

PRESS RELEASE

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3D Sustainable City Simulator project launched in Santiago de Chile

'Santiago Des3aDo', a project to create a 3D Sustainable City Simulator, has been officially launched following the successful kick-off seminar held in Santiago de Chile from 14 to 23 May 2014. This was the opportunity for representatives from the consortium consisting of five French companies (Artelia, Véolia, AS.Architecture-Studio, Arte Charpentier Architectes and Siradel) to begin building genuine collaboration with local players for the sustainable urban redevelopment of the Chilean capital's city centre.

Simulating the impacts of an ambitious urban development project to gain a better understanding of the challenges facing the city of tomorrow

With its rich historic heritage, Santiago's city centre is faced with numerous environmental, economic and social issues. The city is striving to achieve certain objectives to meet these challenges: reducing inequalities, minimising pollution, regenerating public areas and improving mobility. The urban redevelopment plan will restore the appeal of the historical centre and provide city-dwellers with a better quality of life.

Running through the city, the "Autopista Norte-Sur" (Pan-American highway) forms a symbolic spatial barrier. The project being considered by the city council to cover this road could be the trigger for a fundamental transformation that would involve creating new surfaces and new connections within the city. This ambitious, defining vision is the starting point for the development of the 3D Sustainable City Simulator with the aim of designing an urban development project, simulating its impacts and assessing the benefits according to different scenarios integrated into the 3D model of Santiago. "Santiago Des3aDo" will be a visual, interactive tool of a kind never seen before that will help all the players to gain a thorough understanding of the complex dimensions of a sustainable city.

The International Seminar: operational launch of the "Santiago Des3aDo" project

From 14 to 23 May, a delegation comprising about twenty experts from the French companies in the consortium met with Chilean stakeholders during a launch seminar. An opening ceremony presided by Carolina Tohá, the Mayor of Santiago, was organised to welcome the hundred-or-so participants from the Chilean public and private sectors.

During the plenary sessions, bilateral meetings and workshops on urban development themes, the members of the consortium began building effective and lasting collaboration with staff from the City Council as well as the Regional Council and different Ministries involved in this project.

In order to cement this relationship, a coordination team has been seconded on site to create a permanent interface between the City Council and the "Santiago Des3aDo" project's operational team.

Next meeting in Santiago

The operational team will go back to Santiago in a few months to present to the City Council the first elements of the tool it is developing. A three-dimensional model will provide a visual representation of the assessment of the project area and the main issues. The first outlines of the urban development strategies designed by the cross-disciplinary team will be proposed via this innovative medium.

A reminder of how the project and consortium came into being

This project is the result of a tripartite agreement signed in March 2014 between the French government, the Santiago City Council and Artelia, leader and representative of the consortium. The French government has provided €2 million in funds in the framework of FASEP (French private sector aid fund) and the “Green Innovation” programme backed by the French Ministry of the Economy, Industrial Renewal and the Digital Affairs and dedicated to supporting innovative technologies at the service of the environment and sustainable development.

“Santiago Des3aDo”, which will be made available to decision-makers in the Chilean public sector in the Spring of 2015, is an innovative decision-aid tool that provides 3D digital representation and simulation for all aspects of sustainable urban design and development: mobility, sanitation, water, waste, energy, telecommunication, etc. The Simulator will also be used as an instrument to promote solutions for urban planning, architecture, services, products and technologies drawn from French know-how in the field of sustainable cities.

The consortium, which is led jointly by Artelia – a leading independent engineering firm – and Véolia, covers the full range of urban design expertise, with two internationally renowned architecture and urban development agencies, AS.Architecture-Studio and Arte Charpentier Architectes. Siradel, an innovative small company specialising in the integration of 3D geographic data and creation of interactive urban simulation/visualisation platforms, will consolidate the collective urban eco-design data in a smart digital model which all the stakeholders will be able to access and understand. Lastly, the consortium will also call upon the services of Elithis, specialising in energy efficiency and eco-design issues, and the Vinci group, a building construction and public works firm.

