



Agissons pour l'inclusion



Press release  
Saint-Denis, November 17, 2021

November 17, 2021

## **ASEI and Icade officially open the Centre for Professional Integration in Saint-Denis, a place dedicated to the employment and professional inclusion of persons with disabilities**

ASEI is a public interest association that assists 10,000 persons with disabilities each year in its 106 facilities. On Wednesday, November 17, 2021, it officially opened the Centre for Professional Integration in the heart of Icade's Portes de Paris business park in Saint-Denis (Seine-Saint-Denis). This event was held in the presence of Sophie Cluzel, Secretary of State for persons with disabilities, Nadine Barbottin, Chairwoman of ASEI, Philippe Jourdy, CEO of ASEI and Emmanuelle Baboulin, a member of Icade's Executive Committee in charge of the Office Property Investment Division. This new space relocates under one roof two facilities in Paris, namely the ESAT des Beaux-Arts (a sheltered work facility) formerly located in the 6<sup>th</sup> district and the Bernard Wybo SAS (a vocational training centre for persons with disabilities) formerly in the 14<sup>th</sup> district. It now provides support to 182 persons with disabilities.

*"This new facility dedicated to the professional integration of persons with disabilities reaffirms our commitment to the employment, inclusion and self-determination of the people we support on a daily basis," explained Nadine Barbottin, Chairwoman of ASEI.*

### **A place dedicated to the employment of persons with disabilities**

The emergence of the Centre for Professional Integration has resulted from relocating two of ASEI's facilities in Paris to a single location—the ESAT des Beaux-Arts, formerly located in the 6<sup>th</sup> district of Paris and the Bernard Wybo SAS, formerly in the 14<sup>th</sup> district. Previously situated in inner Paris, the ESAT (sheltered work facility) and SAS (vocational training centre for persons with disabilities) are now part of the 2,900-sq.m Centre for Professional Integration in Icade's



Portes de Paris business park in the city of Saint-Denis. It serves the needs of 182 persons with disabilities and aims to become a place dedicated to their professional integration and inclusion. A total of 20 employees (managers, psychologists, workshop instructors, facilitators, etc.) work for

both facilities. The Centre offers nine areas of activity, including mailing and assembly, packaging, home renovation, promotional branding, premises maintenance, storage and order preparation, reprography, digitisation, service provision and pastry making.

The Centre has been designed as a place truly dedicated to professional integration and inclusion, with one section set aside for training and orientation and another offering a more hands-on work experience.



### **An exceptional building**

The Centre for Professional Integration has moved into a former refurbished warehouse that is over a hundred years old. This 2,900-sq.m building has outstanding architectural features—expansive spaces, high ceilings, large external openings, etc. Its originality and modernity stem from its neo-industrial style which sets it apart from what these facilities are usually like in France.



*“Relocating to Saint-Denis, in the heart of Icade’s business park, was not a decision that was made lightly. The Centre is designed to become one with its surroundings and contribute to the economic vitality of Icade’s Portes de Paris business park. Being located in a huge business hub in the heart of a major*

*economic hotspot in the Paris region opens up many opportunities. As such, the Centre’s activities will not only be confined within its four walls,” declared Philippe Jourdy, CEO of ASEI.*

The Centre now features 11 modern rooms that are fully equipped and adapted to the needs of persons with disabilities. The facility is designed to become one with its surroundings in Icade’s business park and contribute to its economic vitality.

*“It is a source of pride and joy for Icade that ASEI has decided to open its brand new Centre for Professional Integration in the Portes de Paris business park. ASEI’s activities are wholly consistent with our Purpose: ‘Designing, Building, Managing and Investing in desirable places to live and work.’ This facility will promote inclusion and diversity in an area that we are responsible for developing as harmoniously as possible.*

*I would like to welcome ASEI to Building 135 which has been completely renovated to meet the expectations of its teams and allow them to continue to carry out their work in the best possible conditions!” added Emmanuelle Baboulin, a member of Icade’s Executive Committee in charge of the Office Property Investment Division.*

### **ASEI strengthens its commitment**

ASEI, a major player in the social and solidarity-based economy, is now established in three of France’s major regions, namely Occitanie, Nouvelle-Aquitaine and the Paris region, with its headquarters located near Toulouse. The association, recognised by the French government as serving the public interest, assists 10,000 people made vulnerable through illness or disability in its 106 facilities and proposes nearly 4,000 solutions.

Today, ASEI has eight sheltered work facilities (ESATs), two disability-friendly companies and three ESAT-like facilities for those needing a more relaxed environment. It also implements measures in favour of employment for persons with disabilities, particularly through supported employment



platforms. Through the creation of the Centre for Professional Integration, the association is strengthening its commitment to the employment, inclusion and integration of persons with disabilities.

*“With our new Centre for Professional Integration, we want to change the way people view workers with disabilities and the work done in sheltered work facilities. The Centre’s teams want to infuse a modern and dynamic start-up spirit into this facility in order for it to become a genuine service platform in sync with its surroundings,” explained Olivier Chevrier, Head of the Centre for Professional Integration.*

### **About ASEI**

*Established in 1950 after the Second World War under the aegis of Jean Lagarde, ASEI has distinguished itself from its very first day as an advocate for secularism, education and solidarity. ASEI is a public interest association governed by the French Law of July 1, 1901. Its purpose is to assist and facilitate the inclusion of persons with disabilities whatever their age, to support dependent and vulnerable persons, to promote the rights of persons with disabilities and to fight against the exclusion of such persons, in accordance with the values which have always governed the association’s activities, namely secularism, the rejection of all forms of discrimination, respect for the individual and solidarity.*

*ASEI is a player in the social and solidarity-based economy whose mission is more than ever focused on helping people of any age build a life project. ASEI manages 106 medical-social facilities and units for children, adolescents and adults in eight departments and three regions in France. More than 10,000 people are cared for in its facilities each year. ASEI employs 3,364 professionals. It is a member of and actively participates in the work of FEHAP, the French Federation of Private Not-for-Profit Facilities.*

For more information, please visit: <https://www.asei.asso.fr/>

### **ABOUT ICADÉ**

#### **DESIRABLE PLACES TO LIVE**

As an office and healthcare property investment company (portfolio worth €14.8bn on a full consolidation basis as of 06/30/2021) and a developer of homes, offices and public amenities (2020 economic revenue of €825m), Icade designs, builds, manages and invests in cities, neighbourhoods and buildings that are innovative, diverse, inclusive and connected, with a reduced carbon footprint. Desirable places to live and work. In collaboration with its stakeholders, Icade has made low carbon a strategic priority in order to reinvent real estate and create cities that are healthier, happier and more hospitable. Icade is a key player in Greater Paris and major French cities. It is listed as a “SIIC” on Euronext Paris and its leading shareholder is the Caisse des Dépôts group.

The text of this press release is available on the Icade website: [www.icable.fr/en/](http://www.icable.fr/en/)

### **Press contact – ASEI**

Marie Grandchamp – Agence Giesbert & Mandin

Media relations consultant – [m.grandchamp@giesbert-mandin.fr](mailto:m.grandchamp@giesbert-mandin.fr) – +33 (0)6 87 85 94 61

### **Press contact – Icade**

Charlotte Pajaud-Blanchard,

Press Relations Manager – [charlotte.pajaud-blanchard@icable.fr](mailto:charlotte.pajaud-blanchard@icable.fr)