

Press release  
2016-10-10, Vilnius

## **Having successfully implemented the changes the CEO of ESO takes up new professional challenges**

Having successfully finalised one of the largest scale changes in the Lithuanian energy sector – a merge of the electricity and gas distribution networks operators, Mr. Liudas Liutkevičius, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Energijos Skirstymo Operatorius AB (ESO) is ready to take up new professional challenges. “We have accomplished a lot, now it is time for a change”, says Mr. Liutkevičius, the CEO and the Chairman of the Board of the Company until 2016 November 4.

"We are grateful to Mr. Liudas Liutkevičius for the contribution to the implementation of the group of “Lietuvos Energija” strategy during the last three years. During that time we managed to achieve really significant results, among which one is the integration of “Lietuvos Dujos” into the group and successful start of ESO activity. By having accepted and successfully implemented these challenges Liudas demonstrated his leadership skills and maturity. We wish Liudas success in his new career path", said Chairman of ESO Supervisory Board and Chairman of the Board of “Lietuvos Energija” Mr. Dalius Misiūnas.

After the two organisations were merged the newly formed strong management team drew up a sustainable corporate activity strategy until 2020, approved the investment ensuring a safe and reliable operation of the networks and high quality of the services. “Those are the most essential forthcoming steps of the Company that will make us able to move forward and seek ambitious goals. The today's ESO is a vessel that stretched its sails to be carried by a favourable wind. That makes me feel calm and assured in the face of new challenges”, says Mr. Liutkevičius.

According to the CEO of ESO, the Company passed a difficult, but a very special period: “I would like to extend my gratitude to the team and everybody whom I met on the path that we covered while helping each other and learning – but for you we would have never achieved what we have achieved. But that is without a doubt only the start of a long road. I am still very happy the start was just a mere success’, says the CEO of ESO.

The synergy of the two energy operators enabled ESO to achieve excellent results: being the manager of about 122,000 km power lines and 8,400 km gas pipelines, the Company is now offering integrated services to some 1.6 million of its customers. During H1 2016, the net earnings of ESO increased by more than 5%, revenues grew by 3.3%, and the operating costs were reduced by more than 12%, which is a considerable contribution to lowering energy prices to the end consumer.

AB „Energijos skirstymo operatorius“

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AB „Energijos skirstymo operatorius“ (trumpiau – ESO) veiklą pradėjo 2016 metų sausio 1 dieną, sujungus AB LESTO ir akcinę bendrovę „Lietuvos dujos“. ESO aptarnauja 1,6 mln. klientų visoje Lietuvoje. Bendrovė priklauso valstybės valdomai įmonių grupei „Lietuvos energija“, vienai didžiausių energetikos įmonių grupių Baltijos šalyse.

The Company is now rapidly upgrading the infrastructure of its electricity networks, enhancing the functionality of serving the customers online, shortening the terms for accessing its gas and power networks, and seeks to perform all the works related to the connection to the infrastructure from a single point, in that relation carrying out pilot projects, and implementing innovations. The procedure for lodging applications to connect to the electricity and gas networks was especially simplified, while the number of natural gas customers in the first half of the year exceeded the results of all the previous years. The shortening waiting time for obtaining electricity connection is a very important factor affecting the country's rating for the Doing Business survey.

Before ESO was put into operation at the beginning of the year, Mr. Liutkevičius was the CEO of one of the operators – the Lithuanian natural gas company Lietuvos Dujos, while in relation to the merger of the two operators on 31 December 2015 the Board of ESO elected Mr. Liutkevičius as the CEO of the new company.

Before becoming the CEO of Lietuvos Dujos Mr. Liutkevičius was the Director of the Production and Services Department, and later a member of the Board of Lietuvos Energija, worked as the Chairman of the Board at Duomenų Logistikos Centras, Kauno Energetikos Remontas and LITGAS, member of the Board of NT Valdosa and Energijos Tiekimas, and a member of the Supervisory Board of Lietuvos Energijos Gamyba.

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