

Balticconnector's pipe laying phase with the Lorelay vessel proceeding as planned

The pipe laying work of Balticconnector's offshore pipeline has proceeded according to schedule, with a total of 34 km of pipe laid already. The pipelay vessel Lorelay, owned by the Dutch company Allseas, commenced the work on 20 May in Inkoo and is advancing 2–3 kilometres per day towards Paldiski in Estonia. The length of the offshore pipeline is 77 km, and the pipe laying will be completed in July.

Decision-makers and the media had the opportunity to learn about pipe laying on Lorelay on Monday 3 June 2019. During the day, the participants got the chance to learn about the project and different phases of pipe laying. The pipes are welded together on the vessel, after which they are lowered onto the previously prepared seabed. The magnitude of the project becomes apparent on the vessel that employs about 220 persons working on the vessel around the clock in 12-hour shifts.

On Friday 24 May, stakeholders also had an opportunity to get acquainted with the compressor station worksite in Inkoo and see the Lorelay vessel in the Gulf of Finland. One of the highlights of the day was the chance to witness how 12-metre pieces of offshore pipeline are delivered to Lorelay from Paldiski harbour in Estonia. The vessel can carry a total of 500 pipes at the same time, and new pipes are delivered to the vessel every 2 days.

Once the pipe laying is completed at the end of June, a pressure test is performed for the pipeline, after which the offshore pipeline is dried and connected to the onshore pipelines of Finland and Estonia. The Balticconnector pipeline will be commissioned by the end of 2019.

Further information:

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