

Press Release, Paris 26<sup>th</sup> of October 2020

## **Meridiam becomes the majority shareholder of Voltalis, the European leader in Demand Response for residential and commercial end-users**

- Voltalis: an innovative solution at the heart of the energy transition that benefits both small electricity consumers and the power system,
- A renewed ambition: 1 million homes operated by 2024 in Europe and beyond, with 500,000 in France alone.
- More services to be offered to the participants, including batteries, electric vehicles and solar self-consumption.

Meridiam is strengthening its industrial partnership initiated in 2017 with Voltalis, the European leader in demand-side flexibilities for residential and commercial buildings. On this occasion, Meridiam and Voltalis are proud to announce the strengthening of their ambitions, with the aim of equipping one million homes in France and Europe with Voltalis' smart devices by 2024.

This increased ambition is supported by the European Investment Bank's intervention in 2019 for the deployment of Voltalis solution in France and by the momentum generated by the recent European Clean Energy Package. It is a direct extension of the French government's objective to see Demand Response play an increasing role in the security of supply of the electricity system and the energy transition. Meridiam thus confirms its ability to provide sustainable and effective solutions to individuals, housing sector stakeholders, local authorities and territories in favor of the energy transition.

The innovative solution proposed by Voltalis is entirely free of charge for the participants (smart devices, installation, digital services, maintenance and management of the platform). It optimises power consumption in real time and enables individuals to make significant savings on their bills by reducing their consumption by up to 15%. In addition to energy savings, this solution enables power consumers to directly contribute to the security and optimisation of the electrical system as well as to take concrete action for the environment. As a result, Voltalis is able to offer a CO2-neutral alternative to thermal power plants.

In France, the ambition is to multiply by five the number of homes equipped with Voltalis' smart devices within the next three years (500,000 homes compared to 100,000 today). This solution is being made available to housing and regional authorities to enhance and complement the energy efficiency and renovation projects already underway. Voltalis is deploying its solution with the support of social landlords such as CDC Habitat, Podeliha, Maine-et-Loire Habitat, LogemLoiret and Domofrance, as well as numerous local authorities involved in the energy transition of their territory. Major partnerships will be announced very soon, notably with leading communities in the Grand Ouest and Savoie regions.

In Europe, Meridiam and Voltalis aim to massively roll out this solution to 500,000 housing units and to rapidly develop a capacity of several thousand megawatts by 2024. Voltalis' approach of supporting resilience of the electric system through demand and integrating renewable energies meets the challenges of most countries in Europe and around the world.




This support will also enable Voltalis to broaden the scope of use of its technical platform and to integrate new uses, particularly related to batteries, electric vehicles and solar self-consumption, and to enhance the services offered to consumers and electric systems alike.

"We are very pleased to strengthen our ties with Meridiam," said Mathieu Bineau, Chief Executive Officer of Voltalis. "This is a strong signal, which once again demonstrates the advantages and interest of the innovative energy-saving solution we have developed. Based on a unique technological know-how and experience acquired through more than 10 years of daily operation and 100,000 equipped sites, Voltalis is today recognised as an essential component of the energy transition. And thanks to the trust of Meridiam, which shares our ambition to bring concrete solutions to consumers and housing stakeholders, we are now able to accelerate our development in the regions but also internationally. »

Thierry Déau, CEO of Meridiam, said: "We are very pleased to be able to support the development of Voltalis, which puts technological innovation at the heart of tomorrow's infrastructure. The resilience of electrical systems is one of the challenges of the energy transition and consumers have a key role to play in this respect. The solution provided by Voltalis is at the crossroads of several of our sustainable development priorities such as the fight against climate change, the creation of sustainable local jobs, and access to competitive clean energy. We will put this solution at the service of the territories and their inhabitants, willing to be at the heart of and actors in the ecological transition."

#### *About Meridiam*

*Meridiam was founded in 2005 by Thierry Déau, with the belief that the alignment of interests between the public and private sector can provide critical solutions to the collective needs of communities. Meridiam is an independent investment Benefit Corporation under French law and an asset manager. The firm specializes in the development, financing, and long-term management of sustainable public infrastructure in three core sectors: mobility, energy transition and environment, and social infrastructure. With offices in, Addis Ababa, Amman, Dakar, Istanbul, New York, Luxembourg, Paris, Toronto and Vienna, Meridiam currently manages US\$8 billion and more than 80 projects and assets to date. Meridiam is certified ISO 9001: 2015, Advanced Sustainability Rating by VigeoEiris and applies a proprietary methodology in relation to ESG and impact based on United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).*

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#### *About Voltalis*

*At the heart of the energy transition, Voltalis is a leading European flexibility management operator, specializing in residential demand management. Founded in 2006 and certified by RTE (the French transport network operator) since 2008, Voltalis offers innovative solutions to its customers. Voltalis unlocks energy savings without loss of comfort, while enabling its customers to participate in the electrical systems' optimization and balance. With more than 100,000 homes already equipped with its solution, Voltalis operates the largest active residential electricity consumption management system in Europe and is investing today in the massive deployment of its solution in France and internationally.*

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