Unique synergetic set up

Creating value

Customer focus

Learning organisation

Profitable growth

Healthcare

Integrated business model

Leading technologies

Innovative supply concepts

Growth markets

Full year results 2014

Building on Strengths.

Lead**Ing.** 



Analysts' Conference Call 16 March 2015

### Disclaimer



This presentation contains forward-looking statements about Linde AG ("Linde") and their respective subsidiaries and businesses. These include, without limitation, those concerning the strategy of an integrated group, future growth potential of markets and products, profitability in specific areas, the future product portfolio, development of and competition in economies and markets of the Group.

These forward looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, many of which are outside of Linde's control, are difficult to predict and may cause actual results to differ significantly from any future results expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements on this presentation.

While Linde believes that the assumptions made and the expectations reflected on this presentation are reasonable, no assurance can be given that such assumptions or expectations will prove to have been correct and no guarantee of whatsoever nature is assumed in this respect. The uncertainties include, inter alia, the risk of a change in general economic conditions and government and regulatory actions. These known, unknown and uncertain factors are not exhaustive, and other factors, whether known, unknown or unpredictable, could cause the Group's actual results or ratings to differ materially from those assumed hereinafter. Linde undertakes no obligation to update or revise the forward-looking statements on this presentation whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

## Agenda



#### Part 1

Dr Wolfgang Buechele

- 1. Performance Highlights 2014
- 2. Strategic Focus
  - Organisational Adjustment
  - Continuous Efficiency Improvement
  - Portfolio Optimisation
  - Invest for Profitable Growth
- 3. Outlook

### Part 2

Georg Denoke

- 1. Operational Performance
- 2. Financial Performance

### **Appendix**

# Performance 2014 Highlights

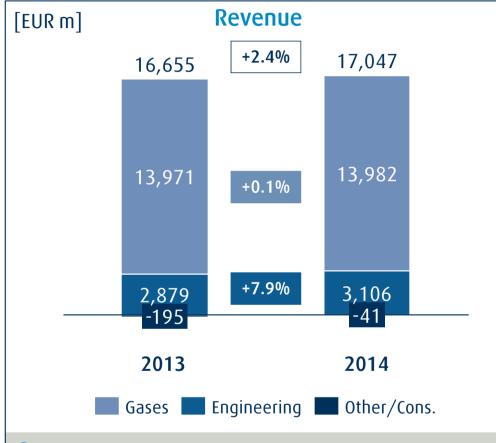


| [EUR]                    |          | 2013   | 2014   | yoy [%] | yoy [%] fx adj. |
|--------------------------|----------|--------|--------|---------|-----------------|
| Revenue                  | [m]      | 16,655 | 17,047 | + 2.4%  | + 4.5%          |
| Operating Profit         | [m]      | 3,966  | 3,920  | - 1.2%  | + 1.0%          |
| Operating Margin         | [%]      | 23.8   | 23.0   | - 80 bp |                 |
| Operating Cash Flow*     | [m]      | 3,144  | 3,301  | +5.0%   |                 |
| EPS before non-recurring | ng items | 7.10   | 7.13   | +0.4%   |                 |
| EPS reported             |          | 7.10   | 5.94   | -16.3%  |                 |

- Positive revenue development despite challenging macro-economic environment
- Strong operating cash flow even exceeding last year's high level
- Reported EPS impacted by impairment losses on plants in Q3 and restructuring expenses in Q4

## Group | Revenue and operating profit by division Revenue and profit growth affected by currency headwinds



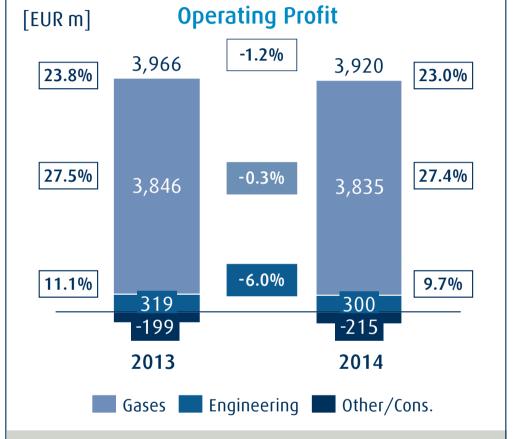


#### Gases

2.7 percent comparable growth; Currency headwind of 2.6 percent in 2014 but positive contribution in Q4

### **Engineering**

Strong revenue growth delivered



#### Gases

Margin remained at a high level

### **Engineering**

Above industry margin due to favourable project mix

## Strategy | Creating Value.

Efficient resource allocation & value generation



| EBITDA ROCE Shareholder Return    | value generation  |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
|                                   |                   |
| Invest for Profitable Growth      | mid- to long-term |
|                                   |                   |
| Portfolio Optimisation            | mid-term          |
|                                   |                   |
| Continuous Efficiency Improvement | on-going          |
|                                   |                   |
| Organisational Refinement         | on-going          |
|                                   |                   |

# **Strategy | Organisationalional Refinement**Refined operating model for profitable growth



#### Previous operating model

**Regional Business Units** 

P&L responsibility

Regional Standards & Best Practices

**Business Opportunities & Investment Projects** 

Conflict of interests

Global Business Units / Business Areas

Strong influence on P&L

Global Standards & Best Practices

**Business Opportunities & Investment Projects** 

**Corporate & Support Functions** 

**Business Support** 

### Refined operating model with clearly defined roles & responsibilities

**Regional Business Units** 

**P&L Responsibility** 

**Global Governance Centers** 

Standards & Best Practices

**Corporate & Support Functions** 

**Business Support** 

**Opportunity & Project Development** 

**Business Opportunities & Investment Projects** 

## **Strategy | Organisationational Refinement**Restructuring measures in Southern Hemisphere



### Refined Operating Model

- Advanced and lighter matrix structure empowering the operational business units
- Global Governance Centres established to define business standards
- Implementation of an enhanced Opportunity & Project Development process and organisation for investment decisions

#### Restructuring in the Southern Hemisphere

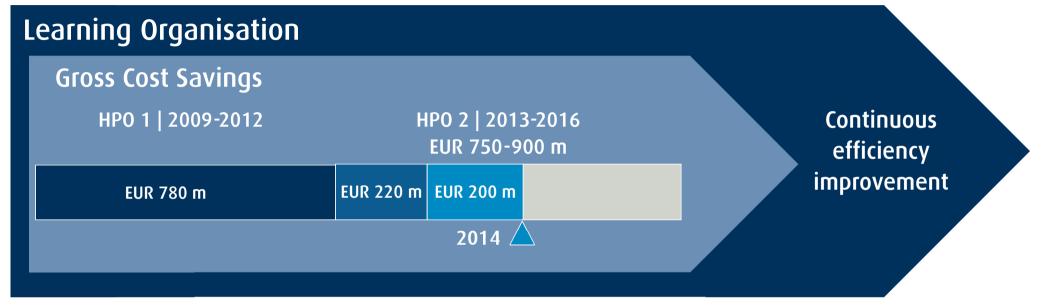
- Australia to adjust to deindustrialisation trend in the country restructuring
  - Status: in implementation
- South Africa and Brazil to adapt to the slower growth economic environment

