquid Air Corporation and Big Three Industries.

1997: Acquisition of Texas Instruments Inc. chemical operations department.

1997: Renewal and expansion of Air Liquide’s U.S. bulk business is undertaken.

2001: The acquisition of Balazs Analytical Laboratory enabled Air Liquide to expand its offer to the semiconductor industry in the U.S. and abroad.

2001: Air Liquide Healthcare America Corporation is established in the U.S. as a provider of medical gases to hospitals and healthcare institutions as well as respiratory care to patients in their homes.

2001: Air Liquide divests its retail hardgoods and small industrial cylinder business and establishes the ALNET distributor network.


2007: The state-of-the-art Delaware Research & Technology Center was established in Newark.

2007: Air Liquide commits $200M to expand hydrogen capacity, extend pipeline and build hydrogen storage cavern.

Air Liquide in the United States

Historical timeline

2008: Air Liquide acquires Edwards CMD, further establishing Air Liquide Electronics’ position in the high purity fluid equipment and installation sector.

2009: Startup of a steam methane reformer (SMR) in Bayport, Texas, then Air Liquide’s largest hydrogen production unit.

2010: An 85 mile H2 pipeline expansion of the GCPL is committed, extending the hydrogen pipeline to Port Arthur, Texas.

2011: Air Liquide Electronics completes the expansion of its ALOHA™ advanced precursors manufacturing site in Fremont, California.

2012: Air Liquide acquires the renewable natural gas assets of Georecover – Live Oak, LLC, that recovers and processes landfill exhaust gas into renewable natural gas.

2012: A new Steam Methane Reformer (SMR) producing gaseous hydrogen is commissioned at Air Liquide’s production complex in La Porte, Texas.

2012: Air Liquide acquires an Air Separation Unit from Georgia Gulf in Plaquemine, Louisiana and builds a new unit in Geismar, Louisiana.

2012: Air Liquide expands its air separation complex in Cleburne, commissioning a new nitrogen liquefier to further support growth in the Texas and Oklahoma markets.

2013: Air Liquide establishes its Houston Hub.

2013: Air Liquide acquires Oklahoma-based oilfield services company Progressive Resources, Inc, a key supplier of liquid nitrogen and cryogenic storage and distribution systems and related services to the oil and gas services sector.

2013: Air Liquide upgraded its production facility in Freeport, Texas to expand hydrogen purification operations and compression capacity to its hydrogen pipeline system.

2013: Air Liquide acquires Voltaix, a leading electronics materials company.

2013: Air Liquide Breaks ground on the redevelopment of its world-class production complex in Bayport, Texas.

2014: Creation of Air Liquide Advance Business & Technologies business in the U.S.

2014: Start-up of nitrogen plant in Tioga, North Dakota to serve oil well service activities in the Bakken oil field.

2014: Air Liquide completes the redevelopment of two packaged gas facilities in Texas: a cylinder filling center located on the grounds of Air Liquide’s industrial gas production complex in La Porte and a nearby facility in Pasadena that produces specialty gas mixtures.

2014: Announced collaboration with Toyota to support the introduction of its Mirai hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicle to the U.S.

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