

PRESS RELEASE

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Artelia: a new player in the PPP sector and a record construction contract for the school in Mennecy

The choice of a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) for a primary school is a novel idea that has led to the commissioning of new players: 12 months after the start of the works, the school was opened in time for the beginning of the school year and Artelia's first PPP, "La Colline Verville" school in Mennecy (Paris area), has been awarded top marks.

Mennecy council launched the reconstruction works for La Verville primary school on 29 September 2012.

The cost of the project may have been high (€23m), but it is the technical and operational constraints that made the renovation of the school particularly challenging according to the municipal council: the dilapidated state of the existing buildings, the need to rebuild the school in the same location (involving building a temporary school), the required demolition and asbestos removal works and administrative authorisations, and of course the delivery date, which had to be before the start of the school year on 3 September 2013. The municipal council made the bold choice of calling for tenders to set up a PPP contract. Engineering group Artelia rose to the challenge despite the fact that this type of contract is usually exclusively taken up by major building construction firms.

Having presented the best bid, Artelia showed it could back its claims. The health and safety committee authorised delivery on 30 August and gave particular praise regarding the quality of construction. No flaws: the inspection office and the municipal council did not express any reservations. The new buildings were inaugurated on 6 September and have now been operating smoothly for nearly a month, just one year after works were launched.

Artelia is the only French engineering firm to propose lead firm services for PPP consortium contracts. It aims to develop one to two PPPs per year. A second project concerning a nursing home is currently being finalised.

Since it started operating in the PPP development sector, Artelia has created its own resources (technical, administrative and financial) that help it respond immediately for this kind of tendering process, which requires significant study capacity to meet very tight deadlines.

Furthermore, Artelia can now participate in all types of PPP projects: prisons, hospitals, universities, energy efficiency contracts, road projects, public lighting, etc. Artelia provides project management services to public bodies, design, technical engineering, project development, due diligence, commissioning and operational maintenance engineering services.

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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