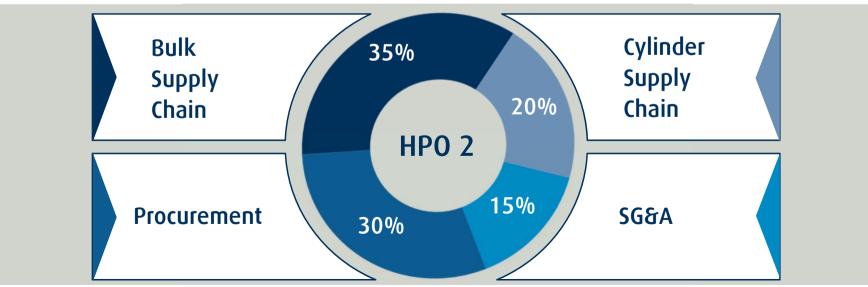
Status: first measures initiated; detailed scenarios under development



# **Strategy | Continuous Efficiency Improvement**From HPO to a learning organisation







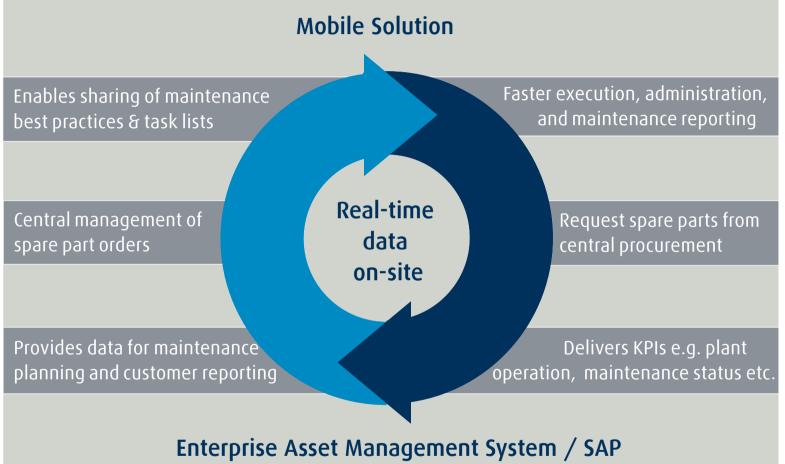
## Strategy | Continuous Efficiency Improvement

Example: Mobile solution for maintenance processes









- Reduces maintenance spending, including third party costs
- Reduces costs of downtime
- Central management of spare part orders leads to optimised procurement & inventory mgmt.
- Expected savings of EUR ~10 m in North America; further potential across Group

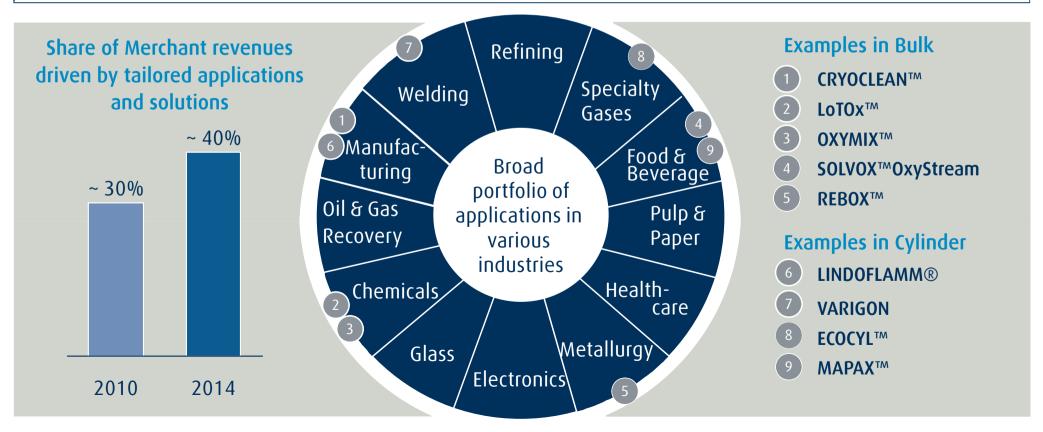
## Strategy | Portfolio Optimisation

Example: Customer Focus - Applications as growth driver



### Advantages of application and solutions approach

- Providing customer solutions creates higher value than pure molecule supply
- Even higher customer loyalty
- Transferability of solutions and know-how across industries and geographies



## Strategy | Portfolio Optimisation

## Example: Customer Focus - Building on strength in metallurgy



#### **LINDOFLAMM®**

### Tailored solutions to improve productivity for all metal heating applications





### Increased value creation

- Solution sales including burners, automation & safety equipment
- Drive sales of highest value acetylene instead of LPG or natural gas
- Higher volume consumption of acetylene

### Higher customer loyalty

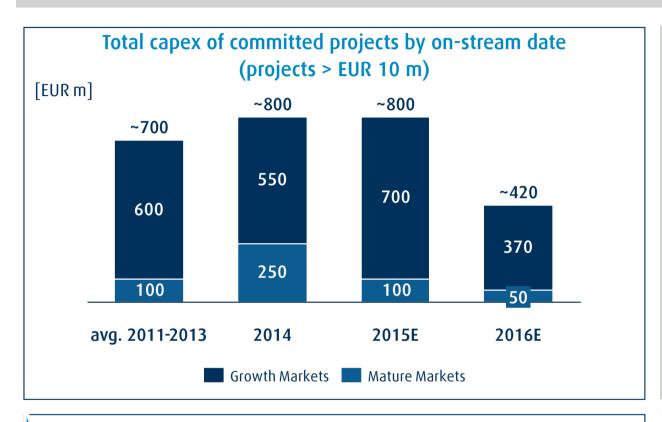
- Multi-year supply contracts for acetylene cylinders, bundles, trailers
- Ongoing interaction with customer to maintain / expand burner base
- Additional supply contracts for other gases and equipment

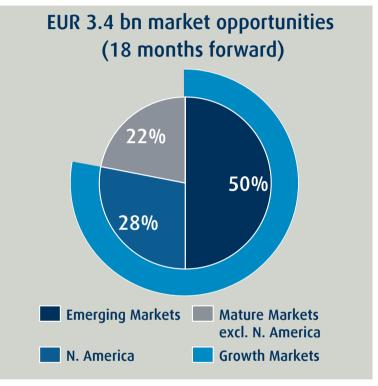
### Leverage Linde's global footprint

- Worldwide customer base already established (Europe, Asia, Africa)
- Technology also applicable for other metal fabrication applications including brazing and hardening (for both manual and automated installations)

## **Strategy | Invest for profitable growth**Project pipeline oriented towards Growth Markets







- Around 80 percent of project investments are allocated to growth markets (including North America)
- Capex/Sales ratio in Gases will be lower compared to the previous years
- Due to larger project sizes the average project execution time has increased up to 36 months

Portfolio of market opportunities decreased sequentially to EUR 3.4 bn due to challenging investment climate e.g. from oil price development

## Strategy | Invest for profitable growth Established leader in high growth regions



- Market leader in 51 countries and in 4 out of 6 Growth Markets
- Number 2 in 21 countries
- 90 percent of Gases revenues are generated in 30 countries



# **Strategy | Invest for profitable growth**Healthcare | Resilient growth profile



### Linde's business profile

Global presence (60 countries)

Serving 1.5 million homecare patients

Supplying ~20,000 hospitals

Lincare's US market share further increased to 32 percent

Cost leadership through economies of scale, e.g. purchasing power

Know-how transfer between markets (e.g. distribution network, best practices)