Artelia is fully owned by its managers and employees. It currently has a staff of 3,200 and generated turnover of €352m in 2013, and thus ranks as one of France's foremost consulting engineering and project management firms in the construction, infrastructure and environment sectors. The group has an international network of 42 offices in Europe, Africa, the Middle East, Asia and South America.

Artelia, one of the leading independent engineering firms, got involved in defining the vision of sustainable cities on a national and international scale at an early stage. Artelia provides solutions to issues for the design of cities on all levels, for all aspects and on all continents. www.arteliagroup.com

Veolia is the global leader in optimized resource management. With over 200,000 employees worldwide, the company designs and provides water, waste and energy management solutions that contribute to the sustainable development of communities and industries. Through its three complementary business activities, Veolia helps to develop access to resources, preserve available resources, and to replenish them.*

In 2013, Veolia supplied 94 million people with drinking water and 62 million people with wastewater service, produced 86 million megawatt hours of energy and converted 38 million metric tons of waste into new materials and energy. Veolia (Paris Euronext: VIE and NYSE: VE) recorded revenue of €22.3 billion in 2013. www.veolia.com*

(Excluding Transdev employees and revenue currently under divestment)*

Created in Paris in 1973, **AS.Architecture-Studio** brings together twelve partner architects and a team of two hundred architects, urban planners and interior designers from twenty-five different countries.

AS.Architecture-Studio defines architecture and urban planning as “an art committed to society and the construction of the surroundings of mankind”, underpinned by teamwork and shared knowledge, with the will to go beyond individuality for the benefit of dialogue and juxtaposition, thus leveraging the effects of combining knowledge.

AS.Architecture-Studio’s most prestigious projects include: the European Parliament in Strasbourg, the Onassis Cultural Centre in Athens, the master plan for the Universal Exhibition in Shanghai, the National Theatre in Bahrain, the urban development of the city of Montpellier, the design of the new city of Kaboul in Deh Sabz, and the urban design of Tirana’s city centre. The agency is currently working on the Muscat Cultural Centre in the Sultanate of Oman, the Rotana Hotel tower in Amman, Jordan, the Jinan Cultural Centre in China, the urban development of a commercial boulevard in Lusail, Doha, and the rehabilitation of the Radio France headquarters and Jussieu campus in Paris.

AS.Architecture-Studio, which holds ISO 9001 certification, has a particularly strong international network with branches in Paris, Shanghai, Beijing, Venice and Saint-Petersbourg.

Founded in 1969, **Arte Charpentier Architectes** has acquired international repute through the quality of the projects it has completed and the sustainability of its values. The agency is listed in the World Architecture rankings. Eighteen associates manage a cross-disciplinary team specialising in architecture, interior design, urban planning and landscaping. By anticipating new expectations in terms of lifestyle and urban living, the agency strives to develop original solutions to environmental issues by forming innovative partnerships.

With its agency in Shanghai, Arte Charpentier has acquired a long-standing reputation in China having completed major projects such as the opera houses of Shanghai and Taiyuan, the Luwan district of Shanghai, the Citizen’s House of Wuhan, and the Shanghai Fashion Centre (which received a distinction in the context of the 2014 AFEX Awards during the Venice Architecture Biennale).

Siradel develops urban network planning solutions combining a unique capacity to develop 3D models of cities, wireless network infrastructure planning and optimisation services, and 3D decision-aid software.

With clients in more than 60 countries, including mobile operators, component manufacturers, regulators, electricity suppliers and municipal councils, Siradel’s solutions are designed to optimise wireless networks (3G, 4G, Small Cells, WiFi, etc.) while minimising costs and human exposure to electromagnetic fields. Siradel’s know-how is driving convergence between landline and wireless networks and urban infrastructure (power, water, transportation, etc.) and provides solutions to connect people, networks and electronic systems with each other.

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