

Press release
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CERTIVEA certifies STEF-TFE with the 1st HQE certification issued in Europe for refrigerated warehouses

CERTIVEA has accredited STEF-TFE with the 1st "NF Tertiary Buildings – HQE Approach – Logistics Platforms / refrigerated warehouses" certification in France for the STEF Les Essarts site. Located in Vendée, this 25,000 m³ cold negative (-25°C) warehouse is dedicated to the storage and shipment of food products, raw materials, end products and semi-finished frozen products.

This certification applies to performance in eco-construction and eco-management, as well as performances in comfort and health for a construction operation. It certifies that an operation management system has been implemented which allows environmental objectives to be set. It also defines the project management needed to reach these objectives.

The STEF Les Essarts site obtained excellent or good results for 6 of the 14 targeted criteria:

1. Relationship of building with its surrounding environment

- Immediate proximity to a motorway exit (A83)
- Absence of habitation that could be bothered by noise produced by the site's activity (truck traffic)
- Thoughtful landscaping, harmonious building architecture

2. Integrated selection of products, systems and construction procedures

- Thermal and acoustic insulating materials in offices that use a natural binder
- Thermal lining of offices with recyclable PSE

3. Energy management

- Heat pump for offices
- Efficiency and optimisation of cold storage system
- Heat recovery for defrosting of air coolers and frost-proofing of the cooler floor
- Low energy lighting
- Motion detection in offices and ancillary rooms

4. Maintenance – Durability of environmental performance

- Use of a natural refrigerant fluid (Ammonia)
- Refrigeration system designed with a high-performing LGWP index and COP
- Ease of maintenance
- Implementation of means to monitor consumption and performance

5. Hygrothermal comfort

- Implemented measures, notably in the cooler, which features limited operating time of evaporators when it is occupied

6. Olfactory comfort

- Effective separation between platform area and offices to limit odour dissipation
- Simple ventilation network to ensure efficient processing of odours in the office area

Gilles Saubier, Deputy Director General of IMMOSTEF, the real estate division of STEF-TFE said: "Every year, STEF-TFE manages construction sites in France and Europe for its own purposes and for its customers. Aware of the environmental impact of the transport and cold storage logistics activity, the group has integrated high-quality environmental practices into its construction projects. The STEF Les Essarts site's obtaining of this first certification in France underlines our commitment to build in a different way to safeguard the future.

Offering real estate solutions with the best value propositions is a source of differentiation. The new STEF-TFE construction projects will incorporate the main criteria of this first HQE standard for refrigerated warehouses. Dauchez Payet has provided us with HQE support, accompanying us in evaluating and formalising the STEF Les Essarts site's environmental performance, as well as defining a system for operation management and building environmental quality".

Eric Query, Development Director of CERTIVÉA, said: "Our role is to accompany, through the process of certification, real estate developers and contractors in their efforts to enhance their managerial, customer satisfaction, technical and environmental performance.

STEF-TFE has been a major player in drafting the new HQE standard for refrigerated warehouses to create the NF Tertiary Buildings - logistics platforms certification published in April 2010. The company's real estate expertise in cold storage development was a determining factor.

Selected by AFILOG and CERTIVEA in 2010, the STEF Les Essarts site participated as a pilot operation in the drafting of this new standard. Today, obtaining this first certification is the first concrete result of this new standard".

STEF LES ESSARTS

1st STEF-TFE logistics site for frozen goods in Vendée

- 4,000 m² of developed site area
- 25,000 m³ of cold negative storage area
- 1 freezing tunnel with a capacity of 20 tons per day
- Storage capacity of 6,000 palettes

CERTIVEA is a subsidiary of CSTB Group accompanying, through the process of certification, players from the building sector in their efforts to enhance their managerial, customer satisfaction, technical and environmental performance. Certivéa dedicates

itself to improving the environmental quality of buildings (with the NF Tertiary Buildings - HQE® approach), the operational

processes of architects (Architect MPRO), property developers (QUALIPROM) and real estate for rent (QUALIMO). NF Etudes Thermiques and CSTB Competences were added to Certivéa's certification portfolio in 2007.

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STEF-TFE is the European leader for temperature-controlled logistics. (-25°C to +15°C). The Group offers a complete range of

solutions in transport, logistics and information systems for any food product, including the most temperature-sensitive. Its logistics system operates with a network of 215 cold storage sites and a fleet of 2,000 vehicles that are specifically equipped for fresh, cold (seafood, fruit and vegetables, flowers) and frozen goods. The Group has 14,000 employees in eight countries (France, Belgium, Spain, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, United Kingdom and Switzerland) and is present in Tunisia for its North African activities. Its customers can be classified into four major categories: manufacturers, distributors, retail, and restaurant chains. STEF-TFE's turnover totalled 2,057 million Euros in 2010.

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