

Press Release

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Eiffage, Egis and GDF SUEZ clinch a contract to carry out the Astainable® “sustainable city simulator” project

An Eiffage-led consortium including Egis and GDF SUEZ has been selected to carry out a “sustainable city simulator” for Astana, the capital city of Kazakhstan following a tender procedure launched by the French Foreign Trade Ministry and the General Treasury Department (DGT).

This ground-breaking project, named Astainable® (after the city of Astana and the word *sustainable*) entails:

- Assessing Astana’s needs for sustainable development in the fields of ecomobility, the provision of a local energy mix, sustainable construction and the urban ecosystem (as regards water, waste and environmental restoration);
- Identifying and proposing suitable French technical and technological solutions for a sustainable city;
- Producing a 3D demonstration model illustrating all these solutions.

This urban demonstrator, which formed part of a bid for projects in 26 July 2013, was backed by €2 million of French public financing. It is to be delivered to the French Foreign Trade Ministry in early 2015. The Astainable® project is a flagship for the wealth and excellence of France’s international offering in the field of sustainable cities, under the Vivapolis trademark.

The project reflects a strong political commitment for the transition of the city of Astana towards a sustainable and attractive urban development model. Astainable® - which will take into account the region’s natural characteristics including, notably, its severe climatic constraints – will provide this capital city with a decision aid tool, enabling it to define the possible major orientations for its urban development. The Astana international exhibition in 2017, which will focus mainly on “energies for the future”, will provide a showcase for Astainable®, bringing it to the attention of decision-makers, scientists, local population and the neighbouring countries.

Having seen its population grow by more than 250% in 14 years, Astana is now facing, like many other mega-cities throughout the world, the challenges of rapid urbanisation: growing energy footprint, air pollution, severe traffic congestion, needs for urban services and the demand for quality of life.

France’s three leading construction, engineering and energy firms - Eiffage, Egis and GDF SUEZ - have pooled their expertise in sustainable city development and have joined forces with French partners including Poma cable transport company, the Pierre Gautier Architecture et Associés, Enodo specialising in virtual interactive urban model, Alliantis a networked communication strategy consulting firm and Safege, an engineering subsidiary of Suez Environnement.

An outstanding feature of this project is that it involves French business and competitive clusters which play their part in the various aspects of sustainable cities and are seeking to promote their firms on international markets – so providing an incubator comprising 1,500 firms including 1,200 SMEs, working together to implement a joint, methodological, conceptual and technical vision of the sustainable city on a French model.

About Eiffage

Eiffage is the fourth-ranking construction and concessions company in Europe. The Group's activities are organised as five business lines (construction, civil works, energy, metal and concessions with PPPs). Thanks to the experience of almost 70,000 employees, Eiffage generated revenues of more than €14 billion in 2012, including 15% outside France. Since 2007, Eiffage has had its own sustainable urban development research laboratory, Phosphore®, which carries out comprehensive studies of sustainable urban planning, as in the cases of Marseille (2007-2009), Strasbourg (2009-2011) and the urban area of Grenoble (2011-2013). Eiffage is listed on the Euronext Paris stock exchange and is represented in several indices: SBF 120, CAC Mid 60 and Euronext FAS IAS.

About Egis

Egis is an international group offering engineering, project structuring and operations services. In engineering and consulting its sectors of activity include transport, urban development, building, water, environment and energy. In roads and airports its offer is enlarged to encompass project development, capital investment, turnkey systems delivery, and operation and maintenance services. With 12,000 employees, including 7,500 in engineering, and a turnover of €900 million in 2012, the group is present in over 100 countries and has around 50 offices in France.

About GDF SUEZ

GDF SUEZ develops its businesses (power, natural gas, energy services) around a model based on responsible growth to take up today's major energy and environmental challenges: meeting energy needs, ensuring the security of supply, fighting against climate change and maximizing the use of resources. The Group provides highly efficient and innovative solutions to individuals, cities and businesses by relying on diversified gas-supply sources, flexible and low-emission power generation as well as unique expertise in four key sectors: independent power production, liquefied natural gas, renewable energy and energy efficiency services. GDF SUEZ employs 138,200 people worldwide and achieved revenues of €82 billion in 2012. The Group is listed on the Paris, Brussels and Luxembourg stock exchanges and is represented in the main international indices CAC 40, BEL 20, DJ Euro Stoxx 50, Euronext 100, FTSE Eurotop 100, MSCI Europe and Euronext Vigeo (World 120, Eurozone 120, Europe 120 and France 20).

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