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JANUARY 14

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TEN THINGS TO DO THIS WEEK

21-28 JANUARY 2014

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Music | Wednesday January 22

See The Feather Showcase

The Rockhal Café opens its free showcase season in 2014 with a concert by Belgian singer-songwriter Thomas Medard. Performing as The Feather, Thomas Medard's debut album Invisible was released in the autumn of 2013 and is a true solo effort... 

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Business Published 21.01.2014



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Text by: AARON GRUNWALD

OIL AND WATER DON'T MIX

Green tech: A Luxembourg start-up has landed a deal with a major petroleum player before marking its first anniversary.

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Etienne Schneider in front of the economy ministry

Photo(s) : Olivier Minaire (archives)

An eight month **green tech start-up** has scored a coup this week with the shipment of its first device to a large **energy** customer. Findel-based **Apateq** sold its first oil-water separator to a major European petroleum firm, the start-up announced on Monday during a visit by deputy prime minister and economy minister **Etienne Schneider**.

According to the **US Energy Information Administration**, there were more than 824,000 American oil and gas wells in 2012, and according to the **Organization of Petroleum Countries**, there were more than 981,000 wells in its member states the same year, while **EU** statistics agency **Eurostat** reported more than 82 million tones of oil and gas were produced in the former EU27 during 2011.

Apateq said on its website that for each barrel of oil, which is roughly 159 litres, three to five barrels of **water** are also extracted, which is called “deposit water” in the industry. Such contaminated “water is by far the largest waste stream associated with oil and gas production”.

The company’s “OilPaq” product is mounted in a mobile container and can automatically treat the water at well sites, remotely controlled via a desktop or mobile application.

“The effluent from our systems is suitable for direct discharge, irrigation or re-use as process water,” **Ulrich Baeuerle**, the company’s chief technology officer, said in a press statement on Monday.

Oil customer

The first “unit will treat produced water from oil production and hydraulic fracturing, requiring virtually no chemicals for operation using a proprietary technology,” the statement explained.

Apateq did not announce the name of its customer because “**environmental** issues are a sensitive topic in this sector”, a company spokeswoman told **Delano** on Tuesday. She said it was “one of the market leaders in Europe”.

“As a young Luxembourgish company, being chosen by European market leaders to treat very difficult deposit water makes us particularly proud,” CEO **Bogdan Serban** said in Monday’s communiqué.

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OUT OF THE FURNACE

Drama, US, 116 min

Cast: Christian Bale, Casey Affleck, Zoe Saldana

Director(s): Scott Cooper

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The privately backed firm was founded in April 2013, and had previously shipped its other products, which treats wastewater at industrial sites.

The spokeswoman said Apateq currently employs 11 staff.

Keywords: [Etienne Schneider](#), [start-up](#), [green tech](#), [eco-tech](#), [Innovation](#), [energy](#), [environment](#), [water](#), [Apateq](#)

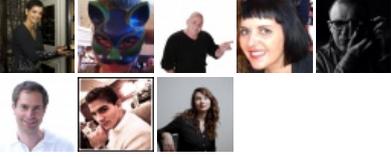


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