



# PRESS RELEASE

## Solidia Biogaz, a research and development platform dedicated to the utilisation of biogas

Bélesta-en-lauragais, March 15, 2023 - Teréga, INSA Toulouse and CLER VERTS are inaugurating SOLIDIA BIOGAZ, a new research and development platform dedicated to the utilisation of biogas. Located in the commune of Bélesta-en-Lauragais (31) in the Occitanie region, SOLIDIA Biogaz's mission is to develop technologies for the treatment and enrichment of biogas.

### A pilot platform for the biogas sector

SOLIDIA was designed to meet the requirements of the energy transition and contribute to the energy independence of the territory, by offering a service dedicated to industrial demonstration research in renewable energy. Located since 2016 on the CLER VERTS site in Bélesta-en-Lauragais in Haute-Garonne (31), the platform, in its initial configuration, hosted research projects focused on methanisation processes and the recovery of organic waste.

It is now strengthening its activities and inaugurating **a new platform dedicated to the utilisation of biogas**. Supported by the Occitanie region, and in partnership with Teréga, a gas operator, CLER VERTS, a specialist in the collection and recovery of organic waste, and INSA Toulouse, a public institution of higher education and research, SOLIDIA Biogaz can now develop technologies for the treatment and enrichment of biogas into biomethane for injection into the transport and distribution networks.

This new activity allows SOLIDIA to enhance its know-how and focus on three areas of research:

PROCÉDÉS DE MÉTHANISATION =  
METHANISATION PROCESSES  
VALORISATION DU DIGESTAT =  
OPTIMAL USE OF DIGESTATE  
VALORISATION DU BIOGAZ =  
OPTIMAL USE OF BIOGAS  
3 AXES THÉMATIQUES = 3 MAIN  
FOCUSES



## SOLIDIA, a platform for semi-industrial demonstration

The new SOLIDIA Biogas platform offers a unique service with the supply of raw biogas from the CLER VERTS plant and hydrogen produced by electrolysis at pressures of up to 10 bar. It will be able to accommodate up to 6 semi-industrial size pilots simultaneously: Three locations in a covered hall and 3 locations outside.



It is aimed at all players in the biogas sector (technology developers, SMEs, large groups, universities, research laboratories), enabling them to:

- Carry out large-scale phenomena studies,
- Provide support towards industrialisation,

A true R&D platform, it is also an educational support for higher education and provides concrete technical means for R&D projects. Support can be provided either in the form of services or a collaborative contract.

Each of the three actors has settled into their role. Teréga, a responsible gas operator involved in the sustainable development of the regions, is committed to the construction of the platform's infrastructure and supports INSA, the project owner, in its management. Through this platform, INSA Toulouse galvanises all its scientific training and research potential to respond to climate-energy challenges by developing non-fossil fuel solutions, in line with future societal and environmental issues. As such, it is responsible for setting up the technical equipment and operating the platform. CLER VERTS is a major player in the circular economy of the Toulouse region, providing biogas from its methanisation unit and guaranteeing its delivery to the platform.

*"We are proud to inaugurate this new platform dedicated to the utilisation of biogas with our partners. This new activity complements the first two and thus provides a complete experimental environment for future pilot installations. We are convinced that innovation and research are one of the keys to meeting the new energy challenges."* **Dominique Mockly, Chairman and CEO of Teréga.**

*"The Solidia platform is the concrete expression of our research and training strategy in the service of territories and their transformation challenges. Alongside our partners*

*we mobilise our expertise in a continuum from fundamental research to technology transfer, supported by pre-industrial demonstrators. And for several years now, we have been engaging our university potential in close collaboration with industry and local authorities to develop innovations that meet the urgent needs of an energy and environmental transition. Today, we are particularly proud of this new platform, a true industrial beta tester."*

Bertrand Raquet, Director of **INSA Toulouse**.

*"The inauguration of this ambitious project in the heart of the Lauragais region enables CLER VERTS to continue its commitment to innovation. I am convinced that organic waste recycling will bring sustainable solutions to the production of energy, fertiliser and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, while strengthening the resilience of the territories"* **Jean Luc Da Lozzo Chairman of CLER VERTS**

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### **About INSA Toulouse**

INSA Toulouse is a public institution for higher education and research. Two INSA Toulouse entities are involved in the SOLIDIA project: Toulouse Biotechnology Institute (TBI) and the CRITT Génie des Procédés et Technologies Environnementales (CRITT GPTE). TBI is a research laboratory, a joint unit under the supervision of INSA Toulouse, INRAE and CNRS. Its innovation is positioned at the interface between life sciences and process sciences. TBI brings its scientific expertise to the SOLIDIA platform through the involvement of INSA's research professors and researchers from INRAE's TRANSFORM department. The CRITT GPTE is a development service of INSA in the process engineering sector, and provides the link between the industrial sector and technology transfer. On the SOLIDIA platform, it is responsible for integrating semi-industrial pilots, together with supervising and conducting tests.

Find us at <https://www.insa-toulouse.fr> and on Twitter and LinkedIn

### **INSA Toulouse Media Relations**

Chrystelle Bonnabau  
servicecom@insa-toulouse.fr  
+33 (0)5 61 55 96 82

### **About CLER VERTS**

CLER VERTS, established since 2003 in Occitanie, is a recognised specialist in the collection and recovery of all types of organic waste: wood, vegetable waste and biowaste. CLER VERTS has created the first multi-purpose platform in France, bringing together all the tools for organic recovery on the same site: wood energy, wood waste, composting, methanisation, thus acquiring genuine operational control and strong technical expertise. Regarding methanisation, 2022 saw CLER VERTS recovering more than 16,000 tonnes of biowaste in thermal and electrical energy (cogeneration engine) and fertilisers. More than 2,200,000 Nm<sup>3</sup> of biogas was produced! CLER VERTS participates in several methanisation-related research projects, such as OMIX for digestate fractionation or EPUROGAS for biogas purification, in close collaboration with the SOLIDIA platform and the INSA of Toulouse.

Find us on <https://www.cler-verts.fr/> and LinkedIn.

### **CLER VERTS Media Relations:**

Jean-Luc DA LOZZO  
jeanlucdalozzo@gmail.com  
+33 (0)6 15 09 54 55

### **About Teréga**

Established in South-West France, at the crossroads between major European gas flows, Teréga has exercised exceptional expertise for over 75 years in the development of gas transport and storage infrastructures. Today, it continues to develop innovative solutions to overcome the major energy challenges facing France and Europe. A true accelerator of the energy transition, Teréga operates over 5,000 km of pipelines and 2 underground storage reservoirs representing 16% of the French gas transport network and 25% of national storage capacity. The company had a turnover of €488 million in 2021, and has about 650 employees.

Find us at <https://www.terega.fr/> and on Twitter and LinkedIn.

### **Teréga Media Relations: Céline**

DALLEST celine.dallest@terega.fr  
+33 (0)6 38 89 11 07

With the support of the Occitanie Region



and scientific and technical partners

