

Paris, September 20, 2007

LAFARGE, A PARTNER FOR ARCHITECTS AND THE CITE DE L'ARCHITECTURE ET DU PATRIMOINE

A partner of the Cité de l'architecture et du patrimoine (City of Architecture and Heritage), the world's largest exhibition center for architecture, Lafarge has worked with the architect Rémy Marciano to build the National Architects and Urban Planners (AUP) training room using Ductal[®], an ultra high-performance concrete. It is a room where light and materials, revolutionary concrete and stone meet, where styles and eras confront each other. With this new partnership, Lafarge is once again showing its commitment to the world of architecture and architects, both young and experienced.

AN AIR OF THE SOUTH AND ITS MINERALITY

In addition to general project management provided by Jean-François Bodin, François de Mazières, president of the Cité de l'architecture et du patrimoine, invited young architects to design certain areas of the About Pavilion, the part of the Cité which is particularly dedicated to contemporary architecture.

The AUE training room project, located in the southern part of the building, was awarded to an "architect of the South", Rémy Marciano, winner of the Nouveaux Albums des Jeunes Architectes 2001/2002.

To complete his project, an evocation of the Mediterranean basin, its light and mineral materials, Rémy Marciano called on Lafarge's expertise and chose the ultra high-performance Ductal[®] concrete. *"Ductal[®] was the only choice to dress this room and to cover the space in mineral material because of its high mechanical resistance, its easy implementation and coloring".*

Sixteen panels were made (height: 110 cm, length: 200 cm, thickness: 3 cm) and fixed to a metal structure. They face the restored stone wall, revealing the modernity of this revolutionary material. A sliding panel (height: 440 cm and width: 170 cm), mounted on a rail to obscure or play with the light, as well as a screed made from Lafarge Agilia[®] complete this gray and white colored mineral casing with multiple matt effects.

BUILDING A CLOSE AND LONG-LASTING COOPERATION

For more than 15 years, Lafarge has engaged in active partnership with the world of architecture to develop its products and solutions as well as their concrete applications and has associated itself with architects, specifiers and users of its materials as part of joint experiments and innovative projects.

Lafarge's approach to construction is a comprehensive process that starts very early, as soon as the architect's project is launched. This policy of cooperation with the world of architecture is applied to a variety of areas:

- access for architects to the know-how, scientific and technical knowledge of Lafarge's Research & Development team at L'Isle d'Abeau, near Lyons
- support for young architects
- participation in architectural and construction events
- organization of conferences on the future of architecture
- support for architectural works.



ABOUT DUCTAL®

Ductal® is the result of a revolutionary technology that gives it ultra-high performance and ductile behavior. It is made up of a fiber cement matrix that is very resistant, ductile, durable and esthetic. These qualities make original and audacious shapes possible, combining extreme finesse, limited weight, strong resistance and incomparable esthetics. With coloring in the mass, Ductal® can be used for a wide range of applications.

A product with unique mechanical and esthetic qualities, Ductal® has been aimed since its creation at multiple civil engineering applications, particularly structures, buildings and architectonics and high-usage structures. Remarkable uses of Ductal® include: the Seoul Footbridge of Peace, the acoustic panels in the railway station in Monaco, floor and wall coverings in the Thierry Mugler men's boutique in Paris and Frankfurt, the structural columns in the Queen Sophia Museum in Madrid, a sun break on the front of the Clichy-la-Garenne municipal swimming pool, an "envelope" for the Thiais RATP bus centre near Paris.

NOTES TO EDITORS

Lafarge is the world leader in building materials, with top-ranking positions in all of its businesses: Cement, Aggregates & Concrete and Gypsum. With 71,000 employees in over 70 countries, Lafarge posted sales of Euros 17 billion and net income of Euros 1.4 billion in 2006.

Lafarge is the only company in the construction materials sector to be listed in the 2007 '100 Global Most Sustainable Corporations in the World'. Lafarge has been committed to sustainable development for many years, pursuing a strategy that combines industrial know-how with performance, value creation, respect for employees and local cultures, environmental protection and the conservation of natural resources and energy. To make advances in building materials, Lafarge places the customer at the heart of its concerns. It offers the construction industry and the general public innovative solutions bringing greater safety, comfort and quality to their everyday surroundings.

Additional information is available on the web site at www.lafarge.com.

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