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# PRESS RELEASE

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**Two months after the fire in its factory, HAZEMEYER, an industrial company located in Gauchy (France), restarted its activities in the design and manufacture of electrical equipment**



On 04 January 2022, at around 21:00, a fire broke out at the HAZEMEYER factory, which has been located in the commune of Gauchy (France) since 1930. The company, a fully independent branch of the COMECA Group, is specialised in the design of electrification solutions and the manufacture of electrical equipment for industrial use.

In less than two hours, all of HAZEMEYER's material resources disappeared. Fortunately, there were no victims and the human capital was preserved.

All of the company's forces were mobilised the next day to restart the business. The day after the fire, a monitoring committee made up of the parent company, HAZEMEYER's managers and elected representatives, government services and local authorities gathered. With the support of customers, the Chairman of the Group immediately affirmed his willingness to rapidly provide the necessary means to maintain jobs and technological expertise of HAZEMEYER in order to allow a restart of the activities as soon as possible.

## **The Comeca Group committed to ensure the continuity of the business and the sustainability of the HAZEMEYER teams**

The Comeca Group, represented by its Chairman Gaël DUTHEIL de la ROCHÈRE, quickly responded to the incident by implementing specific measures to support the employees and contribute to the normal restart of administrative and industrial activities. A crisis unit, set up the day after the fire, is held twice a week to listen to and support the HAZEMEYER teams.

Less than two weeks after the fire, the restart of commercial, service and administrative activities was fully effective. The employees involved performed their duties from the Créatis incubator offices in Saint-Quentin (France) or by working from home using computer equipment provided by the company. The production teams have been integrated into the Comeca teams at the various nearby factories, as well as at the company's suppliers and partners. Training on various topics (lean management, Google Workplace and boiler making) were organised for employees who could not immediately return to their production function.

The design offices have been upgraded with new IT equipment and have been able to resume ongoing design projects and respond to customer requests.

So far, the majority of HAZEMEYER employees have been able to return to their duties as a result of the measures taken. All teams are united and fully involved in the restart of the HAZEMEYER business.

## **Precious support from HAZEMEYER customers, suppliers and partners**

HAZEMEYER can count on the support of its suppliers to re-equip and restock. They are putting in place specific measures to support the restart of business activities.

The day after the disaster, after many messages of support, discussions were held with customers for whom projects were in progress. This dialogue made it possible to find optimal solutions for each case, by adjusting the planned deadlines or by using the Comeca Group's capacities.

All of the company's customers have confirmed their orders and significant new orders have been acquired, while others are under negotiation.

HAZEMEYER would like to express its warmest thanks to all its customers for their support and solidarity despite the constraints they have had to face.

We would also like to thank our suppliers and partners for their support. HAZEMEYER is more than ever open and ready to recover its full capacity.

## **The Comeca Group's determination to support the reconstruction of the HAZEMEYER plant**

The production will soon restart at full capacity, in a 5000 m2 premises rented for the time needed for the rebuilding of the factory.

The Comeca Group is working in parallel with the HAZEMEYER management on a project to build a new factory, with the aim of strengthening HAZEMEYER in France and internationally. The rebuilding work will probably be completed in 18 to 24 months.

Gaël DUTHEIL de la ROCHÈRE stated *"HAZEMEYER is and will remain a major reference in the field of high quality electrical installations: we will continue to invest in our teams in terms of human resources and technology and continue to develop the company"*.

## About HAZEMEYER

HAZEMEYER S.A. was founded in 1930 in Saint Quentin, France. Since the beginning, the company has been specialised in the design and manufacture of electrical equipment, switchboards and low voltage (LV) components. HAZEMEYER was associated with a large international group for a long time and became independent in 1995. In 2007, HAZEMEYER joined the COMECA Group.

The company is a key player in the world of electrical equipment. It works on behalf of prestigious customers in the fields of process engineering, chemicals/petrochemicals, food processing, data centres and tertiary industries.

HAZEMEYER's expertise in the design and manufacture of electrical equipment ranges from low voltage plug-in switchgear (IS223 / IS233 / IS333), LV and MV busbar systems, communication systems and vacuum breaker medium voltage switchgear to integrated substations.

European cooperation in the 1980s and 1990s for the development of the Capitole C40 LV switchgear led HAZEMEYER to develop its own premium brands of switchgear C40.2 and C40P. In 2013, the C40.2 evolved and changed its name to LIBERTY. Through its 333, 233 and 223 ranges, LIBERTY meets the needs of customers for continuity of power service for distribution and motor control.

HAZEMEYER also offers global turnkey solutions. The equipment is designed in compliance with IEC standards and is ASTA certified.

## About COMECA Group

Founded in 1974, COMECA Group's main activity is the construction of electrical equipment. Since 2013, COMECA has been increasing its growth as part of an acquisition strategy to become a major player in the field of energy management solutions:

- Automation and Control
- Power electronics, energy conversion, industrial chargers
- Charging of heavy electric vehicles
- Low and medium voltage switchboards
- Cabling solutions
- Specific solutions for thermal engineering
- Multi-brand services

Today, the Group has earned the trust of the largest players in the industry (nuclear, oil and gas, chemicals, hydrogen), building (hospitals, data centres, shopping centres) and infrastructure (airports, stations, transport) markets.

