press release



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ChangeNOW Summit 2020: SUEZ entrusts the design of its pollution & carbon sink to the Austrian artist Peter Kogler

The SUEZ Group will be taking part in the ChangeNOW Summit at the Grand Palais in Paris, from January 30 to February 1, 2020. To mark this universal event of concrete innovations for the planet, the Group has decided to spotlight its air treatment solutions by commissioning Peter Kogler the artistic design of one of its major solutions for improving air quality: the pollution & carbon sink.

Among the AirAdvanced range of air treatment solutions presented at the summit, the pollution & carbon sink is specially designed by Peter Kogler, the Austrian artist. By transforming this innovation into a piece of art, the artist is reinterpreting the importance of the link between the challenges of technology and the environmental stakes. "I have always been interested in seeing how far my visual and artistic expressions can be transformed and adapted to different materials," he declares. Peter Kogler has often worked in public spaces and made his mark on urban landscapes like the halls of the Vienna subway (2012), Innsbruck city hall (2004), Nuit Blanche Paris (2004) and Toronto etc.

Developed in partnership with the French start-up Fermentalg, the pollution & carbon sink improves air quality thanks to the power of microalgae. The algae capture fine particles (PM10), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and excess CO₂ and transform them into green energy. In cities, a pollution & carbon sink can absorb the equivalent of the pollution emitted by 150 vehicles. SUEZ has already deployed five pollution & carbon sinks in France, including one in Poissy city centre, near Paris.

The pollution & carbon sink is a concrete solution from SUEZ reflecting the Group's ambition to promote environmental technology and to accelerate the world development of solutions focused on performance and environmental quality. SUEZ provides concrete and innovative solutions to local authorities and industries all over the world: real-time monitoring of air quality in "Paseo Banderas" (Santiago de Chile) and in the Balearic Islands' harbours, air treatment in the Parisian subway (IP'AIR project) and the support of Dunkirk Urban Community (France) in its "Innovation Territory" project.

The SUEZ CEO Bertrand Camus restated the importance of preserving the planet and the vital elements of water, air and earth during the presentation of the Group strategic plan, Shaping 2030. Considering today's stakes, the Group is committed to making air quality one of the key areas for research and innovation over the coming years. As of now, more than 10 million euros have been invested in this field.





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About Peter Kogler

Peter Kogler is a contemporary artist born in Innsbruck (Austria) in 1959. After studying at the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna, Peter Kogler exhibited at the Centre Pompidou (Paris), MoMa New York, Mamco (Geneva), Venice & Shanghai Biennales among other institutions. He has lectured at the Munich Academy of Fine Arts since 2008. In the early 1980s, Peter Kogler used computer technology as a medium for his work, contrasting the perfectionism of the new technology with physical and organic motifs.

About SUEZ

With 90 000 people on the five continents, SUEZ is a world leader in smart and sustainable resource management. We provide water and waste management solutions that enable cities and industries optimize their resource management and strengthen their environmental and economic performances, in line with regulatory standards. With the full potential of digital technologies and innovative solutions, the Group treats over 45 million tons of waste a year, produces 4.4 million tons of secondary raw materials and 7.7 TWh of local renewable energy. It also secures water resources, delivering wastewater treatment services to 66 million people and reusing 1.1 billion m³ of wastewater. SUEZ generated total revenues of 17.3 billion euros in 2018.

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