

**December 2008**

**The book recounting Sogreah's history has been published**

Setting Sogreah's history down in writing was something many of us had been thinking about for quite a while. Now it has been done. The book, entitled "Sogreah: passionately committed", was published in December.

This book looks back over almost a century of people, projects and innovations at the very centre of global debates on energy, rural and urban development, rivers, coasts and industries. Sogreah, now an independent company, draws on this prestigious history to continue developing its business and build on its culture of technical excellence.

The 200-page book is available in French and English.

**November 2008**

**The Sogreah Group's 2007 annual report is available**

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**Public service contract for Constantine water supply and sewerage networks (Algeria)**

Within the context of a public service contract for the outsourced management of water supply and sewerage networks of the city of Constantine, awarded to it by SEARCO, the Société des Eaux de Marseille (SEM) brought in Sogreah to undertake a major contract for the organisation and running of the local design office for a five-year period and for carrying out technical expert appraisals as and when required. This contract follows on from the engineering and rehabilitation contracts relating to the city's drinking water supply, the Beni Haroun pumping station and the water transfer line from the Beni Haroun reservoir. Sogreah is also working on projects in other regions of Algeria. Sogreah Algérie, a subsidiary wholly-owned by Sogreah, based in Algiers, currently has a workforce of 40 people.

**Environmental audits in Europe**

A major chain of retailing and distribution stores appointed Sogreah's "Polluted sites and soils" team to carry out an environmental audit of a series of service stations spread over the entire French territory. At the same time, Sogreah Magelis, a subsidiary company specialising in industrial environment, performed an environmental audit of 34 European sites (in Germany, Austria, Belgium, Romania, United Kingdom, Czech Republic) for an automobile manufacturer and 6 sites operated by a major industrial environment group (Germany, Belgium, Portugal, France).

**Sogreah at the Salon des Maires de France**

Sogreah was able to meet many of its clients on its stand at the Salon des Maires et des Collectivités Locales (SMCL) which was held from 25 to 27 November 2008 in Paris and brought together 45,000 mayors, local authority civil servants and private-sector urban stakeholders.

**Sogreah at Pollutec**

Sogreah also had a stand at the Pollutec Exhibition which was held in Lyon from 2 to 5 December 2008. Pollutec, the international exhibition for environmental equipment, technologies and services, attracted almost 75,000 visitors this year (industrialists, public services, local authorities, etc.) including 12% of foreign visitors from 110 countries.

## October 2008

### **Meeting of Sogreah's European subsidiaries in Bucharest**

The managers of the group's 4 Central European subsidiaries, Sogreah Bulgaria, Sogreah Cyprus, Sogreah Enviro Asist (Romania) and Sogreah Polska, met in Bucharest on 9-10 October in order to encourage further synergy between them and develop a European network type of operation.

### **Sogreah at the meeting of municipal councils in Albena, Bulgaria**

Sogreah attended the 5th annual meeting of municipal councils in Bulgaria, held on 9-11 October at Albena on the shores of the Black Sea. France was the guest of honour at this meeting. Sogreah was invited to take part in a sustainable development workshop. The company presented the results of a flood protection project for the town of Targovishté (funded by FASEP) in the presence of the beneficiary, the Mayor of Targovishté.

### **Sogreah chosen to build a model of the Loire estuary for the Loire Grandeur Nature 2007-2013 plan**

For the past 10 years, local communities have been mobilised to combat the degradation observed along the Loire estuary. Continuation of the programme in the form of pre-operational studies and experimentation forms part of the Loire Grandeur Nature 2007-2013 plan for the estuary. In this respect, the public interest group Loire Estuaire has just chosen Sogreah to build and operate a movable-bed 3D hydrosedimentary model of the Loire estuary. This model is intended to support the studies and assessment of intervention scenarios aimed at restoring natural hydrosedimentary conditions in the estuary. The contract also includes a study of scenarios and the preliminary design of a first experimental stage of work to re-open terrestrial environments to the action of the sea (by creating mud flats).

