press release

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SUEZ WINS THE PUBLIC SERVICE CONTRACT TO MANAGE THREE MARINAS IN ASNIERES-SUR-SEINE AND VILLENEUVE-LA-GARENNE

Today, SUEZ’s subsidiary Marinov and Voies navigables de France (VNF) are announcing a €32 million, 30-year public service contract for the management and development of the Van Gogh, Sisley and Port Bas marinas in Asnières-sur-Seine and Villeneuve-la-Garenne, in the suburbs of Paris.

SUEZ meets the expectations of local authorities and groups of companies by reviving marinas, which are important factors in regional development and offer significant prospects for growth. However, their development must take important environmental and landscaping issues into consideration. On the strength of its experience in the conservation of natural ecosystems, SUEZ is in a position to propose the right global offer to ports operators, based on adapted technical management and a permanent focus on user satisfaction. Today, SUEZ is working with around ten marinas in France to conserve their heritage and provide users with new services.

“I am delighted that Voies navigables de France has put its trust in us. Our know-how in the management and development of marinas will enable us to meet the demands of the local authorities and the users. SUEZ and Voies navigables de France will work together to turn these marinas into lively places that are also economically attractive. Moreover, our experience will enable us to offer new ‘smart’ services to respond to the yachtsmen’s demands for mobility, and to facilitate networking between several marinas”, declares Bertrand Camus, CEO SUEZ Water France.

The “Presqu’île en Seine” project

For the public administrative institution VNF, which is in charge of the operation, maintenance, management and promotion of a waterways network covering more than 6,700km, this project is in line with its policy to develop services that meet the needs of yachtmen, promote river tourism and fit in with local urban development.

VNF’s strategic plan for 2015 - 2020 defines levels of service by identifying professional or individual river users as major beneficiaries of river tourism. VNF referred to the affected local authorities for this project, which aims to develop the appeal of their localities.

VNF awarded the contract to SUEZ (Marinov) for the management and development of the three marinas on 1 July 2016. The project includes a number of actions: the supply of services for users, the revival of the ports and their opening towards the city, the environment, by setting an example in terms of the conservation of water and energy resources and the natural ecosystem, and safety, for use in complete peace of mind.
Focus: three ports, three projects

Summer 2017: Port Bas, the beach in the west in Asnières-sur-Seine

The goal is to allow the locals and visitors to re-appropriate this port on the banks of the Seine, with its 8,000 m² of water and 5,000 m² of land. “Rosa Bonheur”, which already runs open-air dance halls on a barge by the Alexandre III bridge and in the Buttes de Chaumont park in Paris, plans to open a venue in the port in one year. The first “Rosa Bonheur” outside Paris will add a festive and original touch to the port by proposing a range of activities, including food trucks, a giant pizza oven and a beach club for kids.

July 2018: Port Sisley, a restored natural environment in Villeneuve-la-Garenne

With its 4,000 m² of water and 5,500 m² of land, Port Sisley will benefit from restoration works to highlight biodiversity by returning the banks to their natural state, and to offer leisure activities, such as trips in electric boats. SUEZ, which has been tasked with developing the facilities for users, will also develop and landscape the port. In the next two years, new facilities will be installed, such as pontoons, and new services will be on offer for boat-owners (toilets, reception, securing of the site, Wi-Fi).

2019: Port Van Gogh, a meeting point for businesses and river users in Asnières-sur-Seine

With its 26,000 m² of water and 17,000 m² of land, Port Van Gogh will ultimately become a venue for meetings and creativity for both businesses and boat-owners. It will also be opened up to the local population and visitors, who will be able to enjoy a meal in the restaurant, among others. The site will set an environmental example, with facilities to collect grey water and the creation of clean points. SUEZ will take part in the project by managing the harbour master’s office in Port Van Gogh, which receives the yachtsmen and the visitors stopping over in all three ports.

A long-term project

In an effort to development local tourism and to turn these ports into vibrant and lively places, VNF has asked SUEZ to increase the number of moorings from around 100 today to 137 by 2019. The development of the three ports is a long-term project that will accompany numerous other projects and activities in the years to come.

“This project symbolises the ambition of Voies navigables de France to integrate its ports with other urban developments. By calling on SUEZ to take charge of the global management of these three ports, we will be able to offer a diverse response to the needs of the users of the waterways,” concluded Alain Monteil, VNF’s Seine Basin Director.
SUEZ

We are at the dawn of the resource revolution. In a world facing high demographic growth, runaway urbanisation and the shortage of natural resources, securing, optimising and renewing resources is essential to our future. SUEZ (Paris: SEV, Brussels: SEVB) supplies drinking water to 92 million people, delivers waste water treatment services to 65 million, collects waste produced by almost 34 million, recovers 16 million tons of waste each year and produces 7 TWh of local and renewable energy. With 82,530 employees, SUEZ, which is present on all five continents, is a key player in the sustainable management of resources. SUEZ generated total revenues of €15.1 billion in 2015.


The 4,700 employees of Voies navigables de France act daily to ensure the waterway public service. As a public administrative institution of the Ministry of Environment, Energy, and Sea, VNF acts on the following:

- Infrastructure: VNF manages, operates, improves and develops the largest European network of inland waterways (6,700 km of canals and managed rivers, more than 3,000 art structures and 40,000 hectares of Public River).
- Freight transport: VNF develops freight river transport by promoting and encouraging modal and multimodal logistics.
- Tourism and river heritage: VNF preserves and enhances the equipment and living areas around the waterway in order to support river tourism as a driver of local economic development
- Sustainable development and water: VNF optimises water management in an environmentally responsible approach aimed at the preservation of biodiversity.

Facilitating discussions between economic and institutional actors (shippers, carriers, local governments, tourism operators…) for the development of the waterway sector, VNF offers and develops a wide range of services adapted to the needs of waterway users.

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