



GRAND PARIS, a 500th project for CBE Group

In the year of its 30th anniversary, French SME CBE Group has signed its 500th project, which will take place in France. At the beginning of the summer, CBE Group officialised its participation in the creation of Line 15 South of the Parisian metro, a part of the “Grand Paris Express” project. CBE Group will provide its client GIE ALLIANCE with a carousel and 6 sets of moulds. Segment production is expected to start by the end of September 2017.

For Didier Lefebvre, CEO of the company, *“we are marking history twice with these 500 tunnel projects achieved worldwide with our moulds. As the oldest key player on the segment market, but also as its worldwide leader. The fact that this 500th project takes place in France is highly symbolic and can be seen as a nod to our history. Our teams are all very proud of the work accomplished through the years.”*

The construction site is located on the East side of Paris. It will be composed of two bored tunnels, one of 4679 m and a second one of 2159 m. Near those two tunnels, located on the 2C section of the 15th line, CBE Group has installed a modular carousel, able to operate under several modes. A simple software adjustment allows to change the number of required moulds : such a possibility proves to be quite useful when the plant is used for the production of segments of different sizes.

Designing tailor-made products is CBE Group’s trademark: for this project, the company has achieved innovations in order to fit with the client’s wishes. Besides being modular, the carousel is also equipped with a new heating system. By choosing to install an air-propelled heating system instead of the usual electrical resistances, CBE Group allows its client to save energy by recovering pre-heated air. This change of heating system also implies the installation of a new water spraying system which allows to regulate humidity within the curing chamber.

The production line has also gained a few novelties: a reinforced camera system on the transfer gantry and flying bucket has been added, as well as an automated stacker designed to simplify stacking between the tilting device and the pre-storage phase. A pre-storage carousel completes those innovations: it allows segments to cool down progressively before stocking them outside.

These two tunnels built for Line 15 are part of a bigger project, “Grand Paris Express”, a new automated metro which will include 200 km of lines and 68 new train stations. Four lines (15, 16, 17, 18) will be created, and the existing lines 11 and 14 will be extended.

CBE Group, a major key-player in the tunnel industry, shines worldwide. Among its most recent projects are the Moscow Metro (Russia), Beijing Metro (China), La Sagrera Tunnel – Barcelona (Spain), Mumbai Metro (India) and the cooling tunnels of the Hinkley Point nuclear central (United Kingdom). **The full list of CBE Group projects is available on the company’s new website www.cbe-tunnels.com, released this summer.**





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French company CBE Group is an industrial SME specialized in the engineering and the manufacturing of steel moulds, precast factories and maintenance equipment to manufacture concrete segments for all sorts of tunnels. The company masters every step of the process: from the conception in the Design Office to the launch of the plant.

Created in 1987, CBE was bought in 2005 by Didier Lefebvre, who launched CBE Group. Located in the Loire Valley region, its main offices are in Saint-Avertin (37), with two production sites in L'Île Bouchard, France and in Yangling, China.

CBE Group / 1987-2017

- 182 carousels
- 23 570 moulds produced
- 500 projects in 52 countries
- 230 employees in France and in China

• **APS – Advanced Precast Systems**

CBE Group has tried to diversify its offer in order to reach new markets in the precast world, offering to manufacture any type of concrete element (railway sleepers, noise barriers, breakwaters) using industrial methods. Its dedicated department, Advanced Precast Systems (APS), launched in 2014 the first ever automated plant for the production of artificial blocks for breakwaters in La Réunion. Other similar projects have been launched since in France and abroad.

www.aps.cbegroup.fr

• **ACIMEX**

In 2009, CBE Group purchased ACIMEX, leader in the domain of industrial gripping and lifting of heavy loads and pieces. ACIMEX designs and manufactures vacuum devices for the handling of concrete, steel or PVC pieces and large scale tubes and pipes, using vacuum technology or hydraulic clamps. These systems are able to lift and handle up to 30 tons in full safety.

www.acimex.net

