



Press release
4 December 2007

**VINCI 2007 Innovation Awards Competition:
VINCI showcases employees' best innovations
and presents awards to final winners**

During the closing ceremony on 4 December, VINCI presented the final awards for this year's competition. Over 2,000 people attended the event, which was held at the Centre Pompidou in Paris.

The Grand Prize for the 2007 competition was presented to the **Freyssinet** team (VINCI Construction) that developed a system to **reinforce tubular structures using carbon fibre rods and cement slurry**.

This innovation reinforces metal pylons on which sending and receiving antennae for mobile phones, television, the army, etc. are installed so that more antennae can be added without causing traction or compression problems. Until now, the solution was either to erect a new pylon beside the existing one or to strengthen the existing pylon by means of a metal structure. In both cases, a building permit was needed and the existing antennae had to be removed – and service interrupted – before the work could be done.

The 11 award winners included a Eurovia team that wrote a play, "Danger! Roadworks ahead!", pinpointing risk prevention problems at Eurovia (Management Prize), as well as a joint VINCI Park and Cofiroute team, which developed the use of the Liber-t remote toll payment tag as a means of paying for parking in VINCI Park facilities (Marketing and Services Prize).

All the award-winning innovations will now be circulated throughout VINCI, from worker to engineer, enhancing their know-how and the way they perform their tasks.



The final winners of the 2007 Innovation Awards Competition

Prize	Subsidiary	Name	Principle
Grand Prize	Freyssinet/ VINCI Construction	Reinforcement of tubular structures using carbon fibre rods and cement slurry	A neat reinforcing solution
Equipment	VINCI Construction Grands Projets/VINCI Construction	Motorised rescue chamber	The first autonomous rescue chamber mounted on rails that can be driven in a toxic atmosphere
Marketing and Services	VINCI Park, Cofiroute /VINCI Concessions	Liber-t in car parks too	Paying for parking in VINCI Park facilities using the Liber-t remote toll transponder
Processes and Techniques	Advitam, Freyssinet/VINCI Construction	Pipe Risk Management System	A computer-based management system to optimise water supply pipe system maintenance
Tools	GTM Génie Civil et Services/VINCI Construction France/VINCI Construction	Reinforcement rod bending tool	A tool that takes the effort out of bending reinforcement rods
Management	Eurovia Filiales Spécialisées, Eurovia Management, Eurovia Ile de France/Eurovia	"Danger! Roadworks ahead!"	A play pinpointing risk prevention problems at Eurovia
Sustainable development	Eurovia Management, Eurovia Lyon, Eurovia Montesson, Tracyl/Eurovia	Gaïa B.E.®: the environmental comparator	A decision-making tool that measures the environmental impact of road-building projects
Safety	Protec Feu Idf Tn-Ext, Protec Feu Idf Service, VINCI Energies Sécurité Incendie France/ VINCI Energies	Safe platform for working on false ceilings	Very safe equipment devised by and for users
Special Jury Prize	EJL Nord/Eurovia	The kerbstone clamp	A mechanical clamp that eliminates unnecessary effort and the risk of injury
Special Jury Prize	Actemium C&E Veghel, Starren/VINCI Energies	GBS Update	An automated system for creating software and documents
Special Jury Prize	Cofiroute/VINCI Concessions	Cone washing station	A mechanised washing system for traffic cones



**THE VINCI INNOVATION AWARD COMPETITION:
REWARDING THE INNOVATION INITIATIVES OF ITS ENTREPRENEURS**

VINCI, the world's leading concessions, construction and related services group, organised its first Innovation Awards Competition in 2001. It has run the event every two years since then, inviting its 142,500 employees worldwide to enter the innovations they have devised in the field. The aim is to ensure full use is made of these innovations and to disseminate them throughout the Group. The decentralised organisation of the competition reflects VINCI's management model and its conviction that innovation comes from the ability of its entrepreneur-innovators – its employees – to listen and be inventive. The competition is divided into 10 regions in France (North, West, South-West, South-East, Rhone-Alpes, East and Greater Paris) and around the world (Northern Europe, Central Europe, and International and Central Activities), each of which awards regional prizes and selects the projects that will participate in the grand final. Prizes are awarded for five categories (**equipment and tools, processes and techniques, materials, management, and marketing and services**), illustrating a pragmatic approach to innovation. In addition, the various juries award special prizes depending on the projects submitted.

This year's competition was a great success: almost 1,100 projects were submitted by over 2,500 employees representing all the Group's four core businesses (construction, roads, concessions, energy).

▪ **A competition that reflects the Group's management model**

By virtue of its decentralised organisation, the Innovation Awards Competition aims to showcase the initiatives of employees in the field, working in all the Group's businesses.

The competition therefore takes place in two stages: at regional level first and then at Group level, when three to five regional award winners compete in the grand final.

To participate in the Innovation Awards Competition, employees submit their innovations via the VINCI intranet. The projects are then studied by regional selection committees (known as "Innovation Committees"), made up of a leader, a general secretary and business line correspondents (construction, concessions, roads, energy). The best projects shortlisted by experts are presented to the jury, comprising equal numbers of personalities from within and outside the region, who vote independently on the 10 to 15 innovations of their choice.

The regional juries met in May and June, and regional award ceremonies were held in September and October. Each region then chose the innovations to go forward and compete at Group level. The 4 December ceremony closed the competition for this year, with the best 11 innovations Group-wide receiving prizes.

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