



Rueil-Malmaison, 5 December 2005

VINCI rewards its employees' best innovations for 2005

During the ceremony bringing together over 2 000 people at the Cité des sciences et de l'industrie de la Villette in Paris, on Monday, 5 December 2005, VINCI awarded the prizes for the VINCI 2005 Innovation Awards competition.

For this 5th Innovation Awards competition, which is held every 2 years, almost **1000 projects** were presented by over 2 400 employees representing the Group's four business lines throughout the world (Concessions, Construction, Roads and Energy), a 35% increase compared to the 2003 competition. The final jury met on October 6, 2005 to choose the **12 best innovations in the Group** in the following categories: "Equipment and Tools", "Processes and Techniques", "Materials", "Management" and "Services", along with a number of special prizes for "Sustainable Development", "Safety", "the Skilled Worker Prize", "Synergies", "Information" and "Ingenuity".

The Grand Prize for the 2005 competition was awarded to the Freyssinet team (VINCI Construction) that created an innovative process for increasing the durability of suspension bridge supporting cables. With this innovation, for which a patent has been filed, Freyssinet has invented a complete new technology for reinforcing the durability and life span of suspension bridge supporting cables by applying an innovation developed successfully for stay cables: individual protection of the strands using a polyethylene sleeve. Apart from its durability – life span greater than 100 years – this process is also an economic solution for medium-span bridges (up to 500 m), delivering a 15% saving on the cost of suspension.

VINCI also rewarded projects contributing to sustainable development, in particular through reduction of waste and implementation of systems contributing to safety on worksites. The total prize money awarded to the final winners came to 36 000 euros.

Final winners of the VINCI 2005 Innovation Awards Competition

Prize	Business unit	Name	Innovation
GRAND PRIZE	Freyssinet (VINCI Construction)	Suspension bridge cables using Cohestrand	An innovative process for increasing the durability of the cables supporting a suspension bridge.
Processes and Techniques	GTM / GTM CGS (VINCI Construction)	Floating foundations on the Monestier Viaduct	Solution for designing and building a motorway viaduct on loose ground (stable and waterlogged)
Equipment and Tools	Campenon Bernard / Sogea Construction (VINCI Construction)	Roller for lubricating formwork	A lubricating system that protects the environment and improves working conditions.
Materials	Campenon Bernard Regions/Sogea Construction (VINCI Construction)	An overpass superior in every way	Design of a motorway overpass using prefabricated sections
Services	Cofiroute (VINCI Concessions) / Sdel (VINCI Energies)	System for measuring speeding and distances on the motorway and	An educational way of contributing to the road safety campaign. The system led to a halving in the number of drivers travelling at over 130

		informing drivers	km/hour.
Management	Eurovia Lyon	Papyrus	Software allowing the foreman to enter field data directly into the centralised IT system.
Special Safety Prize	Actemium Stade (VINCI Energies) (Germany)	Trolley for cable drums	New trolley allowing easier and safer handling of cable drums.
Special Sustainable Development Prize	Ringway group Ltd (Eurovia) (UK)	Finished product packaging waste reduction	Replacing binder packaging by a low-density polyethylene bag that is recycled directly into the binder.
Special Synergies Prize	VINCI Construction / Eurovia / VINCI Energies	Global management of worksite waste	System for managing waste at group level to improve traceability
Special Skilled Worker Prize	EBM / GTM (VINCI Construction)	Picvert-hook for handling manhole covers that can be fitted to a pick	A new type of hook that helps avoid accidents when removing cast-iron manhole covers
Special Communication Prize	Eurovia Services GmbH (Germany)	Ongoing projects internet presence.	Description of ongoing Eurovia Deutschland construction projects on the home page of the company's web site
Special Ingenuity Prize	Actemium Handling Systems (VINCI Energies)	The friction wheel	Technical solution for storage projects (assembly chains, very high warehouses or linear storage).

The VINCI Innovation Awards jury

Chairman: **Xavier Huillard** Co-Chief Operating Officer of VINCI Chairman of VINCI Energies

Members: **Philippe Courtier** – Director, Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées

Jean Mouton - Senior Vice-President, B. C. G.

Patrick Piernaz – Editor-in-Chief, Le Moniteur

Bernard Schaer – Director of engineering, SNCF

Jacques Tavernier – Managing Director, ASF

Günther Temmler – Director, infrastructures, E.ON Ruhrgas

Claude Van Rooten – Managing Director of the Belgian Road Research Centre

Pierre Coppey – Director, Corporate Communication, HR and Synergies, VINCI

Michel Gili – Director, Human Resources, Eurovia

Denis Grand – Chairman and CEO, VINCI Park

Thomas Nachury – Advisor to Chairman of VINCI Construction

What is the VINCI Innovation Awards Competition?

Every 2 years, VINCI invites its 130 000 employees throughout the world to present innovations devised in the field with the aim of promoting them and encouraging wider application within the Group. The decentralised organisation of the Innovation Awards competition reflects VINCI's management style and its conviction that innovation springs from the capacity for observation and initiative of its employees acting as "entrepreneurs-innovators". The first stage of the competition is organised through 10 regions, in France (**North, West, South-West, South-East, Rhône-Alpes, East, Paris region**) and the rest of the world (**Northern Europe, Germany and Central Europe, International and Central Activities**) which select the regional award-winners and choose the innovations that will go on to compete in the final competition. Projects are selected in 5 categories reflecting a pragmatic approach to innovation: **equipment and tools, processes and techniques, materials, management and services**. A number of special prizes are awarded by the different juries as a function of the projects submitted (*sustainable development, safety, new technologies, skilled worker prize*, etc.). The juries, composed equally of in-house and outside experts, met between May and June 2005 in the regions and then on October 6 to select the final winners. Prizes were awarded for **120 innovations** in all, with award ceremonies organised between September and October in the regions and on 5 December for the final award ceremony.

World leader in concessions, construction and related services, VINCI operates in over 80 countries and has a network of 2,500 profit centres, which carry out 250,000 projects every year. As market leader in all construction, concessions, roadworks and electrical engineering business lines, VINCI has 130,000 employees worldwide (including 73,000 in France) and generated net sales of €19.5 billion and net income of €731 million in 2004. In the first half of 2005, the Group posted sales of 10.1 billion euros and a net profit of 356 million euros.

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