

Press Release - Paris, November 21, 2019

## **Meridiam and Volkswagen Group France sign an agreement for the development of electric vehicle charging stations in France**

On the occasion of the *Salon des Maires et des Collectivités Locales* in Paris, Volkswagen Group France and Meridiam have just signed a partnership protocol for the development in French cities of charging stations for electric vehicles.

The scheme proposed to local authorities responds to a detailed analysis of the need for charging stations according to different criteria (population, existing and future fleet, customer uses, etc.), coupled with an innovative and neutral financing method for the local authority. A first project is being evaluated by a regional metropolis.

There already some existing infrastructure solutions in France: charging stations at customers' homes or in companies, Superchargers on motorways through the IONITY Consortium. However, public charging points in urban areas are an essential infrastructure complement. Through this partnership, Volkswagen Group France aims to give customers who own electric vehicles the ability to recharge at any time, according to their needs. For Meridiam, one of the European leaders in electrical charging in Europe through its wholly-owned subsidiary Allego, this partnership contributes to accelerating the deployment of its charging infrastructures in France in support of electric mobility.

For Thierry LESPIAUCQ, Chairman of the Executive Board of Volkswagen Group France, "the welcome of visitors to the Salon des Maires is very positive, our electrical products are pleasing, and confirm our desire to support local authorities in their needs for charging infrastructure. As a major manufacturer, it is our responsibility to do everything possible to ensure that customers interested in buying or leasing an electric vehicle are fully reassured about the accessibility of the recharge. We are very satisfied with our collaboration with MERIDIAM, which represents the essential link in our approach with the communities. »



Julien Touati, Executive Director of Development and Energy Transition at MERIDIAM, commented: "Mobility is at the heart of Meridiam's strategy, which is now one of the largest investors and developers of infrastructure projects in the world. As a committed player in terms of positive impact, Meridiam has made electric mobility a strategic axis of its development in the service of territories. We are delighted with this partnership, which allows us to support the profound transformation of the automotive sector alongside Volkswagen France. »

Today Meridiam operates, through Allego, more than 12,000 charging terminals for electric vehicles (slow (6 to 8 hours), fast (30 to 45 minutes) and ultra fast (5 to 10 minutes)) in Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg and Germany with exceptional availability.

Meridiam has also launched MEGA-E, a major project to install fast charges for electric vehicles across Europe, supported by the European Commission. This project is new and unique in Europe. Today, several dozen ultra-fast refill sites are under construction in the Netherlands, Germany, France and the United Kingdom. Within 3 years, the ambition is to have installed about 250 charging stations of this type in Europe.

### *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 within the meaning of French law. It specializes in the development, financing, and management of long-term and sustainable public infrastructure projects and assets in the three core sectors: mobility, energy transition and social infrastructure sectors. With offices in, Addis Ababa, Amman, Dakar, Istanbul, New York, Luxembourg, Paris, Toronto and Vienna, Meridiam currently manages 7 billion Euros of assets, and more than 75 projects and assets to date. Meridiam is certified ISO 9001: 2015, ISO 26000 Advanced by VigeoEiris and operates on a proprietary methodology in relation to ESG and impact based on UNSDGs.*

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### Press Contacts

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Antoine Lenoir : +33 6 07 50 75 85 - [a.lenoir@meridiam.com](mailto:a.lenoir@meridiam.com)

Relations Presse et Publiques Volkswagen Group France: +33 1 49 38 88 80 / 88 02 / 88 40

E-Mail: [leslie.peltier@volkswagen.fr](mailto:leslie.peltier@volkswagen.fr)

Media Site France: [media.volkswagen.fr](http://media.volkswagen.fr)