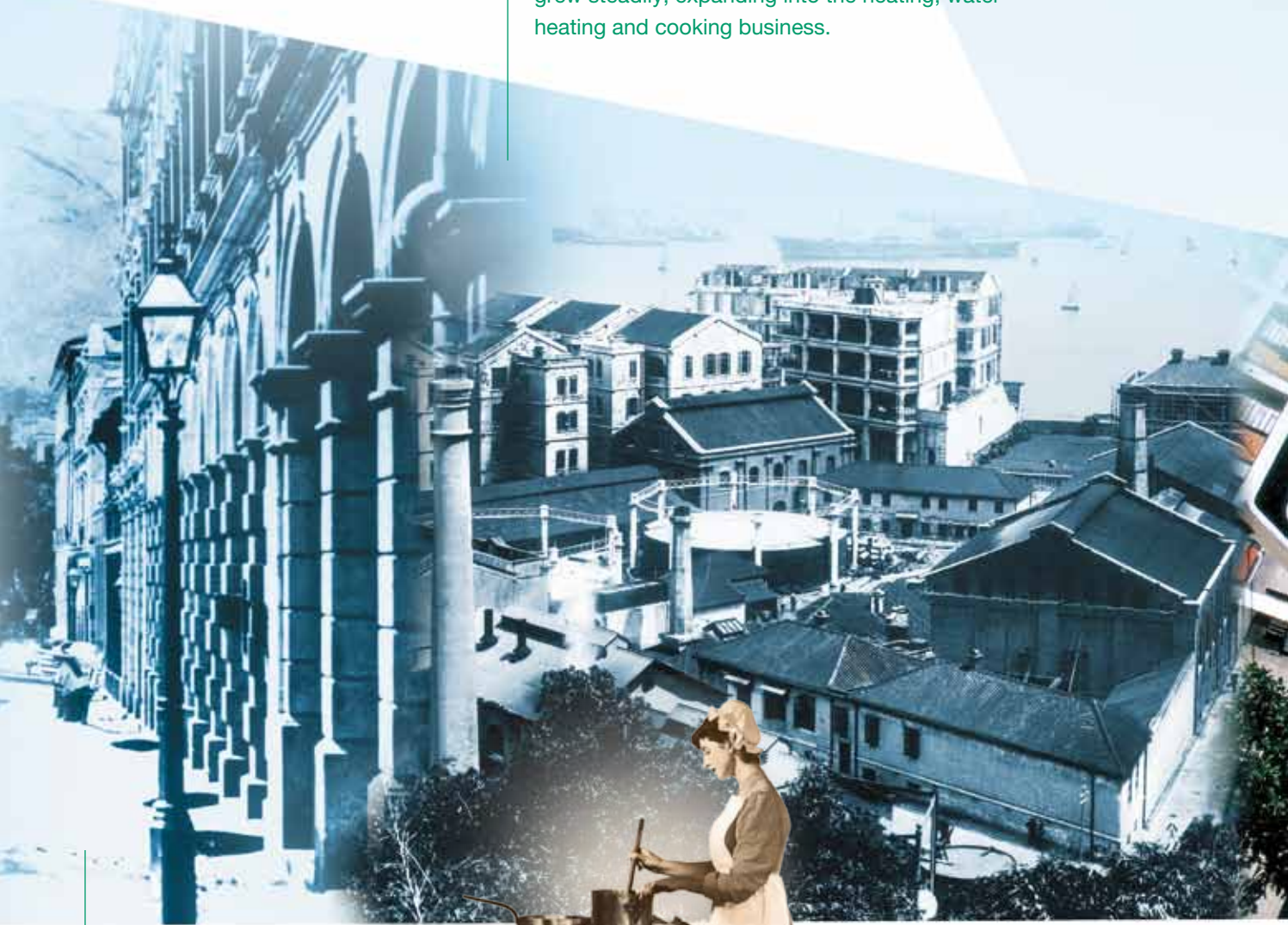


1860s–1960s

The early years were a major challenge. Electricity arrived in Hong Kong in 1889 seriously eroding our lighting market while cheap fuels, from coal and charcoal to kerosene and later LPG, provided stiff competition against town gas. However, our services grew steadily, expanding into the heating, water heating and cooking business.



1860s

Established in 1862, we were initially formed to provide public lighting for the streets of Central in Hong Kong.

1970s

Things changed as Hong Kong's population swelled and as the territory grew in affluence. Marking this turnaround, we began connecting town gas to Hong Kong's public housing estates in the 1970s. In addition to the introduction of naphtha in our production, providing a cleaner fuel, town gas had become a convenient, safe and affordable source of energy for the general population.



1980s

Meeting the burgeoning demand for town gas, our modern production plant in Tai Po, using naphtha as feedstock, was officially opened in 1986 with an initial capacity of 2.8 million cubic metres a day. This was followed by the commissioning of Phase II seven years later. Today, together with our Ma Tau Kok plant, we have a total production capacity of 12.26 million cubic metres a day.



1990s

As the market matured in Hong Kong and as commercial and economic opportunities opened up increasingly in mainland China, we moved across the border into this brand new market in the Pearl River Delta region.



2000s

Benefitting from the booming economic environment, China's move into cleaner energy and growing supply of natural gas, and building on our proven business model in Hong Kong, business took off on the mainland. Today we operate 107 piped city-gas projects in 20 provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions.

Our activities in the upstream and midstream gas supply markets, have taken us increasingly into the clean and new energy market. These include our landfill gas activities; liquefied petroleum gas, liquefied natural gas and compressed natural gas filling stations; our liquefied coalbed methane as well as our chemical coal-based methanol facilities.



1862–2012

150 years of Towngas

Together with our other utility activities – water services, telecommunications, engineering services and infrastructure support as well as the manufacturing of gas-related products, we now operate 150 businesses on the mainland.