



Market Consultation

Compact US Flowmeters for the benefit of N.V. Nederlandse Gasunie

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Version 1.0

N.V. Nederlandse Gasunie
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1 GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 Introduction

This document contains information about the market consultation for compact US Flowmeters. The information collected through this market consultation will be used for the preparation and development of a tender for compact US Flowmeters on behalf of N.V. Nederlandse Gasunie (hereinafter: Gasunie). For the tender for compact US Flowmeters that is yet to be launched, no rights can be derived from the data provided in this document.

Gasunie believes it is important to collect timely information about compact US Flowmeters to stay optimally informed of the opportunities that the market offers in the field of compact US Flowmeters.

1.2 N.V. Nederlandse Gasunie

The N.V. Nederlandse Gasunie (hereafter Gasunie) manages and maintains the infrastructure for large-scale transport and storage of gas in the Netherlands and the northern part of Germany. The Gasunie network is one of the largest high-pressure pipeline networks in Europe and consists of more than 15.000 km of pipelines in The Netherlands and Northern Germany, dozens of installations, and approximately 960 custody transfer stations. The annual throughput of gas is approximately 80 billion cubic meters.

Gasunie was founded in 1963, four years after the discovery of natural gas in the northern Dutch province Groningen. Gasunie is a public limited company under Dutch law and fully owned by the State of the Netherlands. Gasunie has two subsidiaries that manage the gas transport network: Gasunie Deutschland in Germany and Gasunie Transport Services (GTS) in the Netherlands.

Gasunie is a leading European energy infrastructure company whose core activities are gas transport and gas storage. We serve the public interest and facilitate the energy transition by providing integrated infrastructure services. Safety, reliability, sustainability and cost-effectiveness play a central role in everything we do. We focus on value creation for our shareholder(s) and other stakeholders and apply the highest safety and business standards used in the sector.

More information about Gasunie can be found on <https://www.gasunie.nl/en>.

1.3 Compact US Flowmeters

Gasunie is exploring the market for the availability of Compact US Flowmeters. This market consultation aims to clarify the technical developments with regards to compact US Flowmeters without constructive adjustments and in accordance with the [Meetcode Gas LNB](#) (Measuring code).

The intended compact US Flowmeter has a measuring range that is suitable for maximum capacity as stated in the connection agreement. Due to the larger measuring range of the US Flowmeter, Gasunie demands to meet the requirements set in the Basic Technical Planning (UTP). With this market-consultation we are consulting the market for more information in order to make a buy-decision.

1.4 Scope

Below are listed the currently identified scope and requirements as a reference for answering the questions in annex 1 and the indication of compliance with the scope in annex 2.

SCOPE

Requirement	Specifications
Type	Compact USM
Medium:	Natural Gas
Normal size	DN50 – DN150
Pressure rating	ANSI 150 (ASME B16.5)
Design Pressure	20.1 bar (g)
Design temperature	-25 °C +55 °C or better
Turn down	1:50 or more
Battery capacity	At least 3 months
Certificates	MID (2014/32/EU), PED (2014/68/EU), Material certificate 3.1, CE Certificate

MID accuracy	Class 1
ATEX	IIC Zone 1 (at least T4) (2014/34/EU (ATEX 114))
Degree of protection	Minimum IP66
Outputs	(Elster) Encoder Protocol and HF pulse

* If any other specification / specific information is available, please share the information with us.

European Directives

2014/34/EU (ATEX 114)

Directive 2014/34/EU of the European Parliament and the Council of 26 February 2014 on the harmonisation of the laws of the Member States relating to equipment and protective systems intended for use in potentially explosive atmospheres (recast).

2014/68/EU

Directive 2014/68/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 on the harmonisation of the laws of the Member States relating to the making available on the market of pressure equipment (PED directive).

2014/32/EU

Directive 2014/32/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on the harmonisation of the laws of the Member States relating to the making available on the market of measuring instruments (recast) (MID directive).

Remarks:

No straight length necessary for getting MID accuracy requirements.

Dimensions

Out of the many combinations of nominal diameter and length, client's choice for the preferred combinations is given in table 1.

Table 1: Combination of nominal diameter DN and length L.

DN	L (mm)
50	171
80	241
100	300
150	450

Calibration

Meters shall be calibrated on a ISO 17025 facility on natural gas 8 bar and atmospheric pressure. 7 point calibration will be required (specified in PO)

Inspection and Testing

Quality control in general: the Inspection and Test Plan

All inspection, test and calibration (IT&C) activities shall be carried out by the manufacturer in accordance with an Inspection and Test Plan (ITP) submitted by the manufacturer and approved by Client. This plan shall cover all IT&C activities and indicate all tests and inspections to be witnessed by Client, an authorised inspection agency (Notified Body) or another third party on behalf of Gasunie. The procedure and the ITP format may be chosen by the manufacturer, provided all information specified in the following subclauses can be retrieved easily. Each meter shall be provided with an authorised (by Gasunie) copy of the calibration certificate(s) packed in a watertight plastic bag.

