



Shared innovation

PRESS RELEASE

Thursday 12 November 2020

STRATEGIC RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN LEXTAN AND BOUYGUES CONSTRUCTION



Lextan, a specialist in remote driving systems, and Bouygues Construction have signed a three-year cooperation agreement to carry out a Research & Development programme on remote and assisted driving of construction site machines. In parallel with this agreement, Lextan is raising seed capital through Construction Venture, Bouygues Construction's investment vehicle for start-ups, alongside CAAP Création, a subsidiary of Crédit Agricole Alpes Provence, and the French Tech Seed fund managed by Bpifrance on behalf of the French government, which will enable it to increase its equity and reinforce its R&D team.

This cooperation has already resulted in the development of a project for operating a crane from the ground, which forms part of a Bouygues Construction R&D programme led by Bouygues Construction Matériel. It seeks to offer crane drivers video assistance, augmented reality and even a degree of automation. Lextan proved that its technology makes remote crane operation possible during an initial experimental phase successfully carried out using a crane. A demonstrator will be brought into service on a construction site during 2021. The solution will also feature driving assistance with video object recognition and an interactive dashboard.

Patrick N'Kodia, Director of Bouygues Construction Matériel, said: "While thinking about the alternatives to the crane lift, compulsory for all cranes above thirty metres since January 2019, we worked with Lextan on operating the crane from the ground. As we were exploring this subject, we realised there were many other advantages."

The many smart and connected functions of this system are designed to control construction site machines in a different way from today by simplifying the work of drivers in complete safety, increasing their abilities through new functions and thereby contributing to the industrialisation of construction sites.

Marc Lambert, Founder and CEO of Lextan, said: "We are delighted to support, and to have the support of, Bouygues Construction, its R&D and its subsidiaries in the technological evolution of their tools and working methods and more generally to contribute to the modernisation and digital transformation of the construction sector."

The aim of the cooperation between Lextan and Bouygues Construction is to implement these new remote driving systems over the next three years.



Shared innovation

About LEXTAN

A deep tech start-up which has been awarded the France Mobilité label, Lextan designs and produces remote driving systems for vehicles and for logistics and lifting equipment. The owner of patented driver telepresence technology, Lextan is seeking to revolutionise last-mile logistics by developing a semi-autonomous, remote-controlled delivery vehicle called Autopod, which incorporates technologies from research into autonomous and connected mobility. Lextan is now transposing its technologies to the driving of site machines to improve the safety and productivity of construction sites.

More information: www.lextan.co

Press contacts

Céline Montgaillard: cml@lextan.fr

Marc Lambert: +33 6 1579 7966

contact@lextan.fr

About BOUYGUES CONSTRUCTION

Bouygues Construction is a global player in construction, with operations in more than 60 countries. It designs, builds and operates projects in the sectors of building, infrastructure and industry. As a responsible and committed leader in sustainable construction, Bouygues Construction sees innovation as its primary source of added value: this is “shared innovation” that benefits its customers at the same time as improving its productivity and the working conditions of its 56,980 employees. In 2019 Bouygues Construction generated sales of €13.4 billion.

Further information is available at www.bouygues-construction.com/

Press contact

Marie Pinot: +33 7 6164 2281 / m.pinot@bouygues-construction.com

About CRÉDIT AGRICOLE ALPES-PROVENCE

Crédit Agricole Alpes Provence, the leading financier of the regional economy through its “Capital & Innovation” scheme, to which the venture capital subsidiary CAAP Création belongs, supports economic initiative and innovation in the Bouches-du-Rhône, Vaucluse and Hautes-Alpes departments. CAAP Création provides investment support for innovative projects with high growth potential and equity financing dedicated to business creation. Since its creation, CAAP Création has supported 130 regional companies.

Press contact

Armand Perrin, head of equity investment: armand.perrin@ca-alpesprovence.fr / +33 6 2525 4973

About BPIFRANCE

Bpifrance supports french companies – at every stage of their development – through loans, guarantees, equity investments and export insurances. Bpifrance also provides extra financial services (training, consultancy) to help entrepreneurs grow their businesses and overcome the challenges they face (innovation, export...).

For more information, please visit our website: <http://www.bpifrance.fr> and presse.bpifrance.fr Follow us on Twitter: @BpifranceDV - @bpifrance - @BpifrancePresse

Press contact

Sophie Santandrea / +33 (1) 45 65 51 62 / sophie.santandrea@bpifrance.fr