



Netherlands: Rotterdam Port Fund, NIBC Bank invest in LNG filling station operator

Companies have jointly acquired a majority interest in Rolande, the developer and operator of LNG filling stations and producer of bio-LNG.

Rolande Rotterdam Port Fund and NIBC Bank have recently acquired a majority interest in Rolande, the developer and operator of LNG filling stations and producer of bio-LNG. Rolande, market leader in the Netherlands, was founded in 2005 and is helping logistics service providers make the switch to LNG as a fuel by building a European network of LNG filling stations.

Current majority shareholder IVECO Schouten will retain a significant interest in Rolande. The transaction is expected to be finalised after completing the relevant approval procedures in the first half of 2019.

After the opening of the first permanent LNG filling station in Tilburg in 2013, Rolande has experienced considerable growth and currently operates thirteen filling stations.

“Now that LNG is gaining an increasingly important position in the market, scale and expansion to other countries are essential in our view. Thanks to the Rotterdam Port Fund and NIBC we can accelerate the planned expansions”, explained general manager of IVECO Schouten, Fred Schouten.

“The further development to a greater use of bio-LNG leads to even more advantages in terms of emissions and we would like to assist Rolande in the realisation thereof”, commented managing director of the Rotterdam Port Fund, Bastiaan van der Knaap, in a press statement issued by the company.

“LNG and bio-LNG play a crucial role in making heavy road transport and shipping more sustainable,” commented CEO of Rolande, Jolon van der Schuit. “The further expansion of our network of filling stations in Europe and the marketing of bio-LNG are the main objectives.”

“By enabling the international roll-out of the network of LNG filling stations, we can contribute to a sustainable and cleaner future for the transport sector”, said Head of NIBC Mezzanine & Equity Partners, Brigitte van der Maarel.

The Rotterdam Port Fund is an independent investment fund that invests in innovative port-related

companies with attractive market prospects, specifically focussing on sustainability and the energy transition, as well as attractive market prospects. The fund was established by the Port of Rotterdam Authority, NIBC Bank and a number of Rotterdam entrepreneurs. NIBC is an enterprising bank focused on client's most decisive moments with advice, financing and investments. With offices in The Hague, Amsterdam, Frankfurt, London and Brussels, NIBC serves 600 mid-market businesses and more than 400,000 retail clients through a portfolio of client-focused products and services.