

Press Release

BSI[®], the ultra-high-performance fibre-reinforced concrete developed by Eiffage, among the winners at the American Concrete Institute awards

The international memorial of Notre-Dame-de-Lorette, an outstanding BSI[®] concrete structure so-called *Anneau de la Mémoire* (Ring of Memory) built by teams from Eiffage Génie Civil, scooped the ACI Excellence in Concrete Construction Award at the American Concrete Institute's fall convention held in Philadelphia between October 24th and 27th.

With nearly 20,000 members spanning more than 120 countries, the American Concrete Institute (ACI) is a leading authority in the field of concrete research. The ACI Excellence in Concrete Construction Award – which honours projects featuring ground-breaking technologies and innovative use of concrete in response to economic, environmental and aesthetic challenges – was given to the memorial in the contest's prestigious Infrastructures category.

This structure, designed by architect Philippe Prost for Nord-Pas-de-Calais Regional Council, forms an immense semi-elliptical ring measuring 129 by 75 metres, comprising 122 segments and 1,073 other prefabricated components (including slabs, gallery brackets and covers) made of BSI[®], the ultra-high-performance fibre-reinforced concrete developed by Eiffage.

Anchored in the ground along two-thirds of its circumference, the remaining third hangs suspended in the air as the terrain slopes away below it. This overhang is a symbolic reminder of the fragility of peace but that impression of fragility is in stark contrast with the feeling of permanence lent to the construction by the choice of BSI[®] ultra-high-performance fibre-reinforced concrete.

The Notre-Dame-de-Lorette international memorial, officially unveiled by French President François Hollande on November 11th 2014, also received the Moniteur Group's Equerre d'Argent architectural award in the culture, youth and sport category in 2014. The jury commended the project for its highly appropriate response to an atypical order, and for successfully blending the structure into the landscape. The judges also highlighted the role of engineering in creating an effective monument.

This memorial, the largest anywhere in the world, lists the names of 600,000 soldiers who died in the region's battlefields between 1914 and 1918, regardless of their nationality, rank and religion. When designing it, the architect was "thinking of a ring formed by people holding hands".

About Eiffage

Eiffage is a one of Europe's leading construction and concessions companies. The Group's activities are organised on the basis of the following business lines: construction, real estate, civil engineering, metal, roads, energy and concessions. Thanks to the experience of more than 64,000 employees, Eiffage generated revenues of €13.9 billion in 2015, including 19% outside France.

About Eiffage Génie Civil

As an integral part of the Eiffage Infrastructures division (with 23,000 employees and revenues of €4.4 billion in 2015), Eiffage Génie Civil specialises in engineering structures, facility civil engineering, underground works, maritime and river works, earthwork, demolition and decontamination, foundations and structural repairs. For nearly 20 years, it has been developing BSI[®], an ultra-high-performance fibre-reinforced concrete informed by end-to-end expertise in the product's design, manufacture and use as cast-in-place or pre-cast elements for both structural and architectonic applications.

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