

Press Release

Groupama and VINCI begin construction of The Link, Total's future head office in Paris La Défense



Paris La Défense, 11 June 2020 - On 14 March 2020, Groupama Group and Total signed a pre-lease agreement for the construction of The Link, the future home of Total's head office in Paris La Défense. Designed by architects PCA-STREAM on behalf of site owner Groupama, the project will be built by VINCI, specifically by subsidiary VINCI Construction France.

The works and improvements are scheduled to last five years, at the end of which Total will take delivery of the building and occupy The Link for a renewable twelve-year lease.

“The Link project was tailor-made to meet Total’s needs. With VINCI, we aim to build a next-generation tower made up of two buildings connected by footbridges: The Link. Going ahead with this project in the unprecedented times we are experiencing is a strong sign of our confidence in the future,” said **Thierry Martel, CEO of Groupama Group.**

“Thanks to The Link, we will bring together our teams, currently spread out across various sites in Paris La Défense, in a modern, bright and pleasant setting that will provide individual comfort while facilitating interaction – and that will meet the highest environmental standards,” said **Namita Shah, President, People & Social Responsibility and member of Total’s Executive Committee.**

“The Link demonstrates VINCI Construction France’s ability to combine real estate development skills with technical expertise to carry out complex operations. This project is one of a long series of high-rise buildings in the Paris La Défense district,” said **Hugues Fourmentraux, Chairman of VINCI Construction France.**

“In the very particular context of the current public health crisis, the launch of the Link project confirms the attractiveness of our business district. We are proud that The Link will enhance the Paris La Défense skyline,” explained Georges Siffredi, President of the Hauts-de-Seine Department and the Paris La Défense business district. *“This tower, located in the Michelet neighbourhood, enables us to rethink connections and traffic with the town of Puteaux.”*

The Link

Located in the Michelet neighbourhood of Paris La Défense, The Link project comprises two towers linked on 30 levels by green walkways. The 50-storey “Arche” wing will rise 228 metres above the forecourt, while the 35-storey “Seine” wing will be 165 meters high. The complex shares a common, three-level base between the boulevard and the forecourt.



The footbridges will create 3,000 m² and 6,000 m² duplex floors, which will themselves be connected by wide staircases, open and easy to access. Employees will benefit from 130,000 m² of office, catering, co-working and relaxation space designed to enhance collective efficiency and wellbeing at work.

The Link will receive the highest French environmental certificate, HQE Exceptional, attesting to its outstanding energy efficiency and thermal and acoustic comfort. 100% of the workstations will enjoy natural daylight and 25% of the energy needed to light the tower will be provided by its photovoltaic facade. The construction work will be carried out in compliance with the French Charter of the Circular Economy in the Real Estate and Construction sector, signed by both Groupama Immobilier and VINCI Construction France.

KEY DATES

April 2018: construction of offices approved

June 2018: building permit application submitted

April 2019: building permit obtained

March 2020: pre-lease agreement between Groupama and Total and real estate development contract between Groupama and VINCI Construction France signed

2020: demolition of existing buildings; design

2021: construction of the foundations

2022: construction of the bottom levels (7 storeys, from the 2nd basement to the 2nd floor)

2023 - 2025: construction of the structure at a rate of one floor per week; interior fittings

2nd half of 2025: finishings, checks and handover of The Link

About Groupama Group

For more than 100 years, the Groupama Group has been based on timeless humanist values to help as many people as possible build their lives with confidence. It is based on human, close-knit, optimistic and responsible communities of mutual aid. Groupama Group, one of the leading mutual insurers in France, carries out its insurance and service business activities in ten countries. The Group has 12 million members and customers and 31,500 employees throughout the world, with revenues of €14.4 billion.

About Total

Total is a broad energy Group, which produces and markets fuels, natural gas and low-carbon electricity. Our 100,000 employees are committed to better energy that is safer, more affordable, cleaner and accessible to as many people as possible. Active in more than 130 countries, our ambition is to become the responsible energy major.

About VINCI

VINCI is a global player in concessions and contracting, employing more than 222,000 people in more than 100 countries. We design, finance, build and operate infrastructure and facilities that help improve daily life and mobility for all. Because we believe in all-round performance, above and beyond economic and financial results, we are committed to operating in an environmentally and socially responsible manner. And because our projects are in the public interest, we consider that reaching out to all our stakeholders and engaging in dialogue with them is essential in the conduct of our business activities. VINCI's goal is to create long-term value for its customers, shareholders, employees, and partners and for society at large. www.vinci.com

About Paris La Défense: strengthening ties between the business district and the Puteaux town centre

Paris La Défense, the public authority in charge of the business district's development and management, has great ambitions for the Michelet neighbourhood. The arrival of The Link tower in 2025 will transform the landscape of this currently hemmed in area. In the future, the Michelet neighbourhood will be strongly connected to the rest of Puteaux and will contribute to the dynamism of the business district.

In close collaboration with the *Département* of Hauts-de-Seine and the City of Puteaux, new urban connections have been planned to link the famous La Défense esplanade to the Puteaux town centre. In particular, the local authorities plan to requalify the circular boulevard, which today forms a boundary between the business district and the town centre: it will be transformed into a peaceful urban boulevard, which can be crossed on foot. At the same time, the Cours Michelet will be thoroughly renovated and planted to expand its existing amenities (shops, al fresco restaurants and bars, etc.) and create new urban spaces as well as soft links between the hyper-centre of Puteaux and the Esplanade de La Défense.

The delivery of the Carré Michelet (Eurosic Gecina) office complex last September marked the kick-off of this transformation

Groupama Group contacts

Marie-Laure Renaudie: +33 1 44 56 32 35 | marie-laure.renaudie@groupama.com

Safia Bouda: +33 1 44 56 30 86 | safia.bouda@groupama.com

Total contacts

Media relations: +33 1 47 44 46 99 | presse@total.com | @TotalPress

Investor relations: +44 (0)207 719 79 62 | ir@total.com

VINCI contacts

VINCI press office: +33 1 47 16 31 82 | media.relations@vinci.com

Paris La Défense contacts

Treize Cent Treize agency

Aurélie Caron, Alain N'Dong T : +33 1 53 17 97 13 | Presse_ParisLaDefense@treizecenttreize.fr

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