

## **First stone laid at armatis-lc's new premises in Calais**

**On Friday 28 November at 11.30am, Natacha Bouchart, Senator, Mayor of Calais and President of Calais Promotion, Denis Akriche, Chairman of armatis-lc, and Didier Caudard-Breille, Chairman and Managing Director of DCB International, laid the first stone at armatis-lc's new premises, located at the entrance to the Marcel Doret business park in Calais. This project, which is of significant importance for the town's employment and economy, will welcome armatis-lc's new employees in the summer of 2015.**

### **A building that will mirror armatis-lc's future development**

Armatris-lc, the international contact and call centre specialist which is already based in Calais where it employs 650 staff, is looking to expand its activities. To enable it to develop to maximum effect, the company began searching for premises with a surface area in excess of 4,000m<sup>2</sup> during the course of 2012. The DCB International group proposed a leasing solution involving a 4,100m<sup>2</sup> property on an independent plot of land owned by Calais Town Council. A long-term commercial lease agreement was signed by armatis-lc, which would allow the company to develop its Calais site, enabling it to employ up to 350 new staff, bringing to 1,000 the number of employees working for the company in the town.

In order to develop this project, DCB International worked with Calais Promotion and Calais Town Council, which resulted in the offer of a "turnkey" rental solution to armatis-lc. As part of the terms, Calais Town Council offered DCB International the land in the form of a 12-year long-term lease agreement which would benefit of armatis-lc.

### **An innovative and sustainable working environment**

The design of the new building, located at the entrance to the Marcel Doret business park in Calais, was entrusted to the Soho Architectes agency. The building will be constructed on two floors with a central hall and floor space which can be split into several office sections, each with a surface area of between 250m<sup>2</sup> and 600m<sup>2</sup>.

Conforming to French RT 2012 thermal regulations (a high-performance thermal envelope and energy consumption < 70kwh/m<sup>2</sup>/year), it will offer maximum comfort for the company's future employees, who will also be able to take advantage of external terraces and numerous car parks. In addition, the building's façade will be covered with Neolife cladding, a material made from wood fibres, which has the appearance of wood without any of its constraints (premature ageing, change in colour etc).

The building will also incorporate all the specifications associated with all of armatis-lc's call centre platform activities: partitioning, low power distribution network to all work stations etc.

The building will be delivered in May 2015, with armatis-lc's staff moving into the new premises during the summer of the same year.

## Project facts and figures

- 4,100m<sup>2</sup>,
- 2 floors,
- possibility of dividing up work areas into 250m<sup>2</sup>-600m<sup>2</sup> sections,
- capacity: 550 work stations,
- delivery: May 2015,
- moving in date for staff: summer 2015,
- an impressively short construction period for this type of building of just 9 months.

### **About DCB International**

*DCB International is a private commercial property promotion and development group. Since it was established in 1999, the group has gradually focused its business on service sector properties with high added value.*

*Under the leadership of its founder, Didier Caudard-Breille, the group has worked on flagship projects with a focus on excellence at every level, in particular its environmental strategy. The Empreinte building, the group's headquarters in Lyon-Confluence, is a perfect illustration of this.*

*In 2014, its subsidiary DCB Capital was listed as the 8th largest company in terms of volume in the national register of commercial property companies for the service sector (source: La Lettre du Patrimoine).*

*With 50,000m<sup>2</sup> of NF-HQE and BREEAM-certified office space currently under construction, the group is now one of the major players in the commercial property promotion sector in the Lyon region.*

### **About armatis-ic**

*A key player in the remote customer services and CRM solutions market, armatis-ic employs over 7,500 staff and has 15 corporate premises in France and abroad. The company offers a wide range of multimedia services by phone, email and post, as well as digitally (customer services, customer loyalty and development, telesales and even appointment management and order processing), in addition to boasting a subsidiary specialising in brokerage and consultancy services.*

*Awarded the Social Responsibility label, armatis-ic is an ethically responsible company with strong human values. Proactive in terms of team training, the company offers its employees access to its internal "company university" to assist them with their geographical mobility within France and the management of their professional career paths.*

### **About Calais Promotion**

*Calais Promotion is the economic development agency for Calais and its surrounding region. Your first port of call and a reference for business projects in the Calais region, its main aims are to canvass new investors and to assist companies setting up their businesses in the area. Made up of elected representatives and major economic players, the agency is supported by Calais Town Council, the Calais Urban Authority, the Audruicq Rural Authority, the Opal Coast Chamber of Commerce and Industry and by a network of member businesses.*

### **Press contact**

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