The model will be built with the TELEMAC 3D system (developed by EDF/LNHE and on which EDF and Sogreah are collaborating). It will be capable of representing the hydrodynamics, salinity, turbidity and modification of the position of the maximum turbidity zone and the friction that this could cause. The initial tests carried out during a previous assignment demonstrated the capability of the TELEMAC system and of Sogreah's modelling team to implement this major innovation.

The other major innovation lies in the permanence and functions of the mud flats to be regained from the terrestrial environment. This follows the restoration of the northern mud flat in the Seine estuary, to which Sogreah has already contributed.

For this project, the "Coastal Environment" team of Sogreah's Maritime Branch will be working in close collaboration with the "Complex 2D/3D models" team, which today includes nearly 30 people working on the TELEMAC system.

## September 2008

### **Sogreah selected for a major desalination complex in Sharjah**

SEWA (Sharjah Electricity and Water Authority) has appointed Sogreah Gulf, Sogreah's Dubai-based subsidiary, to design and supervise the works to build the sea water intake and outfall structures for the Hamriyah complex (thermal power plant + desalination plant) in Sharjah (United Arab Emirates). The Hamriyah complex must eventually produce 450,000 m<sup>3</sup> of desalinated water per day through reverse osmosis and 180,000 m<sup>3</sup> per day through thermal desalination (MED). The water intake flow rate must exceed 100 m<sup>3</sup>/s.

This order confirms Sogreah's strong presence in the seawater desalination market. In particular, the group is highly sought after to study all the system hydraulics (pumping stations) and all the interfaces between the plant and its maritime environment, which are vital to ensure that the system functions correctly.

### **Sogreah continues developing on dams in Oman**

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Sogreah has just signed a new contract for the studies of Wadi Rafsah dam, intended to protect the city of Sur from flooding. Over the past ten years, Sogreah has developed substantial activity in Oman, in the field of engineering services for flood control structures and groundwater recharge. Cyclone Gonu (6 June 2007, category 2) caused extensive damage all along the Oman coastline and the protection programme has been stepped up. Sogreah was already operating in Oman, so was well placed to be appointed for emergency studies and design and project supervision services for several new dams. Sogreah Oman's team is developing rapidly.

### August 2008

#### **Sogreah participated actively in the Hamburg ICCE**

The 31st ICCE (International Conference on Coastal Engineering) took place in Hamburg (Germany) from 31 August to 5 September. The Sogreah group participated actively, running two stands and presenting two technical publications.

At our Telemac System stand we met users and made numerous business contacts. Telemac is a high-performance, integrated 2D and 3D modelling system used for simulating unconfined surface hydraulics, sedimentology, water quality, waves and groundwater flows. Telemac is suitable for river, estuary and coastal studies and has been applied to several hundred projects around the world, making it a reference product on the market. The Telemac system is developed by EDF's Laboratoire National d'Hydraulique et de l'Environnement (LNHE) and distributed directly by Sogreah or via a network of national distributors ([www.telemacsystem.com](http://www.telemacsystem.com)).

At our CLI stand (Concrete Layer Innovation, [www.concretelayer.com](http://www.concretelayer.com)) we presented the innovations that the group launched on the market in 2008 in the field of single-layer artificial blocks for breakwater armour units. In addition to the increasing success of the ACCROPODE™ II and ECOPODE™ blocks, the large numbers of visitors were particularly keen to see the newly launched POSIBLOC™ system.

#### **POSIBLOC™: an innovative new system for placing offshore breakwater armour units**

The POSIBLOC™ system, a new innovation, was validated during its first full-scale application on the Busan site in South Korea. This new positioning-aid device substantially improves accuracy when placing artificial armour units underwater on offshore breakwaters. It gives the crane operator real-time visual control of block keying, enabling him to follow a precise placing drawing and obtain a high packing density on the breakwater. This system eliminates the need to use divers to guide the crane operator in areas where the sea is turbid or very rough, which is always tricky and dangerous. It is especially suited to placing the ACCROPODE™, CORE-LOC™ and ECOPODE™ single-layer blocks. POSIBLOC™ was the subject of a publication at the ICCE conference in Hamburg. The POSIBLOC™ system is patented and trademark-protected. Sogreah financed its development and Mesuris is marketing it.

