

# PRESS RELEASE

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## **CFE extends its partnership with YouthStart**

The aim of YouthStart is to help young people who have dropped out of the school system regain self-confidence and consider a future career. Following the success of the first collaboration, CFE has just extended its partnership with the organisation for a further three years. Yet another example of the very many ways the group is committed to a sustainable society.

Many young people in Belgium struggle to find their place in society. Having dropped out of the school system, they find themselves with no qualifications and often no prospects of finding a job in the future.

#### Impressive results

Each year the innovative YouthStart programme supports more than 800 vulnerable young people aged between 18 and 30. They work for a week with specialists who help them uncover their talent and believe in their potential. The results are impressive, with the intensive training serving as a springboard for 80.2% of the young people: 55.7% resume their studies, 19.8% find a job and 4.7% set up their own business.

#### Education, a core CFE value

In the wake of this success, CFE has decided to increase its financial support to give two groups of 10 young people the opportunity of taking the YouthStart programme each year. Quality education is a core CFE value and one of the priorities of our sustainability strategy. This collaboration is the perfect illustration of our societal commitment in this respect, alongside the continuous training we offer our own employees and our involvement in many school projects.

At the end of the programme the young people present their business plan to a panel to receive constructive feedback. As a partner, CFE undertakes to ensure the members of the panel are the right people to help them.

#### **3X CFE and YouthStart**

- The results of the YouthStart programme are impressive;
- CFE is extending its partnership with YouthStart for three years;
- Quality education is a core CFE value and one of the priorities of its sustainability strategy.





### **About CFE**

CFE, founded in 1880 is a Belgian industrial group active in three different divisions. 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 third, Real Estate Development, 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 61.85% owned by Ackermans & van Haaren.

This press release is available on our website at www.cfe.be.

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