IT&C procedures

Critical documents referred to in the ITP shall be subject to approval by Client. Once approved, these shall be considered part of the ITP.

At least the following IT&C procedures shall be designated "critical" and shall therefore be submitted to Client for approval:

- manufacturer's written material specifications for pressure-containing parts;
- welding procedures;
- NDT procedures;
- final testing procedures;
- painting procedures;
- transport, packing and marking procedures.

Information on individual procedures

At least the following information shall be provided on each IT&C activity:

- activity number;
- description;
- controlling document (see note);
- acceptance criteria;
- type of record or document to be provided;
- verification action (witness, hold-point or review of documents);
- party (manufacturer/Gasunie).

Note:

All IT&C activities shall be grouped in a logical sequence in line with the production plan. The work flow relating to these activities shall be structured by a controlling document, which shall specify explicitly the relevant procedures, work instructions and the acceptance criteria, preferably by reference to a specific clause in an applicable document; the latter may be a code, standard, requisition, specification or the like.

General requirements for documents

A manufacturing report shall be compiled for each item of the Purchase Order.

The documents shall be legible, identifiable, retrievable and protected from deterioration or loss.

The original documents shall be retained by the manufacturer for a minimum of ten years from the date of manufacture or from the date of completion of modification or repair, or revision of the meter.

All documents shall be prepared in Dutch or English.

Specific procedures for individual Purchase Orders

Documents

Specific procedures and documents that are relevant to an individual Purchase Order will be specified separately by Gasunie using the Required Engineering Documents (RED) form.

Inspection

In addition to inspection in accordance with Gasunie specification, the following areas shall be inspected by Client:

- electrical components;
- explosion-proof components, including their certificates;
- pressure-connecting points;
- metrological performance;
- additional requirements.

2 PROCEDURE

2.1 Schedule

Activity	Date / Period
Send Publication Tendered	Monday 30 September 2024
Deadline submission of response via Tendered	5 November 2024

2.2 Exchange of information

The exchange of information for this market consultation is carried out electronically via Tendered, www.tendered.nl. The use of Tendered is free of charge.

If you want to participate in this consultation, please answer the Questions in Annex 1 via provided the Q&A Form (Excel). Also fill in the price sheet provide with Question 22 in Annex 1. You can send the Question Form and prices to Arjan Kleine via a.kleine@gasunie.nl. For questions about this consultation please contact Mr. Arjan Kleine.

2.3 Conditions

By taking part in this market consultation you agree with the following conditions:

1. Communication is in the English language;
2. All communication is exclusively with the contact person mentioned in paragraph 2.2;
3. Your answers are confidential and shall only be shared within Gasunie;
4. The provided information will only be used for further studies and advice;
5. The scope and requirements may change based on the provided information;
6. Gasunie is not bound by the results of the market consultation;
7. Participants cannot derive any rights based on this market consultation;
8. If needed, Gasunie reserves the right to change the planning.

Annex 1 Question Form

Design and maintenance

1. Does your company have Compact US Flowmeters which comply with the scope as described in section 1.4? If not, please specify which requirements cannot be met.
2. Can your company prove that "no straight length upstream" has no influence on the accuracy and function of the meter and still comply with MID class 1? If yes, can the proof be shared with Gasunie?
3. Is your company manufacturer of the US Flowmeters (OEM)? If not please elaborate further.
4. In the context of proven technology (life cycles/proven technology): when did your company first deliver a compact US Flowmeter in compliance with the scope to the market?
5. Does your company have a service department in the Netherlands?
6. Which USM sizes can your company offer? Please state for all sizes the flow measuring range and turn down.
7. Did your company deliver, in the past three years, Flowmeters in compliance with the scope for city gate stations of Transportation Service Operator (TSO)? If yes, please supply a reference customer list.
8. Does your company offer training courses for technicians and engineers on how to operate and maintain the Flowmeters?
9. Is it possible to change batteries of the US Flowmeters without jeopardizing the MID certificate? Please indicate if there are any additional requirements.
10. The dimensions shown in table 1 are our preference installation length, can you supply meters with this installation length per size?
11. In case of no straight length, does the US flowmeter comply with MID? Please indicate if there are any specific requirements.
12. How does your company guarantee that the US Flowmeter is protected against weather conditions and corrosion?
13. What are the principles here in terms of durability and corrosivity according to ISO 12944?
14. What is the delivery time of the requested US Flowmeter?
15. Are there diagnostic tools for service available and will this be delivered with the meter? Or sold separately?
16. What are the terms and conditions, also guarantee terms?
17. Do you have any additional information you would like to share?