This development ties in with the strategy of Sogreah and its partners, who are keen to provide construction companies with services enabling them to place single-layer blocks efficiently and accurately.

### July 2008

#### **Sogreah signs a cooperation agreement with Dopec (Spain)**

Sogreah has signed a cooperation agreement with the Spanish company Dopec in Barcelona. Dopec, which employs over 150 people, specialises mainly in development and the urban environment, transport infrastructure and hydraulics. Its head office is located in Barcelona and it operates offices in Catalonia, in the Balearic Islands and Madrid, as well as subsidiaries in Morocco ([www.dopec.com](http://www.dopec.com)). The aim of this agreement is to develop technical and commercial synergy in Spain, France, Europe and certain target countries of common interest internationally. This agreement is an important stage in Sogreah's policy of developing strategic partnerships in Europe.

#### **Annual General Meeting of the Group's shareholders**

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Over 100 of the Group's shareholders, all employees and managers of the Group's companies, met on 19 June for the Annual General Meeting and to take part in the first stage of a process of reflection on guidelines for the company's future.

The shareholders approved the 2007 accounts and the €5.2m consolidated net after-tax profit (an improvement on last year) made on turnover of €96.5m.

### **Sogreah Bulgaria**

On 1 July, the new manager of Sogreah Bulgaria started his job in Sofia. Sogreah Bulgaria, which was created in 2007, now has 5 people working on a variety of ongoing projects.

### **Photovoltaic energy**

Sogreah Sert, a team based in Lyons specialising in the fast-expanding field of new energies, has just signed a major contract with a French mass retailer to design solar photovoltaic equipment for several hypermarkets and supermarkets in France, Martinique and Réunion.

## **June 2008**

### **A subsidiary opened in the United Kingdom**

Sogreah Magelis Limited, a fully-owned subsidiary of Sogreah Magelis, was officially registered on 10 June in the United Kingdom and opened for business in central London. Based in Lyons, Magelis is Sogreah's subsidiary dedicated to environmental and industrial due diligence studies, principally in the oil and gas and energy sectors. Its main clients are Total, Shell, Exxon, Saipem, GDF, General Electric, Iberdrola. By opening an office in London, Magelis will be able to expand its client base and offer even more effective services to its global clients headquartered in the British capital.

### **Innovation white paper**

Sogreah took part in the Innovation Commission set up by the French consulting engineers' federation SYNTEC, which on 8 June 2008 issued a white paper with the aim of promoting innovation and research among consulting firms. This white paper examines the present situation, analyses the levers of innovation and puts forward recommendations to players within the profession, partners of consulting firms and prime contractors ([www.syntec-ingenierie.fr](http://www.syntec-ingenierie.fr)).

## **May 2008**

### **The largest beach nourishment scheme in France**

Nourishment of the beaches around the gulf of Aigues Mortes in France (Palavas, Carnon, Petit Travers and Boucanet), where 1.1 million m<sup>3</sup> of sand have been placed over a distance of some 11 km, is the largest scheme of its kind ever carried out in the country. Sogreah performed all the studies, from feasibility stage through to monitoring of the works on site.

The nourishment was performed by a 3000 m<sup>3</sup> capacity trailing suction hopper dredge, which collected sand from the Espiguette spit situated immediately to the west of Port Camargue and then sailed to the beaches, where it was connected to a pipeline nearly one kilometre long and pumped the sand onshore. The work was performed between mid-January and mid-April 2008.

### **A first in Europe: the Capbreton harbour by-pass system (France)**

Sogreah proposed this system during the feasibility and design studies. It is capable of transferring 100 000 m<sup>3</sup>/year of sand from the northern side of the harbour to the southern side. Sand is collected north of the harbour by a jet pump and then pumped hydraulically through a pipeline placed beneath the harbour access channel. The aim is to reproduce artificially the natural longshore drift blocked by the harbour's access breakwater and to limit erosion of the coast south of Capbreton, which has receded by more than 60 m since the harbour was built.