### Growing patient base

#### **Example COPD**

[%] = annual growth

#### COPD

Global population [+2-3%]

Diagnosed patients [+4-5%]

Stage III + IV patients [+4-5%]

On oxygen [+5-7%] —
Linde's current market share —

#### Innovation



# Smart Cylinder Best-in-class cylinder package

cylinder package with new technology supporting clinical staff in hospitals and securing medical compliance



#### **LIVOPAN®**

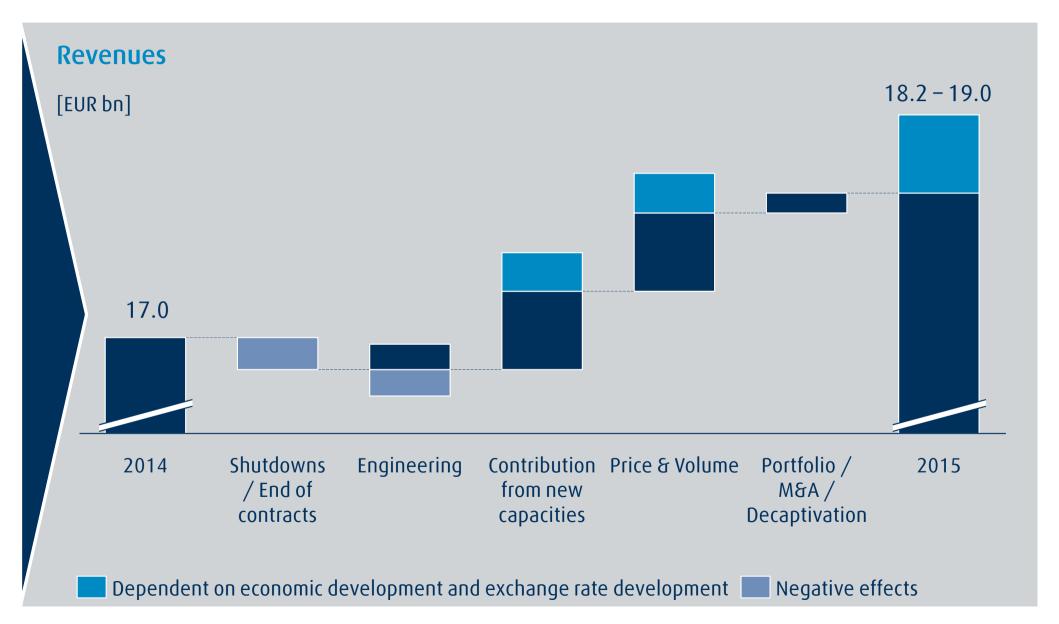
Medicallyapproved pain relief mixture suitable for children and during childbirth

Source: Linde data

## Outlook | Revenues

18.2 to 19.0 bn EUR





## Outlook Building on Strengths.

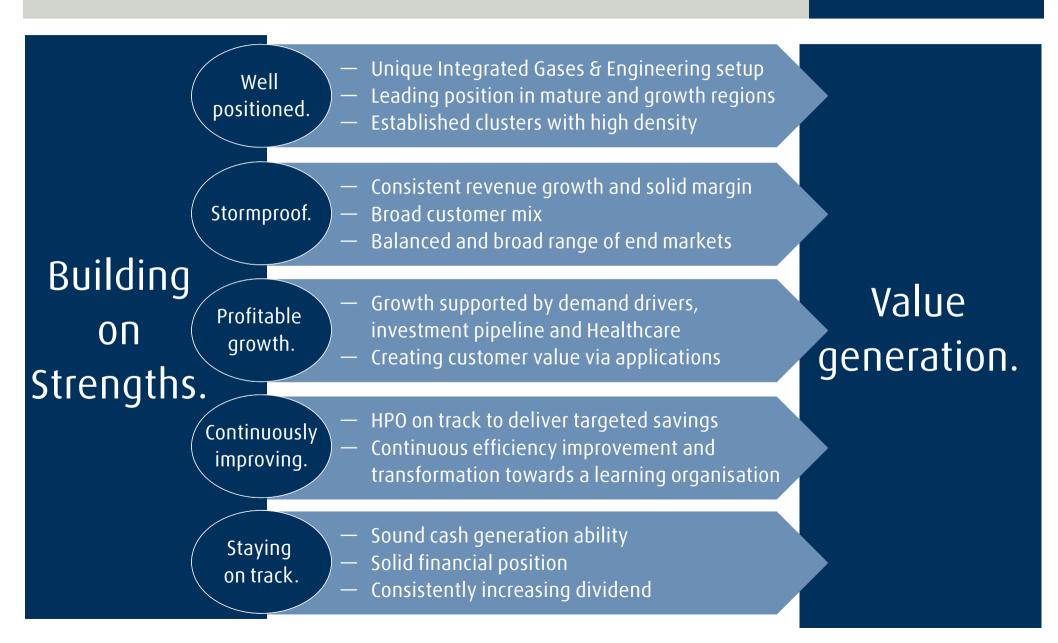


| Short-term outlook* |                  | 2015                       |
|---------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| Carrie              | Revenue          | 18.2 to 19.0 billion Euros |
| Group               | Operating Profit | 4.1 to 4.3 billion Euros   |
|                     | ROCE             | 9 to 10 percent            |
| Gases               | Revenue          | 14.9 to 15.4 billion Euros |
| Division            | Operating Profit | 4.05 to 4.25 billion Euros |
| Engineering         | Revenue          | 3.0 to 3.3 billion Euros   |
| Division            | Operating Margin | Around 8 percent           |
| Medium-t            | erm outlook**    | 2017                       |
|                     | Operating Profit | 4.5 to 4.7 billion Euros   |
| Group               | ROCE             | 11 to 12 percent           |
|                     | Efficiency       | 750 to 900 million Euros   |

Please see definitions of key financial figures on page 42
\* Dependent on economic development and exchange rate development
\*\*As communicated at 9M 2014 reporting and based on exchange rates prevailing at that point in time

## The Linde Group | Building on Strengths.





## Agenda



### Part 1

- 1. Performance Highlights 2014
- 2. Strategic Focus
- 3. Outlook

Part 2

- 1. Operational Performance
  - Gases Division
  - Engineering Division
- 2. Financial Performance
  - Financial KPIs
  - Capex
  - Dividend

