

SYMBIOSE future electronics factory: LACROIX Group has selected the architectural firm PVA and the Essor Engineering group as prime contractor for its new factory

After several months of assessment, LACROIX Group finally chose the architectural firm PVA to build its new factory 4.0, scheduled for 2021. Underpinned by three major strands of innovation, the new factory will meet the group's key social, environmental and economic criteria. This is an exciting challenge for the architectural firm PVA and for the prime contractor supporting them, Essor Engineering.

This choice was dictated by the ability of these providers to rise to the innovation requirements of Symbiose

Following a collaborative process and several months of assessment, LACROIX Group has announced the architect selected to build its factory 4.0, Symbiose: the architectural firm PVA, together with Essor Engineering as prime contractor. The primary selection criterion was the determination and ability of this consortium to bring innovation to every single detail. *"The Symbiose building is not just a physical construction: it is a testing ground and a showcase for the know-how of all stakeholders in the project,"* explains Eric Meynet, Operational Excellence Manager & SYMBIOSE Project Leader at LACROIX Electronics. This vision is shared by PVA and Essor Engineering: *"Working on the Symbiose project represents a wonderful opportunity. First of all, we are delighted to contribute to the expansion of a regional business which is now a highly regarded mid-cap company. Furthermore, innovation is not just one criteria among many: it underpins the entire project, pushing us to reassess our thinking and go a step further in terms of our solutions and our way of working,"* outlines Thomas Martial, Symbiose project supervisor at Essor Engineering.

Social, environmental and economic innovation at the heart of the project

The architectural firm PVA and the prime contractor Essor Engineering have developed a bespoke project in line with the ambition of the LACROIX Group's SYMBIOSE project. *"We quickly understood that Symbiose was not just a factory, but a large-scale project. LACROIX Group inspired us with their spirit of enterprise and innovation, encouraging us to place R&D at the heart of our proposal,"* explains Thomas Martial. Indeed, the winning proposal is based around the three key strands ensuring smart construction of the factory: energy saving, working conditions, and technological innovation. This is reflected in solutions such as the use of dynamic thermal simulation (DTS) to anticipate the building's reaction to various natural and seasonal effects, the installation of a brise soleil and photovoltaic panels, hygrometric controls (in the factory and offices), the fitting of sound-insulation materials, and the recovery of waste energy, to give just a few examples. The project is designed to be sustainable and cost-effective in terms of consumption, thanks to a centralised management approach which enables the supervision and centralisation of technical equipment fault reporting in one single place. *"Symbiose makes it possible to bring together the finest talents in response to our joint imperative: driving social and environmental renewal while meeting the technological challenge,"* concludes Vincent Bedouin, CEO of LACROIX Group.

ABOUT LACROIX Group

The LACROIX Group is a family-owned business which designs and manufactures connected, innovative devices and technologies. It offers its customers a more intelligent and responsible approach, harnessing electronic innovation to provide a better understanding of the flow of data, people, water and energy.

It focusses on three industrial activities with diverse but complementary areas of expertise, connecting traditionally separate sectors, creating convergences and consolidating its resources:

LACROIX City, the French leader in intelligent and interoperable road equipment, designed to direct, optimise and secure the flow of vehicles and people with greater efficiency and safety. The "Smart Mobility" concept.

- LACROIX Environment, leader in France and Germany in remote-management and telemetry devices for water and energy facilities and networks. The "Smart Environment" concept.

LACROIX Electronics is a European electronic device maker which designs, produces and manufactures electronic functions for its customers' products. The "Smart Industries" concept.

About Essor Group

A family-run business, Essor is a builder of commercial premises structured around seven complementary areas of expertise: contract management assistance, property project development, turnkey construction, prime contracting, agri-food engineering, environmental support and consulting, and financial & investment engineering.

Founded in 2006 by David Pouyanne, the Essor Group has some 15 bases in France, employs 214 staff, and had a turnover of €76M in 2018.

The Essor Group has completed around 2500 projects, including a number of emblematic buildings which have been recognised by the FPI Pyramides d'Argent and the Green Solutions Awards 2018.

More information: <https://www.essor.group/>