

GDF SUEZ continues its growth in Brazil

For the purposes of the concession it received in 2001, GDF SUEZ has just completed construction of the Sao Salvador hydro-electric plant along the Tocantins River between the States of Tocantins and Goais in northern Brazil.

Sao Salvador is the Group's 15th power plant in Brazil and it required a €307 million investment. Production for the Sao Salvador Dam (148 MW) has been sold by auction, for a total amount of €2 billion, over a period of 30 years starting in 2011.

"The construction of the Sao Salvador Dam is symbolic of our industrial development in Brazil. For 10 years, GDF SUEZ has been pursuing a dynamic growth strategy mainly focused on energies with low CO₂ emissions. With forecasted growth for the country's electricity demand at over 5% annually until 2015, the Group would like to continue profitable and sustainable growth through new hydro-electric projects, acquisition of existing production assets and development in alternative renewable resources such as biomass," said Gérard Mestrallet, Chairman and CEO of GDF SUEZ.

Furthermore, the Group has started building the Jirau hydro-electric power plant, the country's largest infrastructure project. In May 2008, a consortium led by GDF SUEZ was rewarded a 35-year concession to build, own and operate this 3,300 MW dam.

GDF SUEZ is currently the independent power producer in Brazil. In 2007, the Group achieved a turnover of €1.2 billion and employs close to 1,700 people. Sponsor of the "Year of Brazil" in France in 2005, GDF SUEZ will also be sponsor of the "Year of France" in Brazil in 2009. This is a great opportunity to strengthen the special ties between the two countries.

One of the leading energy providers in the world, GDF SUEZ is active across the entire energy value chain, in electricity and natural gas, upstream to downstream. It develops its businesses (energy, energy services and environment) around a responsible-growth model to take up the great challenges: responding to energy needs, ensuring the security of supply, fighting against climate change and maximizing the use of resources. GDF SUEZ relies on diversified supply sources as well as flexible and high-performance power generation in order to provide innovative energy solutions to individuals, cities and businesses. The Group employs 196,500 people worldwide and achieved revenues of \in 74,3 billion in 2007. GDF SUEZ is listed on the Brussels, Luxembourg and Paris stock exchanges and is represented in the main international indices: CAC 40, BEL 20, DJ Stoxx 50, DJ Euro Stoxx 50, Euronext 100, FTSE Eurotop 100, MSCI Europe and ASPI Eurozone.

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