

COPEX 2014

CONCAWE Oil Pipeline Operators Experience Exchange Seminar

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NATO Support Agency

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Dispatching centre

Central Europe Pipeline System (CEPS)

The Central Europe Pipeline System (CEPS) is the largest cross-border pipeline system in NATO. The CEPS is more than 5,484 km long and crosses through the territories of Belgium, France, Germany, Luxemburg and The Netherlands. The United States participates as a 'User Nation'.



Since the 1960s, the transport, storage and delivery capability of the System has also been offered to non-military clients.

With 30 depots, the CEPS has a storage capacity of 1,230,000 m³. The system's infrastructure allows point-to-point transport of diesel, gasoline, domestic fuel and naphtha.

In 2013, the CEPS delivered more than 12 million m³ of product, mainly jet fuel, to military and non-military clients. The average storage inventory was 900,000 m³.

The CEPS Programme, an integral part of the NATO Support Agency (NSPA), manages the operation, financing and maintenance of the CEPS in support of NATO's operational military requirements during peacetime, crisis and conflicts, including expeditionary operations. The CEPS Programme Office is responsible for the operational, technical and financial control, as well as the coordination of business developments.

Current issues

- Electrification of high-pressure pump stations
- Sophisticated pipeline integrity assessment techniques
- Lifetime extension of assets
- Increasing regulatory involvement / requirements
- Product quality control

The CEPS was originally created for the transport, storage and distribution of fuel to supply the airbases of the Alliance in Central Europe. Its construction started at the beginning of the 1950s. Progressive expansion resulted in lines stretching far into Germany to serve the Allied Forces.



Filter maintenance



Rail loading station



Pipeline restoration