

## The Lyon Convention Centre and Eurexpo Lyon, two GL events group venues in Lyon, certified ISO 20121

The Lyon Convention Centre and Eurexpo Lyon, two of the GL events group's venues in Lyon united under the name the Lyon for events, fully integrate the principles of sustainable development in their activities and have earned ISO 20121 certification. This standard sets the guidelines for responsible management systems applied to event-related activities. The result of a firm commitment taken to promote sustainable development over the past many years, this certification highlights efforts made by the GL events group to limit its ecological impact.

### An even greener touch for GL events venues in Lyon

Three GL events venues already have been taking an environmental approach over the past several years, notably via the ISO 14001 standard obtained by the Lyon Convention Centre, Eurexpo Lyon, and La Sucrière. Leveraging this strong foundation consistently with the Group's CSR policy, the Lyon Convention Centre and Eurexpo Lyon venues are now certified ISO 20121. The recent certification demonstrates the implementation of sustainable development practices in Lyon Convention Centre and Eurexpo Lyon management, along with efforts to minimize the social, economic, and environmental impact of its events. The project fits in with a unifying overall social and societal approach that considers a variety of stakeholders, including clients, employees, local government bodies, suppliers, and more. The CSR criteria now present in nearly all major calls-for-tender have also been adopted by the group's current providers.



*We are aware of the ecological footprint caused by events and we would like to reduce it. Our ISO 20121 certification effort helps lead improvement in the event space in terms of sustainable development and responsible management."*

*Sylvain Douce, in charge of CSR policy for GL events group venues in Lyon*

### Major actions carried out by the Lyon Convention Centre and Eurexpo Lyon to integrate the ISO 20121 standard

- + **Team unity and commitment:** as part of the Group's responsible management program, employee eating and informal areas were entirely revisited and recreated by staff. These new places for people to get together now host friendly breakfast events every month. In addition, **six beehives** were set up at the two sites to raise employee awareness regarding the impact of bees and to help protect biodiversity. In September, following an initiative by the "Let's Commit" Committee\*, the French Blood Bank organized a collection in front of the Lyon Convention Centre that **attracted 58 donors**.
- + **Responsible Food and Beverages:** the Lyon Convention Centre carried out several actions to distribute unconsumed food and beverage products to associations (**over 2,500 meals so far**). In addition, **100% of all**

**dishware is now compostable.** The venues are committed to eliminating plastic bottles in the very near future, choosing to offer reusable glass bottles instead.

- + **Waste management:** for the past two years, Eurexpo Lyon has been the Group's venue that most recycles discarded furniture, notably thanks to its **partnership with the eco-organization Valdelia**. A partnership was also set up with **Elise** to **better manage office waste**, with the dual benefit of both improving sorting and supporting social inclusion. In 2018, the Lyon Convention Center was one of the pioneers in the venues network, **sorting and recycling over a ton of biowaste**.
- + **Environmental management of buildings:** Both venues optimize their consumption of energy and water. To reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and promote the use of electric vehicles, Eurexpo Lyon also increased its number of **recharging stations, now offering 24 stations able to handle a total of 48 vehicles**.
- + **Creating territorial value:** A charity event in partnership with the French aid agency Secours Populaire is being organized for the end of the year.

## About the ISO 20121 standard

Established in 2012, the international ISO 20121 standard is the only CSR standard that is specific to event services. The standard is applicable to organizations of all sizes involved in planning and running events, such as event organizers, service providers, venue managers, and more. Recognized in over 30 countries, the purpose of ISO 20121 is to provide a framework for identifying, eliminating, and reducing the potential negative social, economic, and environmental consequences of events and to leverage the more positive effects through continuous improvement in planning and processes. ISO 20121 certification is an ongoing process that must be renewed annually.

\* **"Let's commit" committees:** The Eurexpo Lyon and Lyon Convention Center site both created their own "Let's commit" committees comprised of employees who meet every three months to steer and propose actions.

### About Lyon for events - [www.lyonforevents.com](http://www.lyonforevents.com)

The Lyon for events banner unites the four GL events group venues in Lyon: Lyon Convention Center, Eurexpo Lyon, La Sucrière, and Matmut Stadium Lyon Gerland. With 170,000 m<sup>2</sup> of modular interior space, an average of 600 events hosted each year, 1.9 million visitors/participants, and revenue of 54.3 M€ in 2018, Lyon for events venues help make Lyon the second-largest business tourism destination in France.

### About GL events - [www.gl-events.com](http://www.gl-events.com)

The GL events Group has been a major worldwide player in event activities for over forty years. With more than 4,500 employees, the Group is now present on all five continents with 90 locations. Generating 1,040.5 M€ in revenue in 2018, GL events is organized into three main divisions:

- Live: includes activities for corporate, institutional, and sports events, from advisory services and design to event organization.
- Exhibitions: drives and manages over 200 private conventions in many sectors, from agri-food to textiles and beyond.
- Venues: manages a network of 50 event sites (conference centers, exhibition parks, performance halls, and multi-purpose venues) located in major cities in France and abroad.

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