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PRESS RELEASE

THE BOUYGUES GROUP COMMISSIONS ATF TO MANAGE ITS WASTE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT (WEEE)

A centralised partnership for the entire Bouygues group

As part of its sustainable development policy, the Bouygues group wanted to improve the processing of WEEE* at all stages and across all business lines. ATF Gaia, a disability-friendly company** and subsidiary of the ATF group, has been selected to manage the recycling and resale of IT and electronic equipment. The contract will concern between 10,000 and 20,000 items of equipment every year, such as office computers, screens, servers, telephone equipment and printers.

Expertise spanning the entire recycling process

By sorting waste in approved centres that are close to pick-up points, ATF limits unnecessary transport, thus improving the carbon audit from collection. Following recovery, sorting and inventory, the equipment is sent to ATF re-use centers or to the nearest dismantling and destruction centres. The company also deletes the data from equipment in the days immediately after pick-up, thus removing all traces of identification and cutting data security risks for the Group. ATF oversees the entire process and is thus able to carry out full reporting for Bouygues and each business line, from collection through to delivery of the certificate of destruction, in compliance with the WEEE Directive, where applicable.

Five new sheltered jobs created

This partnership reflects the Group's ambitions in terms of respect for the environment, traceability, economic performance, and participation in the social solidarity economy. The signing of the contract led to the creation of five sheltered jobs at ATF Gaia. More new hires are planned for 2010 in order to handle the full workload involved by the contract. The management and recovery of used IT equipment is coordinated by specialist teams at ATF Gaia, comprising or managed by disabled workers.

Positive results

Six months after introduction, the end-of-life equipment management service run by ATF is a success. It is used by all the business lines of the Bouygues group and has already collected more than 5,000 items of equipment. Through the intelligent, community-based recovery of WEEE*, the Group should be able to cut the cost of reselling/recycling its IT, electronic and office automation equipment by several hundreds of thousands of euros per year. Todate, 87 tonnes of waste were recovered, of which 31 were reused and 56 destroyed. Currently deployed in France, this type of partnership could be extended to all Bouygues business lines in Europe.

- * Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment
- ** A community-interest company whose workforce comprises at least 80% of disabled people, working in conditions adapted to their disability.

About the Bouygues group

Bouygues is a diversified industrial group with a strong corporate culture. Its businesses focus on two sectors: construction, with Bouygues Construction (building, civil works and electrical contracting), Bouygues Immobilier (property) and Colas (roads), and telecoms/media, with TF1 and Bouygues Telecom. Bouygues is also a reference shareholder of Alstom.

About the ATF group

Founded in 1995, the ATF group specialises in the management and recovery of end-of-life business IT and electronic equipment, and in supplying the associated high value-added services.

The ATF group has a workforce of fifty. It reported sales of €6 million in 2009.

ATF GAIA, a disability-friendly company is a subsidiary of ATF. Every stage in the management and recovery of used IT equipment, from collection through to recycling in compliance with regulations, is coordinated by specialist teams at ATF Gaia, comprising or managed by disabled workers.

Press contacts

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