

## **Press Release**

Nantes, 23 September 2020

# Centrale Nantes formalises its commitment to sustainable development

The European Sustainable Development Week is a European-wide annual initiative, organised in France by the Ministry for Ecological Transition with events held from 18 September to 8 October. To mark this occasion, Centrale Nantes is confirming its commitment to an eco-responsible approach. This commitment is expressed through concrete action taken in collaboration with school students and stakeholders.

### **Centrale Nantes appoints a Director for Sustainable Development**

Emmanuel Rozière holds the newly created position of Director for Sustainable Development and is a member of the school's Executive Committee. His remit is to draw up an action plan for sustainable development, based on five national priorities: Strategy and governance, Teaching and training, Research, Environmental management, Social policy and regional presence.

#### The school is launching an online platform for its sustainable development initiatives

An online platform for sustainable development at Centrale Nantes is currently in development. It features, in particular, a section devoted to research work conducted at the school on energy transition, for example:

- The <u>FARWIND</u>, <u>SOFTWIND</u> and <u>FLOATEOLE</u> projects supported by WEAMEC (West Atlantic Marine Energy Community), which federates the Pays de la Loire Renewable Marine Energy ecosystem in Research, Innovation and Training.
- The EDYCEM Centrale Nantes Chair, which is working on sustainable concrete.
- The RobEcolo project, which aims to design an industrial robot made from wood in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions during production.

### Centrale Nantes responded to the "Grand Baromètre" survey

Centrale Nantes responded to the survey in the "Manifesto for an ecological awakening" signed by school students. This survey known as "Le Grand Baromètre", assesses the commitment of higher education institutions to ecological transition. In self-evaluation mode, the questionnaire focuses on 6 key issues:

- o Strategy and governance of the institution
- o Inclusion of environmental issues in the curriculum

- Career prospects
- Research activity
- Associative life
- Sustainable practice on campus

Centrale Nantes signs up to the EMC2 cluster's manifesto "For an eco-responsible industry".

In particular, it contains a commitment to "a sober and ecologically respectful industry (...) that places human beings at the heart of its considerations in order to respond to health and societal issues." In addition, this industry must be "efficient and innovative to meet the challenges of competitiveness and competition; resolutely collaborative and supportive to help the region and sectors, and strategic to meet the challenges of independence" in partnership with local companies.

#### **Centrale Nantes is also using PERSEES**

PERSEES is a package of online digital tools that enable higher education and research institutions to assess and describe their approach to Sustainable Development and Social Responsibility. In addition, this evaluation process should enable Centrale Nantes to comply with the Green Plan for Higher Education Institutions and to enhance the value of its Sustainable Development and Social Responsibility approach.

#### **About Centrale Nantes**

Founded in 1919, Centrale Nantes is a French engineering school and member of the Ecoles Centrale Group. Its undergraduate, Master and PhD programmes are based on the latest scientific and technological developments and the best management practices. At Centrale Nantes, research and training are organised into three key areas for growth and innovation: manufacturing, energy transition and healthcare. With research platforms ranging from digital simulation to prototyping using full scale models and an incubator with 20 years of experience in supporting start-up projects, the school has two major tools for innovation and creation, working hand in hand with industry. Centrale Nantes promotes its teaching and research capabilities at international level through around 100 partnerships with prestigious universities and schools worldwide.

Centrale Nantes welcomes 2,410 students, including 1,440 undergraduate students, 170 Executive Education and ITII degree apprenticeship students, 270 PhD students, 430 Masters students, and 100 Bachelor/Foundation Master students on its 40-acre campus.

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