

PRESS RELEASE

IN A FIRST IN FRANCE, SOCOTEC DELIVERS BIM MODEL – AS BUILT CERTIFICATION FOR A STRUCTURE BUILT BY NEXITY IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ENGIE-AXIMA.

The SOCOTEC Group, a major player in risk management and trusted partner to its clients, has taken its deployment of BIM¹ to a new level by delivering its first BIM Model – As Built certification to Nexity for its model of the *Le Lauréat* student accommodation building in Villejuif, near Paris. The BIM model was developed by SXD, a subsidiary of Engie-Axima. The SOCOTEC certification guarantees that the model is in compliance with the built structure.

In a first in France, on 24 January a representative of **SOCOTEC Certification France** (a specialist SOCOTEC subsidiary) delivered certification to representatives of **Nexity** and **SXD** (an **Engie-Axima** specialist). SOCOTEC Certification France is the first company to certify that a BIM model complies with a completed structure from Nexity, which is the first property developer to receive BIM Model – As Built certification in France.

Guaranteeing compliance with the BIM model and the completed structure

This certification allows the project manager, when handing over a structure, to supply certification from an independent organisation that attests that the building is in complete compliance with the data and BIM model provided.

BIM Model – As Built certification is based on a very detailed set of guidelines drawn up by SOCOTEC Certification France in collaboration with the BIM experts in the SOCOTEC Group and BIM in Motion, SOCOTEC's startup partner.

The certification process involves several phases based on audits that take place at different key stages of the project:

- **Audit of the BIM Management** system
- **Audits of the structure and the model content**, i.e. the arborescence, and the quality and completeness and the data as compared to the guidelines
- **Checks, via onsite audits, that the BIM model matches the built structure**, using augmented reality technology.

BIM Model certification: quality and productivity gains ensured

The building certified is the *Le Lauréat* student accommodation block in Villejuif, near Paris, which includes 68 apartments for a total surface of 1,557 square metres. Handed over in September 2017, it is built of cross-laminated timber (CLT). The project manager is Nexity, on behalf of Nexity Studéa. The certification has been delivered after construction, based on post-handover audits.

Jean-Philippe Ruggieri, deputy CEO of Nexity, says: “We’re proud to be the first to receive BIM Model – As Built certification from SOCOTEC. Apart from the certification in itself, we’re opening the way to a more modern, collaborative model that will bring down construction costs while improving quality. As France’s leading integrated property developer, our purpose is now to reproduce and industrialise construction processes so that, in the long term, we can keep costs down.”

Pierre Hardouin, CEO of Engie-Axima, says: “This is a major step forward to anchoring BIM as an essential link between the construction of a building and its operation. This certification, delivered by SOCOTEC Certification France, positions us among the vital players in improving the performance of

buildings and opens up possibilities for developing new user services during the operation phase.”

This type of certification ensures quality and compliance for project managers vis-à-vis project owners and operators and is expected to become widespread.

Hervé Montjotin, CEO of SOCOTEC, sums up: “This BIM-based quality assurance approach is an excellent illustration of our role as a trusted partner to client companies. We contribute to guaranteeing long-term trust and confidence between the different economic actors by setting out clear reference points; and by doing so, we make a contribution to the overall robustness of the economy.”

The introduction of BIM Model – As Built certification is part of SOCOTEC’s development of an innovative range of BIM services for the entire life cycle of projects. The basic aims are to:

- **ensure the success of projects and make sure they meet their performance targets** (technical inspection, H&S and BIM-mode analysis)
- **support digital transition** by upskilling all involved (training and assistance, consultancy in regard to strategy rollout and upstream BIM, construction phase, operation)
- **instil trust and confidence between stakeholders** through standards and clear guidelines (certifications: BIM User, BIM Model and BIM Company).

SOCOTEC teams will be present at the BIM World fair, to be held 2-3 April at Paris’s Porte de Versailles conference centre. They will be presenting all BIM services and holding a **conference on BIM Model certification on Monday, 2 April at 12.00** with Nexity and SXD (Engie-Axima).

To learn more about BIM Model – As Built certification: certification@socotec.com

About the SOCOTEC Group

The SOCOTEC Group, headed by Hervé Montjotin, has built its reputation over more than 60 years as a trusted partner assisting companies in the areas of quality, health and safety, and the environment.

SOCOTEC’s mission is to ensure the integrity and performance of assets and people’s safety. Through its inspection and measurement, assistance and consultancy, and training and certification services, SOCOTEC helps to optimise the performance of companies in every sector by managing the risks inherent in their activities. Drawing on its expertise and positioning itself as a long-term partner, SOCOTEC supports its clients throughout their project’s lifecycle.

As France’s No. 1 in construction inspection and a major player in TIC for the construction and infrastructure sectors, the SOCOTEC Group generates consolidated revenue of €700 million (40% outside France) with 200,000 clients. It has operations in 25 countries, 7,800 employees and over 250 forms of external recognition.*

See www.socotec.com for more information.

* TIC: Testing, Inspection, Certification

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