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The future of LNG: McDermott at the forefront of global energy transition

By Rob Shaul, Senior Vice President, Low Carbon Solution, **McDermott**

As the global energy sector continues to evolve, the LNG industry is entering a new phase of opportunity and complexity. A fresh wave of LNG development is clearly forming, driven by shifting demand, geopolitical shifts, and the ongoing push for decarbonisation. The question is not if this wave will materialise, but how it will be delivered and by whom.

The wave is being shaped as much by geopolitics and climate goals as by market fundamentals. Countries such as India and Vietnam are scaling up LNG infrastructure to meet a growing domestic energy demand, while Europe continues to move away from pipeline gas. On the supply side, the U.S. Gulf Coast, Qatar and emerging African producers are expanding capacity.

Energy security has become a strategic priority globally. LNG is now viewed not just as a fuel, but as a geopolitical asset. This urgency is accelerating project timelines and increasing demand for partners who can deliver with certainty. At the same time, the pressure to decarbonise continues and remains a strong driver in the design and execution of LNG projects. McDermott is leading this by delivering LNG facilities that integrate electric drive (e-drive) systems powered by renewable energy, which can reduce greenhouse gas emissions by up to 95% compared to traditional gas turbine-driven plants. Our modular execution approach also reduces construction-related emissions by up to 65%, while optimising plot space and improving execution certainty.

Leveraging our global footprint and legacy in delivering complex energy infrastructure, McDermott is shaping the next generation of LNG projects. Our integrated engineering, procurement, fabrication and construction (EPFC) model, combined with advanced modularisation and digital execution, enables us to deliver with certainty and sustainability.

One standout example is the Woodfibre LNG facility in British Columbia, Canada, which is set to be among the world's lowest-emission LNG plants. The project uses imported hydroelectric power, a renewable source, to significantly reduce emissions. This facility exemplifies McDermott's commitment to delivering lower-carbon solutions through integrated project delivery and modularisation. For the Golden Pass LNG project in Sabine Pass, Texas, McDermott, together with its joint venture (JV) partner, will deliver three liquefaction trains representing over 15 million tons per annum (Mtpa) of LNG liquefaction capacity. Once complete, it will bring the total number of large-scale LNG trains on the U.S. Gulf Coast delivered by McDermott to nine (9) — the second most of any contractor. These projects demonstrate McDermott's ability to deliver some of the world's largest and most complex projects.

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Our work at Freeport LNG further illustrates our leadership in the market. Alongside JV partners, McDermott delivered three LNG trains, each featuring the world's largest electric motor-driven refrigeration compressors — three 75 MW motors per train. These systems not only reduce emissions but also improve restart times, operational flexibility and year-round efficiency.

In the LNG industry, technology and execution models are evolving rapidly. McDermott remains flexible in developing and enhancing cost-effective solutions by leveraging our technical and execution capabilities across various fronts. This includes selecting appropriate gas treatment and liquefaction technologies in collaboration with providers, determining the most suitable LNG train size — whether large, mid-scale or small — and opting for gas turbine, electric-drive or hybrid systems. We also tailor execution strategies to align with our clients' objectives and site-specific drivers. Combined with our in-depth understanding of LNG train design, technologies and world-leading modularisation capabilities, this approach delivers cost-competitive solutions and execution certainty for our customers in the LNG industry. Ultimately, this enables the sector to expand, providing affordable and sustainable energy security for many countries.

As the industry gathers at Gastech 2025, the message is clear: the next LNG wave will be defined not just by volume, but by agility, sustainability and execution excellence. McDermott is proud to be leading on all three fronts — delivering the future of LNG with confidence and precision.