

PRESS RELEASE

CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING: ARTELIA ACQUIRES SECOA

16 September 2013. Artelia, the leading independent engineering firm in France, has just acquired Secoa, a design office specialising in structural engineering studies and in particular bridges.

Since it was created in 1978, Secoa has participated in many projects concerning complex structures in France and around the world, providing design and construction supervision services, inspections and expert appraisals. Some of the most prestigious projects it has been involved in are: the Charles-de-Gaulle bridge over the river Seine in Paris, the Vasco de Gama bridge over the river Tagus in Lisbon, and the Saint-Paul viaduct for the Tamarins road in Reunion Island. Other recent examples of projects involving Secoa's expertise are: the viaduct over the river Landbach for the East European high-speed train line, the bridge over the river Loire for the A71 motorway in the south of Orléans, and the bridge over wadi El Malleh in Morocco.

With this acquisition, Artelia confirms its aim to become a magnet for engineering firms attracted by the group's national and international ambitions, in the context of an organisation that promotes innovation and technical excellence and **whose capital is held entirely by its executives and employees.**

Artelia was born in 2010 from the merger between Coteba and Sogreah, two historical leaders in France in the fields of building construction, water and the environment as well as urban development and transportation. Since its creation, the group has grown by more than 40%, reaching a turnover of nearly €400 million with a staff of 3,200 employees who work in more than 60 sites around the world.

After having acquired six companies in 2012, Artelia bought out the Icade group's engineering departments Arcoba and Sethi-Setae in March 2013, before acquiring Secoa.

In the field of complex structures, Secoa's teams will be joining those from Spretec specialising in mechanical equipment who were awarded the 2010 *Grand Prix de l'Ingénierie* (engineering award), Thales Engineering's former civil engineering team, as well as the former Sogreah's dam and maritime structure specialists. Artelia can provide exceptional quality skills to project owners and companies, having worked on the most prestigious projects in the world such as the Rion-Antirion bridge, the Millau viaduct, the port of Tangiers, etc.

This expertise has been recognised by Société du Grand Paris, which has recently commissioned Artelia (lead firm in the Artemis consortium) to manage and coordinate the architects and engineering firms involved in the design and construction of infrastructure (including 41 stations and 3 maintenance centres) for a 110 km long network of driverless metro lines encircling Paris. This *Grand Paris Express* project is scheduled to last more than 15 years and will provide daily transportation for 250,000 residents of the Paris region by the year 2020.



The Artelia group

The Artelia group is the result of the merger between Coteba and Sogreah in March 2010, and is owned entirely by its managers and employees. It has a staff of 3,200 and a turnover of €348 million, and is one of the leading French engineering and project management firms in the fields of construction, infrastructure and the environment.

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PI05 bridge (A71 motorway) over the river Loire, south of Orléans | Working design study of the bridge platform