



Press release

Le Havre, Rouen, Paris France
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NORMANDY'S PORT/INDUSTRIAL ZONES COMMIT TO DECARBONISATION AND THE ECOLOGICAL TRANSITION

On Tuesday, 15 November 2022 HAROPA PORT and non-profit associations Synerzip-LH – INCASE – Industries Caux Seine and UPSIDE Boucles de Rouen submitted a collective response to the call for proposals for “Low-Carbon Industrial Zones (ZiBaC)” projects issued by ADEME, France’s agency for the ecological transition.

A visit to Saipol’s plant in Grand-Couronne on 9 November by Christophe Béchu, Minister for the Ecological Transition and Territorial Cohesion, provided an opportunity to present this project.

The call for proposals for “Low-Carbon Industrial Zones” (ZiBaC) projects published last March by ADEME is directed at developing exemplary industrial zones by fostering the emergence of ambitious local regional projects for decarbonisation, climatic resilience and the ecological transition.

Publication of the call attracted considerable interest from professional associations and companies already addressing the issue of decarbonisation.

For example, industrial sectors on the Seine Axis and HAROPA PORT have been working for several years on decarbonising industrial clusters. In 2018, an initial **Carbon Capture, Utilisation & Storage (CCUS) study** was conducted by a grouping formed by a dozen manufacturers, Normandy regional government, ADEME, the two industrial associations of Le Havre and Port-Jérôme and HAROPA PORT. This demonstrated the relevance of implementing a “CCUS programme” from Le Havre to Rouen to capture some of the 9MT of CO₂ produced every year by industry along the Seine Axis.

In July 2021, five industry majors - Air Liquide, Boréal, Esso S.A.F., TotalEnergies and Yara International ASA – signed a memorandum of understanding to work together on the development of CO₂ capture and storage infrastructure that would help decarbonise Normandy’s industrial basin. The first phase will involve an exploration of the project’s technical and economic feasibility. HAROPA PORT’s support for the initiative of these industrial enterprises was highlighted during a visit by the Minister of Transport on 29 October 2021.

The ZIBaC project: involving all Seine Axis actors and every lever for decarbonisation

ADEME's call for project proposals led to the combination of the initiatives of the associations of the three port/industrial zones in line with the decarbonisation project initiated by the aforementioned companies.

The response to the call for proposals submitted by the grouping of three associations in conjunction with HAROPA PORT therefore includes part of the CCUS exploration studies and opens out the decarbonisation focus to include other levers such as energy restraint and efficiency, new energies, industrial ecology and the issues surrounding land development, regional resilience and employment, which fall within the remit of local authorities and regional government.

The studies and actions envisaged in the joint submission relate to:

- sharing experience of the deployment of solutions for energy restraint, energy optimisation and process decarbonisation,
- fostering the development of renewable energies for supply to industry,
- encouraging the emergence of services shared between industrial enterprises and the local region via industrial and regional ecology,
- preparing the port/industrial zone for the goals and issues raised by decarbonisation with the conversion of existing infrastructure, networks and utilities to meet the needs of tomorrow,
- anticipating the requirement for the training and skills to be deployed in support of decarbonisation.

"The ZIBaC strategic project for developing low-carbon port/industrial zones is a good illustration of the goal pursued by HAROPA PORT: to ensure that the Seine Axis region is exemplary in terms of decarbonisation, climatic resilience and the ecological transition" - Stéphane Raison, CEO and Chair of the Board of Management of HAROPA PORT.

"This project is evidence of the determination of industrial enterprises along the Seine Axis in Normandy to meet the challenge of the ecological transition. Alongside its partners in this grand adventure, the UPSIDE industrial association sets out to be an important actor in the decarbonisation of the port/industrial zone in Rouen city and district" - Régis Saadi, President of the UPSIDE-Boucles de Rouen association.

"INCASE, the historical industrial association for the Caux area on the Seine, in conjunction with the other partners in the Seine Axis port/industrial zones, is providing in this ZIBaC project a collective, collaborative response to decarbonisation enabling, among other things, an assessment of the opportunities for shared action. This is a major boost for Seine Axis competitiveness and attractiveness for industry" - Jean-Philippe Petit, President of the INCASE – Industries Caux Seine association.

"Companies in the Le Havre area are already some way down the decarbonisation road and the ZIBaC project supported by SYNERZIP-LH and its Seine Axis partners is a magnificent opportunity to speed up this dynamic still further based on the pooling of ways and means. In addition, the project is focused on the long term and therefore provides the forward visibility essential to the practical implementation of industrial strategies" - Bruno Petat, director for economic development of industrial platforms at SYNERZIP-LH.

About HAROPA PORT

Since 1 June 2021, the ports of Le Havre, Rouen and Paris have formed the “major Seine Axis river- and seaport authority”. As the fourth largest North European port complex, HAROPA PORT has connections to every continent based on an international maritime offering in the very first rank with calls at nearly 620 ports. It serves an extensive hinterland centred on the Seine Valley and the Paris region, together constituting France’s biggest consumer catchment area. From Le Havre to Paris, the port complex can point to 2.5m sq. m. of logistics warehousing currently in service and over 1m sq. m. of available warehousing space. HAROPA PORT provides a transport and logistics system capable of proposing holistic, end-to-end and decarbonised service offerings. It generates annual maritime and river traffic of nearly 110m tonnes, representing approximately 160,000 jobs.

About UPSIDE

UPSIDE is an industrial association set up in August 2021 at the instigation of France Chimie Normandie and HAROPA PORT | Rouen. It has around fifteen members focused on shared projects relating to industrial safety culture and industrial and regional ecology. UPSIDE has devoted substantial effort since the spring of 2022 to building a response to the call for ZIBaC proposals for decarbonising Rouen’s port/industrial zone.

About INCASE

Formed in 1972, the association of companies operating in Port Jérôme and the surrounding region (AEPJR) became INCASE- Industries Caux Seine – in 2022. Today, INCASE has a membership of nearly 50 business focused on shared issues relating to safety, the pooling of services and the sharing of experience. INCASE is also deeply involved in the decarbonisation of the port/industrial zone of Port Jérôme and its surrounding area.

About SYNERZIP-LH

Founded in January 2017, the initial purpose of SYNERZIP-LH, an association, was to provide governance for the implementation of the official plan for the prevention of technology-related risks (PPRT) in Le Havre’s port/industrial zone. By also working with local actors in economic development, SYNERZIP-LH fosters the sharing of effort and facilitates skill networking, thereby accelerating the execution of industrial projects. Thanks to its presence at the interface between private enterprise and the project management universe, SYNERZIP-LH is able to contribute actively to transformative change in the local region.

Press contact:

Clémence Rebours - +33 6 60 57 76 43 - c.rebours@nouvelles-graines.com



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