

**LAFARGE AND ARCHITECTS –
A CLOSE RELATIONSHIP LASTING MORE THAN TEN YEARS**

For more than 10 years, Lafarge has enjoyed an active partnership with architects, both young and experienced.

As world leader in building materials, the Lafarge Group believes in working closely with building designers, specifiers and users of its materials to develop its products and their applications through experiments and innovative projects carried out together.

This policy of collaboration has also seen Lafarge support numerous publications on architecture and take part in events such as lectures, exhibitions, competitions, etc. These have included:

1992 - 1998: Institut Français d'Architecture (IFA)

Sponsor of the IFA for "Young Architects" (including François Roche, Rudy Ricciotti and Edouard François).

1993 - 1995: Gypses d'Or competition

Organization on two occasions of an architectural competition rewarding an original use of gypsum in good quality architectural projects.

1996: At the Barcelona Congress of the International Union of Architects

Involvement in the "Less is More" exhibition and organization of meetings between major international architects.

1996: Morocco Year in France

A series of lectures examining Moroccan architecture between 1930 and the present day and organization of meetings between French and Moroccan architects.

2002: Sponsorship of the campaign for architectural quality organized by the French Ministry of Culture and Communication.

2003: Lafarge sponsors the Pavillon de l'Arsenal, an architecture and urbanism exhibition center in Paris, where it has contributed its new material, Ductal®, used for the design of the permanent exhibition.

2003: Lafarge is a member of the jury for an architecture competition organized by the French Ministry of Culture and Communication.

1992 - 2001: Heritage Partnership Circle

A research partnership with the French Department of Architecture and Heritage and the Historical Monument Research Laboratory consisting of research projects on the restoration of old structures.

2001: Creargos.com

Creation of a website intended for specifiers and engineers (120,000 pages consulted monthly).

In addition, Lafarge has had a policy since 1999 of allowing architects access to its know-how, its R&D teams' knowledge and its L'Isle d'Abeau technology center. In particular, Lafarge has organized several seminars for researchers, engineers and architects devoted to the innovative new material, Ductal®.

This contact has resulted in a number of innovative projects :

- Ductal®, a revolutionary ultra high-strength concrete: Rudy Ricciotti for the Seonyu Footbridge in Seoul (South Korea, 2001), Edouard François for the Flower Tower (Paris, 2003) and Fin Geipel for the layout of the permanent exhibition at the Pavillon de l'Arsenal (Paris, 2004),
- Agilia® self-placing concrete: Jean-Marc Ibos and Myrto Vitart, for the Ille-et-Vilaine Department Archives (Rennes, 2002),
- PLAtec® customized plasterboard: Manuelle Gautrand for the new Citroën Showroom (Paris, 2003).