



**PRESS RELEASE**

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**FORTIS BANK NEDERLAND/VM Group: ENERGY MONTHLY**

A quiet revolution is underway in natural gas production, thanks to new technology now being deployed in the expanses of the US. Shale gas has the potential to be a game-changer for the US, possibly doubling the country's gas reserves – thanks to its shale gas, the US has now leapfrogged Russia as the world's biggest natural gas producer. This revolution is heading towards Europe, although there are question marks concerning European availability of suitably large landmasses, and the right geology may be less easy to find than in the US. What's happening in the world of shale gas exploration and development is the topic of the main feature in the March 2010 edition of the VM Group *Energy Monthly*, published today in partnership with Fortis Bank Nederland.

As well as an in-depth study of this paradigm shift in the world of natural gas, the report carries analysis and discussion of the most important energy-related news of the past month.

**Shale gas in the US (billion cubic feet)**

	Proved reserves			Production	
	2007	2008		2007	2008
<b>Total US</b>	21,735	32,825	<b>Total US</b>	1,184	2,022
Texas	16,335	21,595	Michigan	119	118
Arkansas	1,457	3,831	Arkansas	93	279
Oklahoma	849	3,458	Oklahoma	36	151
Michigan	2,761	2,801	Montana	11	11
Louisiana	5	832	Kentucky	2	2
Montana	124	110	New Mexico	2	-
Pennsylvania	89	83	North Dakota	2	3
Eastern States	66	58	Eastern States	2	2
North Dakota	18	22	Louisiana & offshore	1	22
Kentucky	20	19	Pennsylvania	1	1
West Virginia	-	14			
Alabama & offshore	1	2			
New Mexico	20	-			

Source: EIA, VM Group

The *Energy Monthly* is open-access, available directly from the VM Group at: [www.virtualmetals.co.uk](http://www.virtualmetals.co.uk)

If you have not received a copy of this report, or should you require further details or commentary, please contact:

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