



**Il Sole 24 Ore: Interview with Igor Akhmerov, CEO of Avelar Energy ('Italia, porta d'ingresso per l'Europa').**

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Inglese

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Igor **Akhmerov**, the CEO of Russian-owned Swiss-based **Avelar** Energy, has revealed that the company wants to establish itself as a major European player quoted on the stock market before the end of 2009. In order to meet this objective, **Avelar** is using Italy as an entry point to the European market, having already acquired 100 per cent of Energetic Source and increased its gas storage capacity there. The company has also bought a 15 per cent stake in Italian solar power firm Kerself and acquired a 30 per cent interest in a gas-fuelled power station in Puglia.

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Regarding the 25m-euro Kerself investment, Mr **Akhmerov** said the company was chosen because of its management, strategies and shared vision. He claimed the first aim would be to increase Kerself's market value by creating new business.

Interview conducted by Giovanni Vegezzi

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