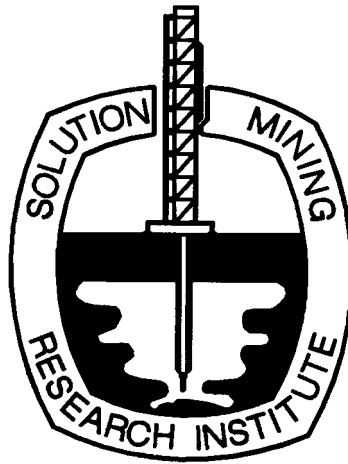


Salt caverns for peak shaving – reservoirs for seasonal balance?  
New market requirements and appropriate storage solutions

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**Salt Caverns for Peak Shaving -  
Reservoirs for Seasonal Balance?  
New Market Requirements  
and Appropriate Storage Solutions**

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## **0 Abstract**

Historically, underground storages for natural gas display clear characteristics with regard to their specific performance and thus their most favorable applications - seasonal storages versus peak shaving and multi-cycle trading storages.

In the post deregulation era, more flexibility is what the market wants from gas storage. Injection and withdrawal flexibility are key. So is proximity to market. Just as new power plant demand is driving much of the gas market, the needs of generators are shaping the market for gas storage and what types of services are to be provided.

As a matter of fact, choices of storage field location and performance are limited by the availability of suitable geological formations in any region. The new competitive situation for storage operators places new demands on the concept and technical design of the storage (porous rock and salt caverns), and project developers are seeking to provide just that through the use of new storage technologies.

As a result, an increasing convergence in the specific performance of the different storage types is being observed. The previous clear differentiation into cavern storages, and pore storages, for the compensation of short-term and seasonal fluctuations in consumption, respectively, is becoming less marked.