**Appendix** 

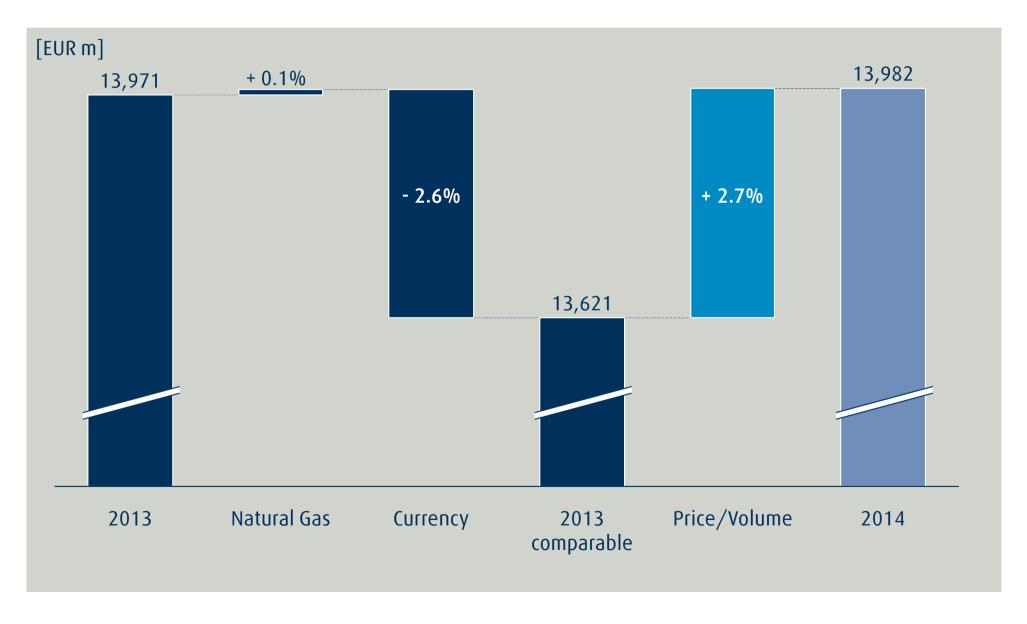
**Dr Wolfgang Buechele** 

Georg Denoke

## Gases Division | Revenue bridge

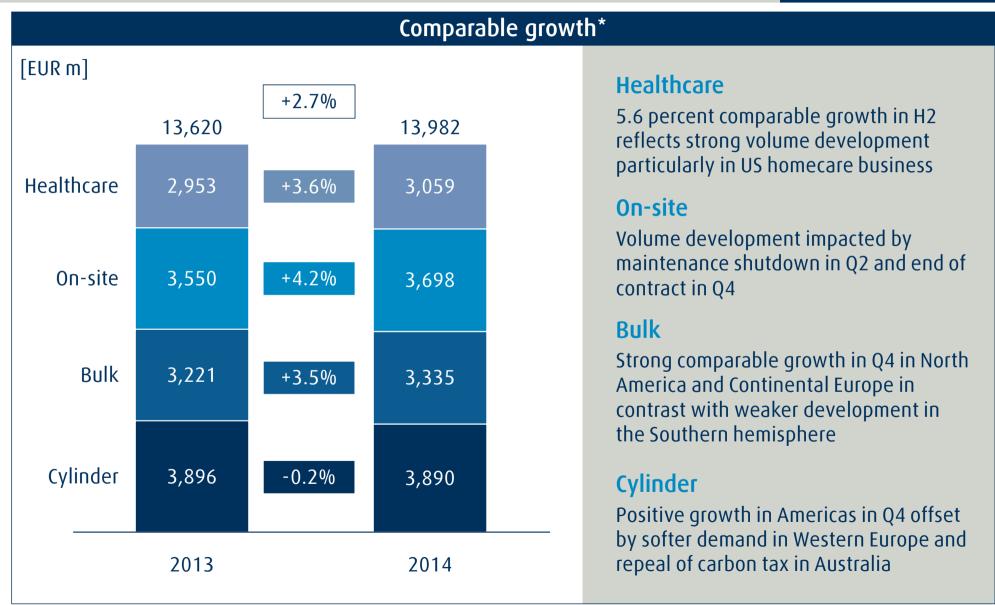
## Price/volume increase of 2.7 percent in 2014





# Gases Division | Revenue by product areas Positive growth development in 2014

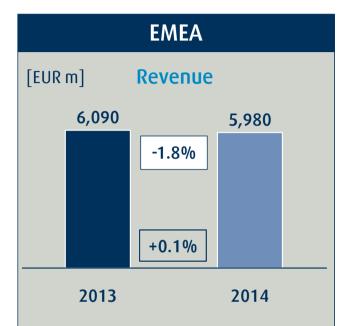




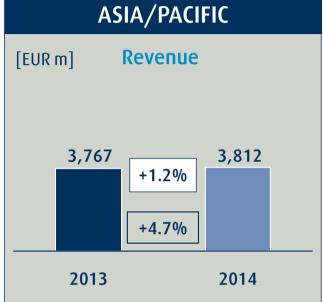
<sup>\*</sup>excluding currency and natural gas price effect

# Gases Division | Revenue by operating segment Underlying growth in all segments





- Solid demand in UK while
   Continental Europe remains
   soft; African environment
   challenging
- Comparable growth of 6.1 percent in Middle East and Eastern Europe
- Highest growth contribution from Bulk



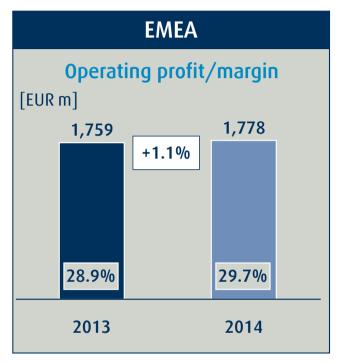
- Growth driven by China with9.7 percent comparablegrowth
- South Pacific adversely impacted by negative economic trends and repeal of carbon tax
- Strong growth contribution
   from plant start & ramp ups

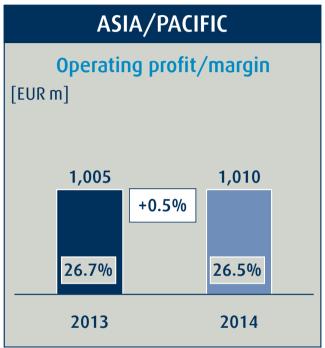


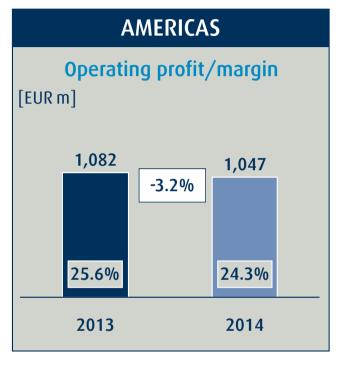
- Solid growth contribution from North America
- Economic climate in South
   America continued to
   deteriorate
- Growth driven by Healthcare across Americas

# Gases Division | Operating profit by operating segment Gases margin of 27.4 percent









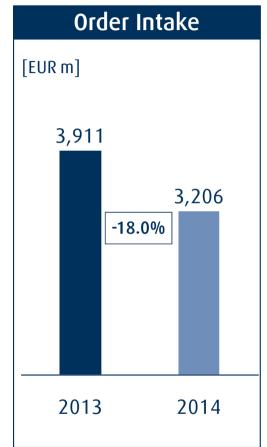
### Operating profit/margin development

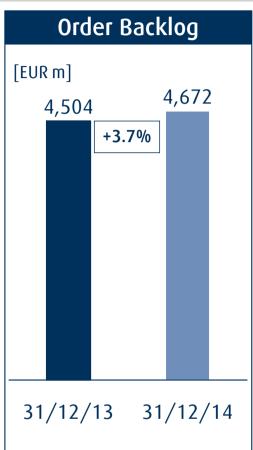
- Margin development in EMEA supported by higher contributions from UK and Middle East
- Stable margin in Asia/Pacific despite weak economy in South Pacific
- Margin in Americas diluted by natural gas prices in North America and weakness in South America

