

# How does Elia stay up-to-date with technological developments to make the energy transition happen?

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Our electricity system is facing huge challenges. As small-scale generation and decentralisation increase, there is a greater need for digitalisation and platforms to facilitate multi-level cooperation. As well as integrating renewable energy, our grid will also have to be capable of transmitting substantial volumes of imported and exported power. Over the past 25 years we have imported an average of 6 TWh net per year, but this will be rising to 13-30 TWh by 2030, depending on the scenarios. Technology can play its part in keeping the grid secure and manageable, alongside cooperation and exchanges with our neighbours. However, it's important that we have an accurate idea of their future generating facilities so that we can assess the needs of the Belgian system as efficiently as possible.



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“Changes in the energy sector are gathering pace. Driven by the energy transition, new players are emerging and new economic models are being developed. Technology facilitates and accelerates these changes. However, innovation also offers opportunities for the transmission system operators of the future. Elia tests and integrates new technologies in collaboration with all the market players. In 2017, we carried out tests involving digital technologies such as robots, machine learning and blockchain. Our aim is to determine whether these innovations can add value to our core business. This will help us to ensure that the market continues to operate efficiently in a new renewable and decentralised energy system.”

