

## **#CHOOSEFRANCE**

# **CARBON Confirms PV Gigafactory Project**

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**Lyon, May 16, 2023 - Industrial company CARBON was invited on Monday, May 15, 2023, to the 6th edition of the international summit CHOOSE France, initiated by the President of the Republic. CARBON's integrated gigafactory project for photovoltaic cells and modules in Fos-sur-Mer, in the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region, contributes to France's ambition for reindustrialization. With a production capacity of 5 GW, CARBON will fully contribute to the target set by the State (10 GW of photovoltaic cell and module production capacity in France by 2030) within the European context of the REPowerEU plan and the Net-Zero Industry Act (NZIA).**

Pierre-Emmanuel Martin, President and Co-founder of CARBON, was present yesterday in Versailles among 200 top leaders of international companies. This presence reflects the strategic nature of CARBON's project for sovereignty and decarbonization, as reiterated by the President of the Republic during the summit.

CARBON announced on March 3 **the establishment of its first gigafactory for photovoltaic products** on approximately **60 hectares of industrial facilities** at the Grand Port Maritime de Marseille (GPMM), in the heart of the industrial port zone of Fos-sur-Mer, in the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region, within the territory of the Aix-Marseille-Provence Metropolis.

This integrated gigafactory (from ingot to module, including wafer and cell production) will have an annual production capacity of **5 GW of photovoltaic cells and 3.5 GW of photovoltaic modules**. Its commissioning is planned for **late 2025** with a gradual ramp-up in 2026. The investment budget for this gigafactory amounts to **1.5 billion euros**. Beyond the construction phase, the project will create more than **3,000 direct and sustainable jobs** in the region. **In fact, it is the largest industrial project in the photovoltaic sector in Europe.**

As a founding member of the European Solar Industry Alliance (ESIA), **CARBON will benefit from the Net-Zero Industry Act (NZIA)** like other strategic industrial projects. **In France, the forthcoming law on green industry - the draft of which was presented today to the Council of Ministers - will also provide a more favorable framework.**

**Pierre-Emmanuel MARTIN**, President and Co-founder of CARBON:

*"Participating in the CHOOSE France Summit in Versailles allowed us to witness France's full mobilization. CARBON will actively contribute to this profound movement of virtuous, greener, more circular, and more resilient reindustrialization. With our project, we have paved the way for the consolidation and development of the solar industry in Europe, and we cannot help but rejoice! While it was not guaranteed when we launched the project a year and a half ago with*

*Laurent PELISSIER, Pascal RICHARD, and Gaëtan MASSON, today, all signals are green, and others are joining us in this industrial ambition."*

**Agnès PANNIER-RUNACHER**, Minister of Energy Transition:

*"CARBON's announcement comes at a crucial moment. France and Europe must quickly reposition themselves in the photovoltaic value chain to avoid shifting from one dependence to another. This is a concrete illustration of our desire for reconquest."*

**Christophe BÉCHU**, Minister of Ecological Transition and Territorial Cohesion:

*"CARBON is leading a gigafactory project that will be implemented in the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region. With an annual production capacity of 5 GW, the company will fully contribute to France's objectives and create over 3,000 direct jobs. The government is committed to supporting this movement of reindustrialization, which is beneficial for decarbonizing our activities and protecting the environment."*

**Roland LESCURE**, Minister Delegate for Industry:

*"This announcement by CARBON is good news for the French and European photovoltaic industry that we aim to revitalize. The stakes are high: we have set ambitious targets for the development of solar electricity, and now we need to accelerate the organization and industrialization of a sector that should be relocalized around efficient ecosystems. We continue to work on both the green reindustrialization bill and the long-term prospects for this promising industry!"*

## **About CHOOSE France**

Launched in 2018 by **Emmanuel Macron** to promote foreign investment in France, **CHOOSE France** is an international summit that brings together the world's top business leaders once a year at the Palace of Versailles. This event highlights the economic advantages, infrastructure, innovation, skilled workforce, and other competitive advantages of the country. Since its inception, this event has become a key event in the agenda of international investors. In 2023, the President of the Republic announced €13 billion in investments and the creation of 8,000 jobs. This corresponds to 28 establishment decisions, demonstrating the attractiveness of France.

## **About CARBON**

Europe is facing the challenge of decarbonizing its economy and the question of its energy sovereignty. In this context, **CARBON, a French initiative with a European dimension, aims to participate in the sustainable reindustrialization of France and Europe by building a large-scale industrial solution for the solar sector.**

**CARBON is supported by an unprecedented alliance of entrepreneurs, industrialists and solar energy experts**, who are convinced of the need for an energy transition to meet the climate

challenge, and who are determined to create local jobs by helping to rebuild an entire industrial sector, **supported by a rich French and European ecosystem that CARBON's success will help to consolidate and expand**: R&D centers, equipment manufacturers, raw material suppliers, module assemblers, etc.

**Our project?** To develop in Europe, and in particular in France, an industry integrating the core of the value chain to **produce and market on a large scale photovoltaic silicon wafers, cells and modules that are competitive, reliable, durable, high-yield and with a very low-carbon content**. As a founding member of the European Solar Industry Alliance (ESIA), CARBON has **key partnerships** with the French Atomic Energy Commission (CEA), the French National Institute for Solar Energy (INES), the International Solar Energy Research Center Konstanz (ISC-Konstanz), RCT solutions, the ECM group, the Becquerel Institute and the Terre et Lac solaire.

By 2030, CARBON aims to produce and market 30 GW of wafers, 20 GW of cells and 15 GW of photovoltaic modules by building several gigafactories in Europe. This will involve massive investments and lead to the creation of more than 10,000 direct jobs.

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