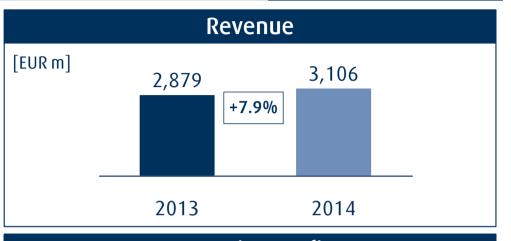


# **Engineering Division | Key figures**Record revenues and order backlog









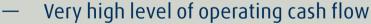


- Revenue development and margin on target
- Margin remains above mid-term guidance of 8 percent
- High order backlog provides a good position in challenging investment climate

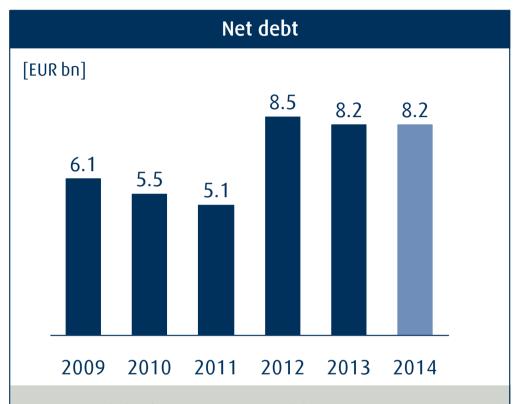
# Financial Performance | Key indicators Strong operating cash flow development







- Increase in cash flow from operating activities of
   5.0 percent despite decline in operating profit
- Development supported by advanced payments received by Engineering Division but restrained by higher income taxes paid

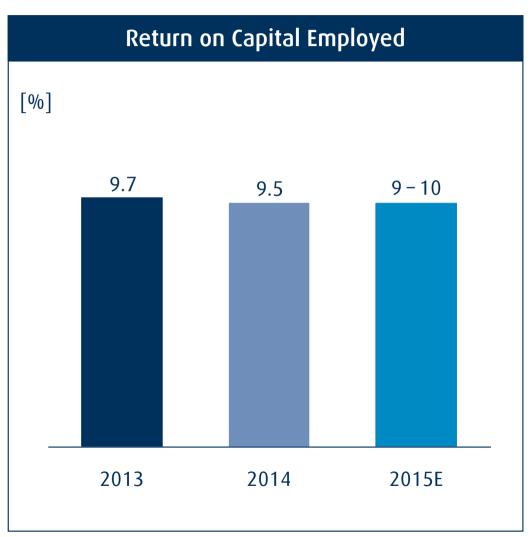


- Net debt/EBITDA ratio stable at 2.1x
- S&P: Rating unchanged A+/A-1 (stable outlook)
- Moody's: Rating upgrade to A2/P-1 with stable outlook (16 June 2014)

<sup>\*</sup>Before pension funding

# Financial Performance | Return on Capital Employed Development impacted by FX movements



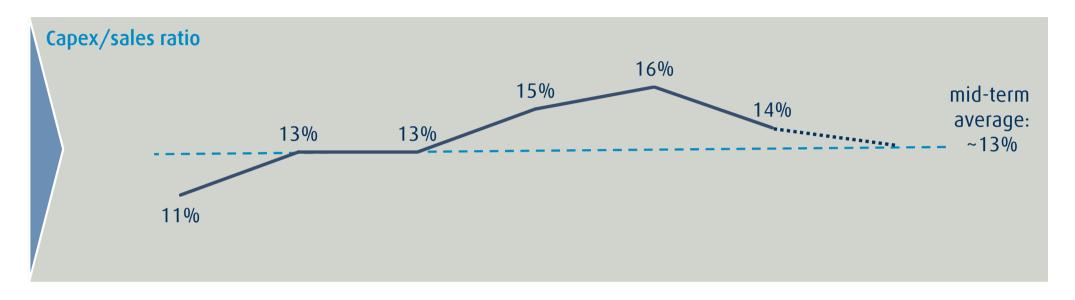


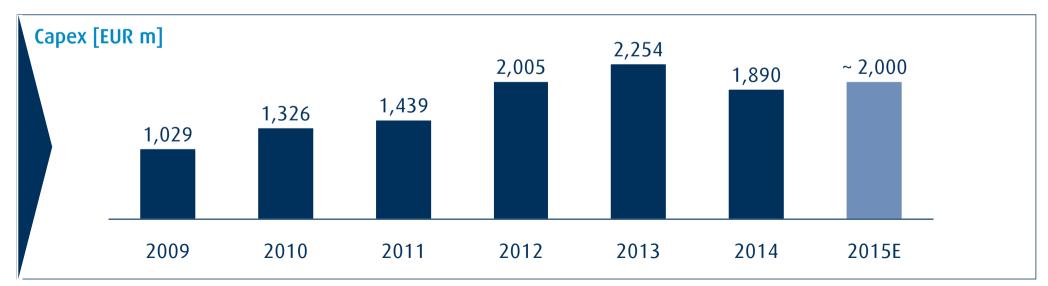
- Capital employed calculated with FX spot rates at year end
- Average capital employed up by around 500 million Euros mainly due to
  - exchange rate effects
  - increased assets under construction
  - Negative technical impact on return on capital employed

