

## Press release

### **Nexans sponsors Palace of Versailles renovation**

*The Group helps preserve a world heritage site by renewing the cabling system and increasing the safety of the Château and Estate*

**Paris, September 20, 2007** - Nexans, the worldwide leader in the cable industry, has signed a sponsoring agreement with the Public Corporation of the National Museum and Estate of the Palace of Versailles (EPV, *Etablissement Public du musée et du domaine national de Versailles*). As part of this initiative, Nexans will supply free power and data cables for the Trianon Palace, the Grand Lodgings (*Grand Commun*) and the EPV's Royal Opera. This first tranche of sponsorship is valued at between 500,000 and 1 million euros.

Nexans will be contributing to the renovation of technical networks in the Château and Estate of Versailles from 2007 to 2011, as part of the "Great Versailles" project. This project includes making the Royal Opera compliant with safety standards, upgrading networks and creating a power hub under the Grand Lodgings courtyard, reorganizing the visitors' reception at the Dufour Pavilion and rearranging the groves near the Ballroom and the Fountain of Apollo.

Nexans will supply a range of low and medium voltage power cables, telecommunications cables and fiber-optic cables. To ensure that the whole estate meets current security and safety regulations, most of the cables will have enhanced fire-resistant characteristics, including non-propagation of toxic gases and low smoke generation (Alsecure® product range).

Jean-Jacques Aillagon, former minister and President of the Public Corporation of the National Museum and Estate of the Palace of Versailles, said: *"We are very grateful to the Nexans Group and its CEO for their offer to help renovate our power cabling system and their contribution to an increase in the reliability and safety of our facilities."*

Gérard Hauser, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Nexans, added: *"As a company that is more than one century old, Nexans feels a sense of civic responsibility to help equip and preserve our national heritage. It is natural that we should bring our expertise in cabling and safety systems to support projects such as Great Versailles."*

#### **First sponsoring initiative for Nexans**

This is Nexans' first sponsoring initiative since the new Group was created in June 2001. As an expert in the field of building cables, Nexans now wishes to offer its high-quality products to help increase the safety of one of the gems of France's national heritage.

## **The “Great Versailles” project**

Listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1979, the Palace of Versailles is one of the most visited monuments in the world.

In 2003, the French Ministry for Culture and Communication and the Palace of Versailles launched the “Great Versailles” project. Planned over a duration of 17 years, this major renovation project will include a number of works aimed at increasing the safety and improving the reception of seven million visitors each year as well as rearranging and restoring the Château and Estate of Versailles.

After this first tranche of sponsorship, Nexans would like to further its participation in the “Great Versailles” project by contributing to the renovation works for the Little Park.

### **About Nexans**

With energy cables as its core, Nexans, the worldwide leader in the cable industry, offers an extensive range of cables (copper, aluminum and optical fiber) and cabling systems. The Group’s strategy is focused on infrastructure, industrial and building markets. Nexans develops solutions for industry sectors such as shipbuilding, oil and gas, nuclear, automotive, electronics, aeronautics, handling and automation and includes an offering dedicated to public and private (local area) telecommunications networks.

With an industrial presence in more than 30 countries and commercial activities worldwide, Nexans employs 21,000 people and had sales in 2006 of 7.5 billion euros. Nexans is listed on the Paris stock exchange, compartment A of the Eurolist of Euronext. More information on <http://www.nexans.com/>

### **About the Palace of Versailles**

An outstanding world heritage site that welcomes nearly seven million visitors annually, the Palace of Versailles has been a royal residence, history museum and national palace where the French Congress holds its sessions. Thus, more than a hundred rooms in the palace bear witness to the splendors of the former royal residence, while another hundred display, over 10,000 m<sup>2</sup>, the remarkable collection of paintings and sculptures of the Museum of French History created by King Louis-Philippe in 1837. Apart from three historic residences—the Château, Grand Trianon and Petit Trianon, the Versailles estate includes the great baroque garden designed by Le Nôtre, with its woods or intimate green areas, Queen Marie-Antoinette’s Trianon and Hameau gardens, as well as a wooded park set on both sides of the Grand Canal. The ensemble covers 800 hectares (or nearly 2,000 acres). In 1995, the Palace of Versailles was given the status of a public corporation with an administrative vocation and placed under the aegis of the French Culture Ministry. The new status was aimed at further developing essential missions, such as the preservation, scientific study and promotion of the collections, buildings and gardens, education, training and research in the field of history, art history, museography, music, and performing arts. This status also grants Versailles greater management autonomy allowing it to complete major restoration projects, improve public reception facilities and maintain cultural activity in keeping with the site.

More information on [www.chateauversailles.fr](http://www.chateauversailles.fr)

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