



Press release

10 June 2008,

Following the A28 (Rouen – Alençon) contract won in 2001, Egis and Caisse des Dépôts have won a second motorway concession contract in France: the A88 Motorway (Caen – Sées)

Egis Projects, a shareholder of the concession company Alicorne, **has reached financial close on 25 April 2008**

Tender procedure regarding the A88 motorway concession contract started in August 2005 and on 26 January 2008, Jean-Louis Borloo (France's Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development) awarded the contract to ALICORNE, a consortium of companies including Egis Projects (7%), Caisse des Dépôts (36%), NGE (consortium representative – 13,7%), Spie Batignolles (12,7%), Malet (3,3%), Demathieu & Bard (4,3%), Valerian (1%) and AXA Investment Managers (22%). On Friday 25 April 2008, financial close was achieved for this project.

This 55-year concession includes operation of the 15 km motorway section from Argentan Sud to Sées, recently constructed by NGE (formerly Guintoli), as well as financing, design, construction and operation of an additional 30 km section from Falaise Ouest south of Caen to Argentan Sud. The junction with the A28 will be made at Sées. The A88 motorway section from Falaise Ouest to Sées is the last link connecting Caen to Alençon with a dual carriageway motorway and more widely the region of Lower Normandy with France's central and southern motorway network.

Construction will take 26 months and this section should therefore open in summer 2010.

A consortium of companies with significant experience in motorway concessions

The consortium's construction companies, namely NGE, Spie Batignolles, Malet, and Demathieu & Bard built a large part of the French motorway network and have long-standing experience of working together on this type of project.

In addition of being a shareholder of the consortium, **Egis Projects** is associated with the construction firms and will be responsible for the entire equipment supply and delivery contract, for a value of more than €13 million.

Egis Road Operation, which already operates the A28 Rouen-Alençon section through its subsidiary Routalis, will be responsible for the operation and maintenance of the entire A88 motorway. Egis Road Operation, which operates 960 km of motorways worldwide, will provide all its expertise to this new project.

Egis Route and **Egis Structures & Environnement** will be responsible for the A88 design and engineering, a contract worth about €10 million.

Egis Mobilité has also been involved in the project, for the traffic studies as well as the engineering of the operating equipment

Caisse des Dépôts and AXA Investment Managers, two renowned financial institutions, were responsible for the project financial package, strengthening with their involvement, the project solidity and soundness.

The consortium is really solid and efficient given the combined skills and experience of both the construction firms and the Egis Group companies.

About €250 million are being invested in the project and the financial package is based on a 35-year long-term loan without any required public subsidy.

Beneficial impact on the region

This motorway will stimulate local employment in particular thanks to the 30% share of construction work subcontracted to local companies. In addition, toll policy will include preferential rates for local traffic with some toll-free sections.

A project that respects both environment and sustainable development

Significant measures were taken to preserve the environment and landscapes through which the motorway will pass. The impact on natural habitats, particularly in the Orne Valley, will be limited thanks to the careful routing of the motorway as well as the specific structures and several hydraulic facilities that will be built to enable preservation of the local fauna's natural habitat and environment. A large portion of site materials will also be reused, thus limiting energy consumption and helping to preserve natural resources.



Egis is a subsidiary of the Caisse des Dépôts Group, with €449.5 million turnover in 2007 and 6300 employees worldwide. It is one of the world's leading companies in transport infrastructure engineering, providing full service solutions comprising engineering, project development and operation of motorway concessions.

For more information, see www.egis.fr

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