Please see definitions of key financial figures on page 42

# Financial Performance | Capex Gases Division Capex guidance higher due to FX effects



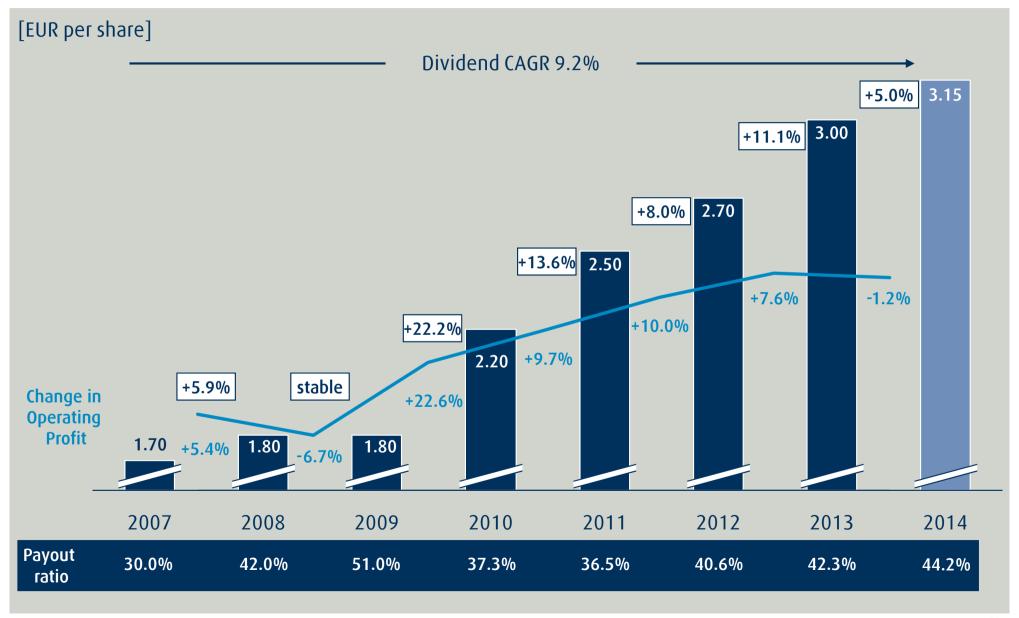




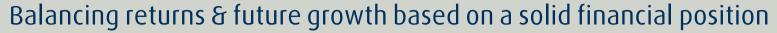
## Financial Performance | Dividend

## Proposed dividend increase of 5 percent to EUR 3.15

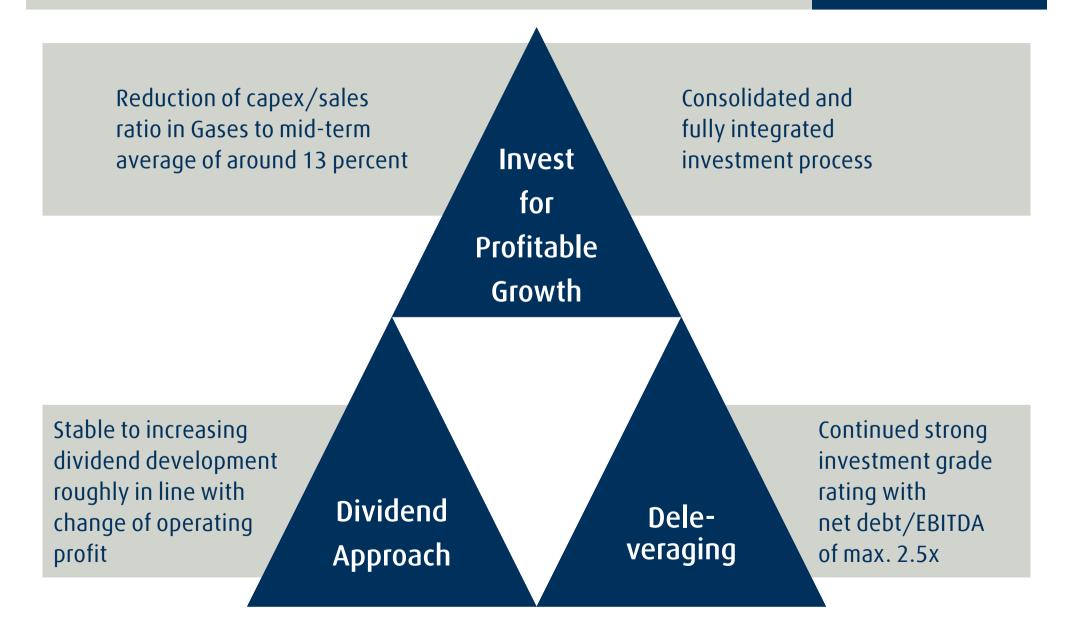




## Group | Use of Cash Flow







## Agenda



### Part 1

- 1. Performance Highlights 2014
- 2. Strategic Focus
- 3. Outlook

### Part 2

- 1. Operational Performance
- 2. Financial Performance

Dr Wolfgang Buechele

Georg Denoke

## **Appendix**

# **Group | Financial position**Liquidity position remains strong

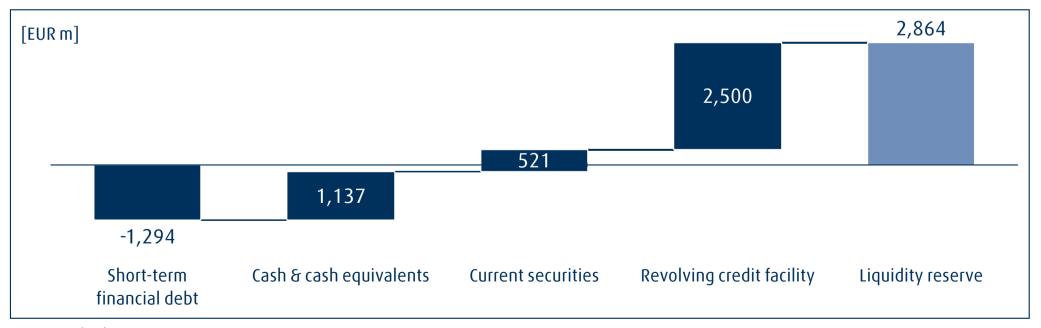


### EUR 2.5 bn committed revolving credit facility

- 2013: Early refinancing with 33 domestic and international banks
- 2014: Exercise of one year extension option
- Maturing in 2019, extendable by 1 more year
- No financial covenants
- Fully undrawn

### **Central liquidity position**

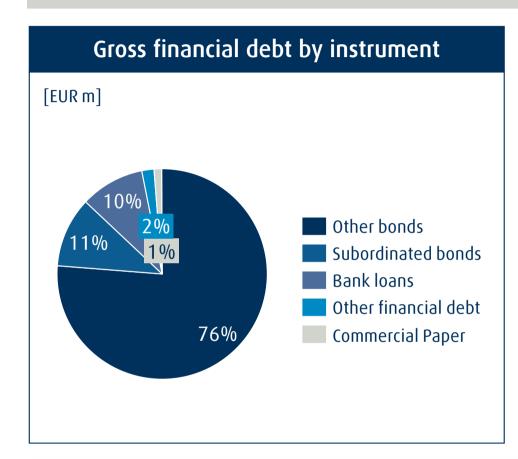
- Strong liquidity profile remains centerpiece in financial strategy
- Supported by continuous efforts to upstream cash
- Very conservative investment guidelines

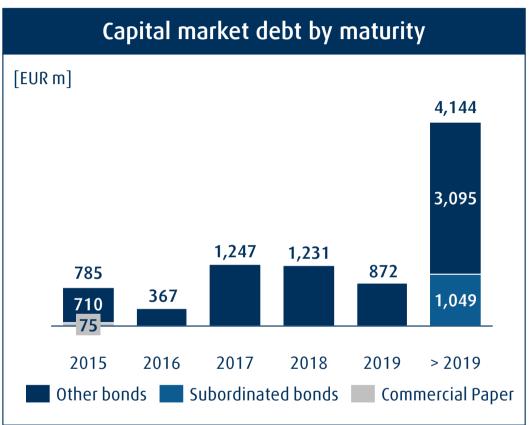


Status: 31/12/2014

# **Group | Financial position**Conservative financing strategy







### Maturity profile remains very long-dated

- Approx. 90 percent of total financial debt is due beyond 2015
- Approx. 45 percent of total financial debt has a longer maturity than 5 years
- Excellent access to capital markets: long-term financing across markets and currencies

Status: 31/12/2014

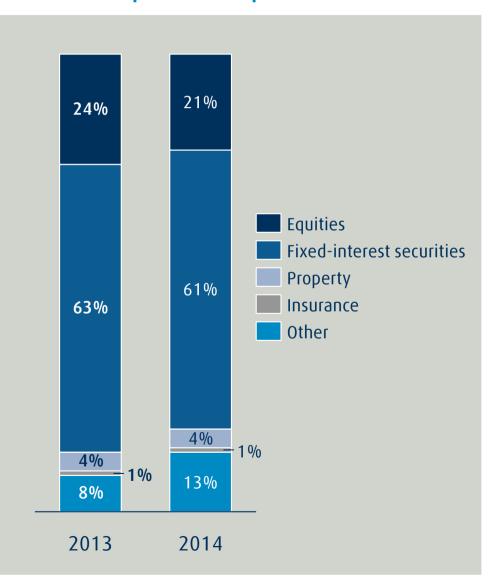
# **Group | Pensions**Key figures 2014



### **Net obligation**

#### [EUR m] **DBO** Plan Net obligation asset 01/01/2014 5,073 5,841 768 **Service costs** 107 107 **Net financing** 254 237 17 Actuarial losses/gains 224 641 865 Contributions/payments -236 217 -453 **Other** 313 317 -4 31/12/2014 6,068 1,076\* 7,144 \* Figure does not include effects from asset ceiling and provisions for similar obligations