### **QUALIPOL accreditation for site remediation activities**

Sogreah's site remediation section obtained Qualipol Ingénierie accreditation in April this year. This inter-professional accreditation is specific to the remediation field. In particular, it makes certain

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demands in relation to the content of services provided, the human resources and equipment used, health and safety, etc.

### April 2008

#### **Sogreah Gulf makes a fine start to the year**

Sogreah's subsidiary in Dubai, Sogreah Gulf, has won several major contracts in the past few weeks. Dubai Port World has just selected Sogreah Gulf to assist it in its investments in the port of Dakar (Senegal) and Maputo (Mozambique). Sogreah Gulf has also been selected to design the maritime works for several large residential and tourist development projects in the Emirates, Bahrain and Oman. Sogreah Gulf, which today has 25 employees, is growing fast.

#### **Limassol marina (Cyprus) for Sogreah Cyprus**

Lemosos Marina Ltd, a consortium of investors and contractors, has selected Sogreah Cyprus to design the new marina at Limassol on the south coast of the island. After working especially on large public-sector projects such as the Greater Nicosia sewerage and Paphos schemes, Sogreah Cyprus is making further inroads into the private sector.

#### **Inauguration of the first marine current turbine in France**

At the end of March, the first marine current turbine in France, known as "Sabella D03", was inaugurated at Bénodet in Brittany. In 2005, Sogreah carried out wave-flume tests to study the impact of a marine current turbine (MCT) of this type on currents.

For the moment, this MCT is just a 7-tonne prototype 3 m in diameter. It will be used to perform tests (power, acoustic impacts, fish surveillance camera) over a period of 6 months. It is set at a depth of 19 m in the estuary of the Odet. The aim of the second stage will be to construct a 10 m diameter MCT, "Sabella D10", which will be immersed in an area with a stronger current (e.g. the Raz de Sein) and have a power of 200 or 300 kW. The aim of the third stage will be to build an operational farm of several MCTs.

By taking part in this project, Sogreah is demonstrating its determination to expand in the field of new energy sources (wind, solar, marine energy, biomass, biogas, etc.).

### March 2008

#### **Group turnover up 13% in 2007**

The group's FY2007 turnover will be in the order of €96.5m, marking growth of about 13% in comparison with 2006.

The proportion of this figure from activities in France amounts to about €56m, representing 58% of the total and an increase of nearly 8%. The proportion from international activities amounts to about €40.5m, i.e. 42% of the total and an increase of nearly 20% on 2006, notably thanks to the strong growth of the group's subsidiaries on the international market.

Income is set to increase again in comparison with the previous financial year.

#### **Sogreah's Lettre Internationale becomes La Lettre Sogreah**

Sogreah's Lettre Internationale newsletter, sent out by e-mail 2 or 3 times per year (and obtainable on the website) is to become La Lettre Sogreah. It will report on the group's developments, national and international projects.

If you wish to receive the newsletter, please send an e-mail to: [lettre.int@sogreah.fr](mailto:lettre.int@sogreah.fr)

### February 2008

#### **The Group sets up an office in Bulgaria**

Sogreah is opening a branch office in Sofia to develop its activity in Bulgaria. Sogreah has already

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won several contracts in Bulgaria:

- assistance with preparation of integrated water management projects in the cities of Stara Zagora and Dimitrovgrad (ISPA funding)
- revision of the design and supervision of the works for the Kardjali regional landfill site, 300 km south-east of Sofia (ISPA funding).
- flood control study for the city of Targovishte (FASEP funding).

#### **Port Revel fills up and continues to invest**

The Port Revel shiphandling training centre has already taken 186 orders for training courses in the 2008 season. This sets Port Revel on course to beat its 2006 record.

