



PROVENCE PROMOTION

Sopro... tells us

Passion for the Bouches-du-Rhône!

Since when it was created in Marseille in 1977, the Sopro Company decided to set up its activity in the Valentine activity zone. Due to strong growth, the subsidiary of the Acteon Group decided to move into new premises in 2003. But there was no question of Sopro leaving the Bouches-du-Rhône department. The company continued its activity and growth in the Athélia IV zone in La Ciotat. An ideal choice explained by Pascale Montillot, marketing manager.



Pascale Montillot

> Searching for large spaces

Pascale Montillot : Starting in 2001, as the result of strong growth in our sales and our hiring policy, we decided to look for more modern premises better adapted to our development. There were few sufficiently large spaces to accommodate our activity. We were looking for a place not far from Mari-gne airport. Athélia IV satisfied our needs, and therefore Sopro moved there in 2003.

> The family spirit...

We have found a site that satisfies our needs and that is already occupied by companies working in the medical field. The historic attachment of the company and personnel to the Bouches-du-Rhone department confirmed this choice.

> ... 100 % local !

Since our creation, we have acquired know how in image processing and in the electronics field. We intend to keep this special know how and acquire the means of maintaining this high level of experience, particularly with about fifteen R&D engineers.

This specific nature enables us to avoid buying products in Asia and then assemble them in our premises. We develop, make and export all our products directly in our premises.

> More than Franco-German friendship

Finally, with the recent acquisition of the German Comeg Company, we can now offer a complete range of materials. Sopro designs and manufactures heavy equipment for surgery such as cameras, light sources, insufflators while Comeg is specialised in optics: therefore, we can now offer a complementary activity for our customers (see inset).

Endoscopy at Sopro-Comeg

Acquisition of the German Comeg Company will provide Sopro with the means of entering the surgical endoscopy market. Comeg designs, makes and markets a complete range of endoscopes for the abdominal surgery, urology, arthroscopy, gynaecology and ENT fields. Its head office and its plant are in Tuttlingen, Germany.

This merger enables close synergy between the different R&D laboratories in the Acteon group – of which Sopro forms part – and Comeg. In the future, the Sopro-Comeg group, that covers everything from capital equipment to everything related to surgical endoscopes, will satisfy all specialist surgeons' needs for products, budgets and services throughout the world.



For further information:

The Sopro-Comeg website:
<http://www.acteongroup.com/sitesatpr/cad.htm>