### Pension plan assets portfolio structure



## Group | 2014 Key P&L items



| [EUR m]   | 2013   | 2014   | Δin % |
|---|--------|--------|-------|
| Revenue   | 16,655 | 17,047 | 2.4   |
| Operating profit  | 3,966  | 3,920  | -1.2  |
| Operating margin  | 23.8%  | 23.0%  | -80bp |
| PPA depreciation for BOC  | -225   | -227   | -0.9  |
| Depreciation & amortisation (excl. PPA BOC)                                     | -1,570 | -1,742 | -11.0 |
| thereof non-recurring items (impairment losses on tangible & intangible assets) | _      | -229   | _     |
| Other non-recurring items (expenses for restructuring)                          | _      | -66    | _     |
| EBIT  | 2,171  | 1,885  | -13.2 |
| Financial result  | -377   | -365   | 3.2   |
| Taxes   | -364   | -358   | 1.6   |
| Profit for the year – attributable to Linde AG shareholders                     | 1,317  | 1,102  | -16.3 |
| EPS reported [EUR]  | 7.10   | 5.94   | -16.3 |

## Group | Q4 2014 Key P&L items



| [EUR m]   | Q4 2013 | Q4 2014 | Δin % |
|---|---------|---------|-------|
| Revenue   | 4,187   | 4,463   | 6.6   |
| Operating profit  | 970     | 1,022   | 5.4   |
| Operating margin  | 23.2%   | 22.9%   | -30bp |
| PPA depreciation for BOC                                    | -55     | -60     | -9.1  |
| Depreciation & amortisation (excl. PPA BOC)                 | -388    | -411    | -5.9  |
| Non-recurring items (expenses for restructuring)            | _       | -66     | _     |
| EBIT  | 527     | 485     | -8.0  |
| Financial result  | -89     | -103    | -15.7 |
| Taxes   | -86     | -83     | 3.5   |
| Profit for the year – attributable to Linde AG shareholders | 320     | 284     | -11.3 |
| EPS reported [EUR]  | 1.72    | 1.53    | -11.0 |

## Gases Division | Quarterly data Reporting segments



| EMEA [EUR m]           | Q1 2013 | Q1 2014 | Q2 2013 | Q2 2014 | Q3 2013 | Q3 2014 | Q4 2013 | Q4 2014 |
|------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Revenue                | 1,497   | 1,467   | 1,549   | 1,511   | 1,523   | 1,519   | 1,521   | 1,483   |
| Operating profit       | 430     | 429     | 446     | 460     | 438     | 455     | 445     | 434     |
| Operating margin       | 28.7%   | 29.2%   | 28.8%   | 30.4%   | 28.8%   | 30.0%   | 29.3%   | 29.3%   |
| Asia /Dasifia [FUD es] | 01 2012 | 01 2014 | 02 2012 | 02 2014 | 02 2012 | 02 2014 | 04 2012 | 04 2014 |
| Asia/Pacific [EUR m]   | Q1 2013 | Q1 2014 | Q2 2013 | Q2 2014 | Q3 2013 | Q3 2014 | Q4 2013 | Q4 2014 |
| Revenue                | 926     | 870     | 971     | 946     | 946     | 1,006   | 924     | 990     |
| Operating profit       | 240     | 224     | 257     | 252     | 250     | 261     | 258     | 273     |
| Operating margin       | 25.9%   | 25.7%   | 26.5%   | 26.6%   | 26.4%   | 25.9%   | 27.9%   | 27.6%   |
|                        |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
| Americas [EUR m]       | Q1 2013 | Q1 2014 | Q2 2013 | Q2 2014 | Q3 2013 | Q3 2014 | Q4 2013 | Q4 2014 |
| Revenue                | 1,054   | 1,060   | 1,083   | 1,035   | 1,053   | 1,077   | 1,041   | 1,142   |
| Operating profit       | 272     | 260     | 270     | 238     | 310     | 258     | 230     | 291     |
| Operating margin       | 25.8%   | 24.5%   | 24.9%   | 23.0%   | 29.4%   | 24.0%   | 22.1%   | 25.5%   |

# Group | 2014 Cash flow statement



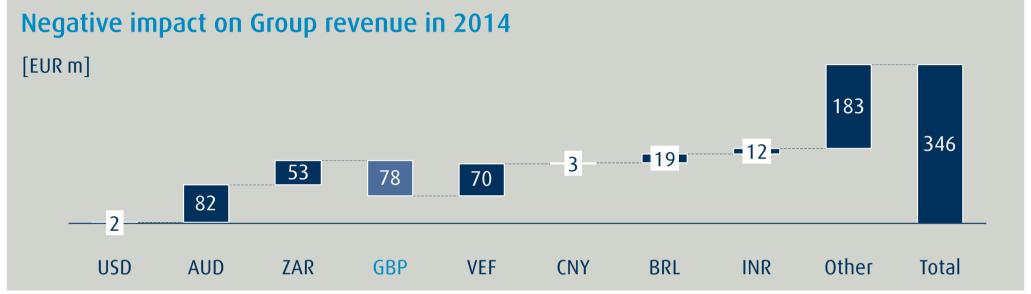
| [EUR m]  | Q1 14 | Q2 14 | Q3 14 | Q4 14 | 2014   | 2013   |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| Operating profit                                   | 927   | 969   | 1,002 | 1,022 | 3,920  | 3,966  |
| Change in working capital                          | -174  | -170  | 234   | 172   | 62     | 24     |
| Taxes paid   | -105  | -237  | -127  | -83   | -599   | -552   |
| Other changes                                      | -54   | -134  | 57    | 49    | -82    | -294   |
| Operating cash flow before pension funding         | 594   | 428   | 1,166 | 1,160 | 3,301  | 3,144  |
| Investments in tangibles/intangibles               | -484  | -449  | -469  | -555  | -1,957 | -2,162 |
| Acquisitions / Other (incl. financial investments) | 65    | 15    | 116   | 48    | 244    | -13    |
| Investment cash flow*                              | -419  | -434  | -353  | -507  | -1,713 | -2,175 |
| Free cash flow before financing*                   | 175   | -6    | 813   | 606   | 1,588  | 969    |
| Pension funding                                    |       | -300  |       |       | -300   |        |
| Interests and swaps, dividends                     | -41   | -725  | -128  | -109  | -1,003 | -942   |
| Other changes                                      | -7    | -5    | -4    | -10   | -26    | 27     |
| Net debt increase (+)/decrease (-)                 | -127  | 1,036 | -681  | -487  | -259   | -54    |

