



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Wood Hub, a sustainable, innovative and convivial office building, built by and for employees**

**With the construction of their new office building, the multidisciplinary industrial group CFE, BPI Real Estate, BPC Group and Wood Shapers are pooling their skills and aiming for sustainability, innovation and the well-being of its employees. BPI Real Estate oversees the development and VMA will install special techniques and Smart Building software (VMANAGER). Finally, BPC Group and Wood Shapers oversee the construction process. Currently still under construction, it should be ready by autumn 2023.**



Innovating to move forward but also to contribute to a sustainable life together: Wood Hub is the realization of this vision. The office building will be located at the Van Nieuwenhuyselaan in Audergem and has a surface area of 6,700 m<sup>2</sup>. It was designed by Archi2000. CFE and its entities BPI Real Estate, BPC Group and Wood Shapers will set up there.

#### **A sustainable and innovating vision in the long term**

The emphasis is on collaboration, interaction and creativity. The design clearly shows this: from the common areas on the ground floor to the co-working spaces, including the lobby adjoining a splendid outdoor terrace. "Everything is put into place to stimulate synergies and human interactions" says **Raymund Trost**, future CEO of CFE. "Our priority is to develop a meeting place that combines employee experience, corporate culture and collaboration. Together we will contribute to a more sustainable society."

Besides Wood Hub, CFE is taking multiple initiatives of continuous innovation by regularly implementing new actions. They all align with the vision of the listed company: to be a conscious and responsible leader in building our common future, step by step. Raymund Trost: "At CFE we are aware of the current challenges, and we take our role very seriously. Developing innovating projects, using sustainable materials, making ecologically responsible designs... Wood Hub is the actual proof of this commitment."

### **BREEAM Outstanding and WELL Platinum**

With Wood Hub, the group aims to obtain the BREEAM Outstanding and the WELL Platinum certificates. They guarantee durability with attention paid to the well-being, health and safety of users. The use of Smart Building systems offers users a flawless experience. "Our goal is to create a working environment that strengthens the collaboration, well-being and performance of the teams from CFE, BPI Real Estate, Wood Shapers and BPC Group", confirms **Jacques Lefèvre**, CEO of BPI Real Estate.

### **Nearly Zero Energy Building**

Wood Hub, an NZEB building (Nearly Zero Energy Building), truly is the building of the future. It has a CREE structure of mixed wood and concrete. It will be heated and cooled by using geothermal energy and heat pumps, in addition to 120 kilowatt photovoltaic panels. These systems combined does not require the building to rely on fossil fuels. Moreover, its location, only 800 metres away from the current head office and close to the Demey metro station, will encourage the use of soft mobility among employees.

### **About CFE**

CFE, founded in 1880 is a Belgian industrial group active in three different segments. The first, Dredging, Environment, Offshore and Infra, is carried out by its wholly owned subsidiary DEME, one of the world leaders in the field. DEME has a modern fleet of multipurpose vessels equipped with the latest technologies. The second, Contracting, encompasses the group's construction, multitechnics and rail activities in Belgium, Luxembourg and Poland. The Real Estate Development segment covers the real estate projects developed by BPI in Belgium, Luxembourg and Poland.

The CFE group currently employs more than 8,000 people and is active on every continent. CFE is listed on Euronext Brussels and is 62.10% owned by Ackermans & van Haaren.

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