North American pilotages are still just as keen to come, and increasing numbers of European pilots are coming to take advantage of a highly varied range of training courses.

The decision has been taken to invest heavily in extending accommodation capacities and the model fleet in order to meet this increase in demand.

Port Revel has also revamped its website ([www.portrevel.com](http://www.portrevel.com)).

#### **Grenoble's new stadium inaugurated**

Grenoble's new stadium, named the Stade des Alpes, was inaugurated on 15 February. Sogreah's Grenoble branch office provided design and works supervision services for the networks (diversion of a sewer; drinking water, wastewater and stormwater networks) and its surroundings (backfill, external developments).

#### **January 2008**

#### **€105m of orders in 2007!**

Sogreah had a very good fiscal year 2007. For the first time the group's orders topped €100m to reach €105m, i.e. a 6% increase on the already very high turnover of 2006. 44% of these orders were for international projects and the proportion from private-sector clients increased to almost 32%.

#### **Sogreah invites the managers of its international subsidiaries to Grenoble**

As in 2006, the managers of the Sogreah group's 10 international subsidiaries met in Grenoble on 9 and 10 January to discuss their recent experiences and work together on matters including the development of synergy with the group's other business units, human resources, risk management, business development and communication.

External orders (i.e. for clients outside the Sogreah group) for the 10 international subsidiaries (most of which were created between 2003 and 2007) exceeded €11m in 2007 (compared with €3m in 2006), representing almost 25% of the group's international orders.

The group's international subsidiaries are:

- in Europe: Sogreah Cyprus, Sogreah Polska (Poland) and Sogreah Enviro-Asist (Romania)
- in the Near and Middle East: Sogreah Gulf (UAE) and Sogreah Middle East (Egypt)
- in Asia: Sogreah China
- in Africa: Sogreah Algérie (Algeria), Sogreah Maroc (Morocco), Someah Consultants and Someah Conseil (Madagascar)

#### **The design of Ras Laffan Port (Qatar) is complete!**

Over a two-year period, representatives of the owner, Qatar Petroleum, the consortium of contractors performing the works, Jan de Nul (Belgium) and Boskalis (Netherlands) and the contractors' consultant, Sogreah, worked together on the design of Ras Laffan Port (Qatar) in 500 m<sup>2</sup> of offices

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rented for the purpose close to Sogreah's head office in Grenoble. This enriching adventure ended in early January 2008.

Ras Laffan Port involves 43 million m3 of dredging, 22 km of breakwaters, 28 million tonnes of rockfill and nearly 1 million tonnes of concrete to fabricate the artificial blocks used for the armour facing of the breakwaters. The colossal works are underway in Qatar (for an estimated cost of around US\$3 billion).

A large team from Sogreah's Maritime branch was assigned to the project. The 29 2D scale models and five detailed 3D scale models used to simulate the structures bear witness to the scale of the task in hand.

Furthermore, Accropode™ blocks were adopted to protect the most exposed parts of the breakwaters and a licensing and technical assistance contract was signed with the consortium of contractors.

#### **Ecopode™ and Accropode™ II for the 200th single-layer artificial block project**

An innovative solution involving use of the ECOPODE™ (the artificial block that blends into the site's environment) and ACCROPODE™ II (the new, more efficient version of the ACCROPODE™ block) has been chosen to protect the breakwaters in **Baia Verde marina** at Ospedaletti on the Ligurian coast of Italy.

In January, CLI signed a licensing and technical assistance contract with the contractor responsible for the works, while Sogreah will be supplying the formwork.

With this contract, CLI and Sogreah are moving another stage forward in the development of their new generation of ECOPODE™ and ACCROPODE™ II blocks and confirming the success of the single-layer technique invented by Sogreah, as this contract will be the **200th project** in which it has been used.

#### **Sogreah moves up the world's top 10 port and maritime consultants**

ENR (Engineering News Records) has just ranked Sogreah 7th in the world's Top 10 port and maritime consultants for 2006 (we were ranked 10th in 2005).

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