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PRESS RELEASE

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VMA and Hogeschool PXL jointly launch their first educational energy performance contract

VMA and Hogeschool PXL are proud to present the first 'educational energy performance contract' in Belgium. The VEB (Flemish Energy Company) conducted the tender.

With this project, VMA will reduce the energy consumption of the PXL campus in Diepenbeek by 30%, while also making the technical set-up available to students to learn about sustainable building management. The project is a concrete implementation of CFE's strategy to bring together people, skills, materials and technology in a community of change for good.

In an energy performance contract, an Energy Services Company (ESCO), in this case VMA, assumes the roles of consulting firm, contractor and maintenance company. This contract contractually imposes a certain level of energy savings on the ESCO. The ESCO invests in the energy-saving measures, while the client repays the investment with the energy savings. Thus, an energy performance contract reduces the pressure on the budget.

What is unique about this project is that it is an innovative performance contract, with the emphasis placed on educational and sustainability considerations. It is an excellent opportunity for students to get hands-on experience of implementing innovative, contemporary energy-saving measures. Throughout the contract, in-depth engagement with students and lecturers is key to maximising educational added value.

With this contract, VMA guarantees savings of 30.8% on electricity, 29.3% on natural gas and 846 tons of CO₂ over the ten year term of the contract. Furthermore, the share of renewable energy must amount to 33.9%.

Within the contract, various energy-saving measures will be implemented using the VMANAGER software. This software provides an accurate picture of a building's operation and specialises in achieving energy savings, managing energy flows as well as the general management of building technologies in order to enhance and optimise energy consumption and comfort for users. In addition to energy consumption, water consumption is also fully monitored and tracked with automatic leak detection, among other things.

"At VMA, we are proud to demonstrate our commitment as today's champions together with PXL University to be the pioneers of tomorrow. It is fascinating to see how the next generations are working to build a more sustainable world with technology and innovation. And we are very proud that with VMA we can help students to sharpen those competencies and help them on their way.", explains Joris Wouters, Manager of Smart & Sustainable Building Management.

This new contract fully supports the new strategy unveiled by the CFE Group on 20 September: we bring together people, skills, materials and technology in a community of change for good.

About CFE :

CFE is a multidisciplinary active in Belgium, Luxembourg and Poland in four activity sectors with a significant potential of growth thanks to the possibility of shaping tomorrow's world: real estate development, multitechnics, construction & renovation and sustainable investments. With a solid turnover of 1.125 million euros, more than 3100 employees and substantial experience and expertise gathered since its foundation in 1880, CFE has the ambition to challenge the status quo and create positive change by providing a successful answer to environmental and societal challenges to ensure the well-being of the future generations. CFE group realises this ambition by putting sustainability, innovation and respect for its employees at the heart of its strategy and by offering their clients end-to-end solutions.

About VMA :

VMA, part of the multidisciplinary industrial group CFE, consists of 950 enthusiastic employees whose combined turnover exceeds 200 million euros. The Building Technologies division stands alongside the Industrial Automation business. It designs, installs and maintains all building technology and implements building management software to enhance convenience for users. This division is also responsible for monitoring and analysing all data such as energy consumption with its VMANAGER proposition, and in this way is able to respond to the energy transition that we all need to embrace.

About VMANAGER :

VMA Smart & Sustainable Building Management (VMANAGER). VMANAGER specialises in achieving energy savings, managing energy flows as well as the general management of building engineering technologies. We work in an integrated manner with companies within VMA and can thus draw on a broad resource of in-house knowledge and expertise. In short, we are a partner who will take care of you and guide you all the way in building a smart and sustainable property portfolio.
(www.vmanager.be)

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