

The Meeting Place For The Global LNG Industry

*LNG Exchanges with **Stephen Thompson, Global Head, LNG and Natural Gas Advisors, Poten & Partners, Inc.***

- **What are the themes to frame market development in 2022/3, and what are the associated risks?**

Market development in 2022/3 will be dominated by Europe's gas crisis and its global reverberations. Immediate associated risks include economic downturn and hardship as well political and social unrest, in Europe and beyond. Broader risks relate to problems in managing and overcoming the crisis, including possible incidents at critical infrastructure and delays in developing new LNG supply capacity.

- **How can energy security be balanced with decarbonisation pledges?**

Development of additional renewable power generation capacity – particularly wind and solar – in principle can promote both decarbonization and energy security.

So can smart policy, for example, relying on markets to find the most effective and efficient solutions instead of having governments try to pick winners. Another smart move would be to redirect funds used for consumer energy subsidies to instead support investments that reduce the demand for fossil fuels.

- **What do you consider the key disruptors to LNG through to 2040?**

On the technology side, LNG could be disrupted by breakthrough improvements in batteries and/or ammonia producing processes. Severe economic downturns such as those caused by the Great Financial Crisis and COVID lockdowns are further disruptions and likely to occur over the next 18 years.

- **How can LNG stay affordable, reliable and abundant?**

Keys are: long-term commitments with reliable counterparties, low-cost financing, and an accommodating regulatory, legal and policy environment. These three factors are synergistic.

An additional imperative for the longer term is to attract and retain new talent, in order to replace current workforce generations as they age and retire.



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- **You are speaking at the World LNG Summit this year. What are you most looking forward to at the event?**

The World LNG Awards Evening event.