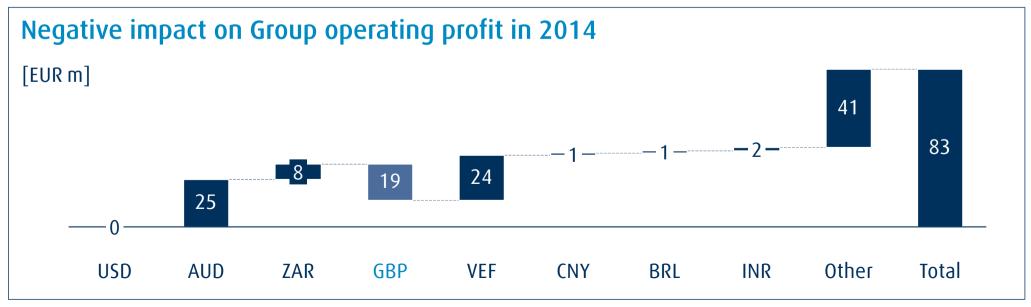
<sup>\*</sup>Excluding investments in/disposals of securities; 2014: EUR -350m (Q1: EUR -148m / Q2: EUR -5m, Q3: EUR -398m, Q4: EUR 201m); 2013: EUR 651m

## Group | Currency impact

## Impact on revenue and operating profit in 2014

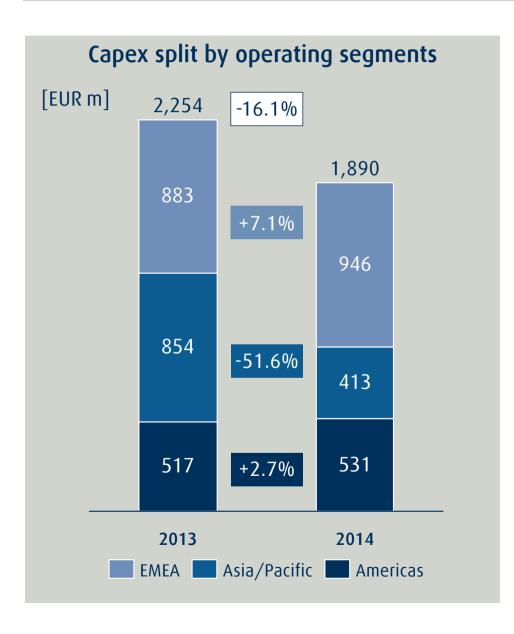






# Gases Division | Capex split Capex/sales ratio in 2014 of 14 percent



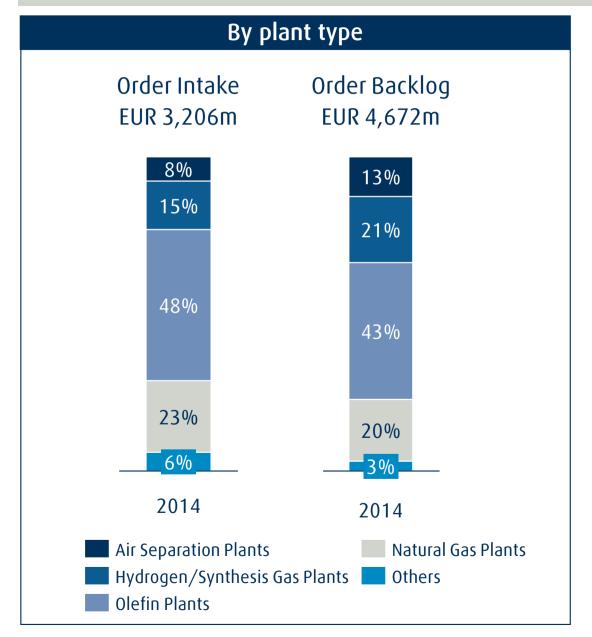


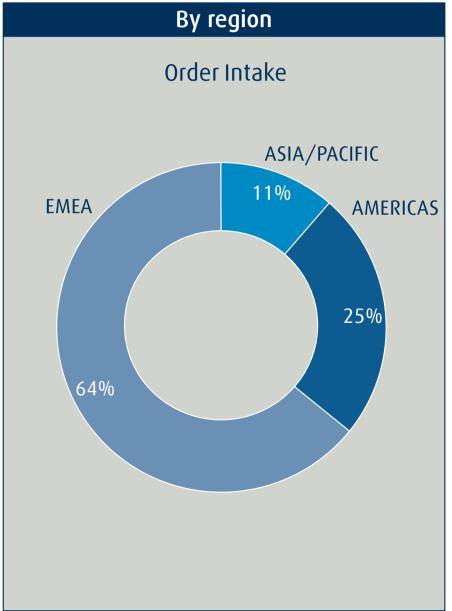
- Increase in investment activities in EMEA driven by Middle East and Eastern Europe
- Significant capex decrease in Asia/Pacific as new On-site plants came on-stream in China and South & East Asia
- Higher capex in North America balanced by lower capex in South America



# **Engineering Division | Order intake & backlog**Largest share of order intake from EMEA







## Group | BOC PPA

## Expected depreciation & amortisation



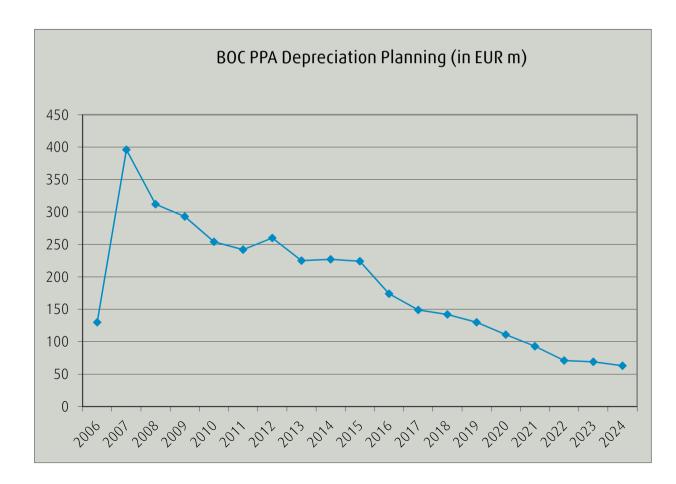
- Development of depreciation and amortisation
- Impact in 2014: EUR 227 million
- Expected range adjusted due to exchange rate effects

| Expected ra | ange | [El | JR | m] |
|-------------|------|-----|----|----|
|             |      |     |    |    |

2022

| 2015 | 210 - 230 |
|------|-----------|
| 2016 | 180 – 200 |
| •••  |           |

< 125



## Group | Definition of key financial figures



### **Operating Profit**

#### Return

EBIT before non-recurring items adjusted for amortisation of intangible assets and depreciation of tangible assets

### Return on Capital Employed (ROCE)

#### Return

EBIT before non-recurring items

### Average Capital Employed

Equity (incl. non-controlling interests)

- + financial debt
- + liabilities from finance leases
- + net pension obligations
- cash, cash equivalents and securities
- receivables from finance leases

Earnings per Share (EPS) before non-recurring items

#### Return

Profit for the period before non-recurring items attributable to Linde AG shareholders

#### Shares

Number of weighted average outstanding shares

Earnings per Share (EPS)

#### Return

Profit for the period attributable to Linde AG shareholders

### Shares

Number of weighted average outstanding shares

### **Investor Relations**



#### Financial calendar

Report Q1 2015: 30 April 2015
AGM 2015: 12 May 2015
Dividend payment: 13 May 2015
Report H1 2015: 29 July 2015
Report 9M 2015: 28 October 2015

#### Linde share information

Type of share: Bearer shares

Stock exchanges: All German stock exchanges

Security reference number: ISIN DE0006483001

CUSIP 648300

#### Linde ADR information

Ticker Symbol: LNEGY

DR ISIN: US5352230204
Depositary Bank: Deutsche Bank

Structure: ADR Level I, Sponsored

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