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YOPLAIT Production France, ADVIVO, the city of Vienne and the Vienne Condrieu Agglomeration join forces with ENGIE Solutions to implement a waste heat recovery system and create an urban heating network

After more than two years of preparation, YOPLAIT Production France, social landlord ADVIVO, the city of Vienne and the Vienne Condrieu Agglomeration formalize their partnership with ENGIE Solutions to heat part of the Grand Estressin district using energy generated by the manufacturing process of the industrialist. Indeed, YOPLAIT, ADVIVO and the city of Vienne have commissioned ENGIE Solutions to design, build, finance and operate, for a period of 15 years, a waste heat recovery facility¹ and the creation of a heat network.

Using locally available energy to optimize and decarbonize the heating supply of nearly 800 social housing units

The project, which will be effective from 2021, aims to use a waste industrial heat available and local to enable the optimization and decarbonization of the heating supply of 791 social housing units and the Claude Bernard school.

Currently, the manufacturing process of the YOPLAIT plant in Vienne is generating an available and unexploited - and therefore wasted - energy. By installing heat pumps at the site, ENGIE Solutions will create the infrastructure required to recover this waste heat. The energy harvested in this way will be injected directly into the future heating network being established by ENGIE Solutions in the north of Vienne.

This new local network will help to reduce CO₂ emissions generated by heating 791 housing units belonging to social landlord ADVIVO and a school in the city. Ultimately, the facility will cover 60% of the requirements of the housing units, the balance being provided by gas boilers that are already in place.

¹ Waste energy or heat is the energy that is produced by an industrial process whilst not being the purpose of that process, and that is not recovered

The public works will start on 3 August and will continue until the first week of September. The organization and constraints of the site will be communicated at a later date.

A model project

This project is fully aligned with the drive towards environmental excellence in the region shared by both YOPLAIT and ENGIE Solutions.

For a number of years now, YOPLAIT has been involved in initiatives to reduce its environmental impact and improve its energy performance. The plant therefore approached ENGIE Solutions to help recover the heat in the effluent from its production processes. Technical recovery solutions have not enabled this energy to be harvested until now. The work put into the project by YOPLAIT and ENGIE Solutions and the resulting solutions have enabled us to realise this project, which will be so beneficial to the circular economy of Vienne-Nord.

The contract is part of the TEPOS (Positive Energy Region) initiative and the Regional Energy and Air Climate Plan of the agglomeration and its two partners. Their intention is to massively reduce energy consumption and develop renewable or recoverable energy in the region.

Through this partnership, ENGIE Solutions is designing and financing an innovative local greening solution for social housing units and the Claude Bernard school. Once the system is up and running, the amount of CO₂ generated by heating these homes will halve, but the price of energy will remain competitive. In fact, ENGIE Solutions guarantees a heating tariff equal to or even lower than that currently being paid by the users concerned.

“Through this partnership, we are supporting not only a producer with strong roots in the city but also the local authorities and residents. That is our goal at ENGIE Solutions: optimising and greening energy, improving our living environment”, states Wilfrid Petrie, ENGIE Deputy Managing Director, in charge of ENGIE Solutions.

Tristan Aubry, Yoplait’s Industrial Director, President of Yoplait Production France declares : *“The success of this project is a source of pride to our company and all its employees, who have been involved in this initiative since it began. The project is a practical embodiment of Yoplait’s undertaking to continually strive to reduce the impact of its operations on the environment. It also symbolises the plant’s strong roots in the community of Vienne, which it has been part of since it was set up in 1965”.*

On the subject of the project, Thierry Kovacs, Chairman of the Vienne Condrieu agglomeration, Mayor of Vienne and Chairman of ADVIVO, states : *“For nearly 10 years, our agglomeration has been involved in a programme of ecological transition through its Climate Plan and the TEPOS/CV initiative. The heating network project in Vienne-Nord was initiated within this framework and has made a very significant contribution towards the region’s renewable heating targets. I am delighted that the commitment of each of the partners has enabled us to bring to fruition a project that is so beneficial, both ecologically and economically. ADVIVO and its tenants in Grand Estressin will be supplied with 60% renewable heating and will benefit from a stabilisation - even a slight drop - in prices over time.*

The ADVIVO complex of The Grand Estressin and its tenants will benefit from renewable heat up to 60% and a stabilization of the price, or even a slight decrease, over time.

The Claude Bernard school has recently been fully renovated by the city and will now see all its heating requirements provided by the new network, with the same assurance about price competitiveness. The creation of a new heating network with the recovery of heat from

industrial processes means that once again, our agglomeration ranks amongst the most active in the greening of energy.”

This project is fully aligned with the targets of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change signed in 2015. ADEME recommends the environment-friendly use of waste heat generated by industry, and is supporting this project by providing 37% of the funding required.

This achievement is an advance that will enable us to embark on subsequent new initiatives to use the resources of our planet more efficiently.

Key points:

- **791 social housing units provided with heat**
- **Over 3,000 MWh of energy recovered per year**
- **A 50% reduction in CO₂, which will equate over the period of the contract to driving a motor car 1,300 times around the world**
- **Strong stakeholder involvement**

About Yoplait (Part of General Mills)

Since it came into being in 1965, the brand, affectionately known as the “little flower”, has been bringing natural touches of pleasure to the everyday lives of young and old.

Now the world’s second largest fresh dairy product brand, it is flourishing in over 50 countries. And it is in France, the land of its roots, that it continues to cultivate its know-how and innovate by producing new products with 100% French milk in its three plants located in Le Mans (71), Vienne (38) and Monéteau (89).

To find out more, visit <https://www.yoplait.fr/>

About Vienne Condrieu, ADVIVO, city of Vienne

The three public bodies joined forces in 2012 within the dynamic of a shared Climate Plan. Their involvement in TEPOS since 2016 has enabled an increase in initiatives and projects in the region. As they embark on the creation of the Regional Energy and Air Climate Plan, meeting the challenges of the energy transition and adapting to climate change will, more than ever, require strong partnerships and the commitment of all.

About ENGIE Solutions

ENGIE Solutions supports towns, industries and companies in the tertiary sector, providing them with solutions to the challenges posed by the energy transition in the form of turnkey and bespoke packages.

ENGIE Solutions’ experts apply all their expertise in pursuit of three aims: optimising the use of energy and resources, greening energies and reinventing living and working environments.

ENGIE Solutions guarantees its clients a single point of contact and a combination of complementary offerings that go beyond energy. The company is committed to achieving results and its 50,000 employees which operate throughout France (900 sites) have expertise in an extremely diverse number of areas, ranging from the design and operation of infrastructure & services, to funding, installation and maintenance.

ENGIE Solutions is part of the ENGIE Group, one of the world’s leading low-carbon energy and services groups whose *raison d’être* is to accelerate the transition towards a carbon neutral world.

To find out more, visit www.engie-solutions.com



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