

New CNIT Forest to host events from October 2023

Paris, 27 September 2023

The new event venue **CNIT Forest** is set to open in la Défense and will host its first events in early October with the Forum Plasturgie Composites on 2 and 3 October, the 129th congress of SFORL from 4 to 7 October, and the annual IFACI congress on 13 and 14 November. Since 2015, the Viparis facilities within CNIT, the iconic building erected in 1958 in the La Défense business district, had been closed due to the construction of the new La Défense EOLE regional railway station.

The design contract for this new CNIT was awarded to the architect **Nicolas Adam and to François Schuiten**, the well-known illustrator of the comic book series *Les Cités Obscures* and the scenographer of the Paris metro station Arts et Métiers and the *Train World* museum in Schaerbeek station, Brussels. Between them, they dreamt up an impressive subterranean forest of digital trees, leading to the coexistence of nature and responsibility with the highest technological standards to offer visitors a unique experience. Comprising thousands of LEDs, these trees offer the opportunity to fully customise the various areas, and thereby create visitor experiences specific to each event.

CNIT Forest, located at the heart of Europe's largest business district, can host up to two events at the same time across more than 20,000 sqm of modular space spread over four levels, and including two amphitheatres of 740 and 1,175 seats respectively, 24 meeting rooms, and two multipurpose spaces of 2,166 sqm and 2,857 sqm.

The venue is fully accessible to people with reduced mobility.

Special care was taken with material selection: bio-sourced, of natural origin and recycled, obtained from responsible production chains, or from direct-selling channels. The LED lighting helps reduce energy consumption, which is additionally controlled even more tightly through a lighting intensity regulation system. Previous CNIT fixtures have been retained, reused and sometimes upgraded.

Viparis has chosen to furnish part of **CNIT Forest** with KYRIELLE chairs supplied by Furniture For Good. This project called on the recycling of 4,800 kg of plastic and avoided the emission of 7,200 kg of carbon dioxide . Furniture For Good seeks to recover waste to create design-driven, functional and sustainable furniture and reduce carbon impact. Furniture For Good is a designer of eco-friendly and all-French furniture.

CNIT Forest furthermore benefits from high-density Wi-Fi. The meeting rooms are fitted with 4K LED screens with wireless connection, built-in sound systems with cordless microphones, connected tables, and a videoconferencing and streaming system.

With the organisation of this revisited venue, Viparis wished to create a venue whose design and overall layout encourage the circulation of ideas, the fertilisation of discussions, and creativity for its future professional visitors.

“Viparis is delighted to reopen CNIT Forest and takes great pride in providing visitors and congress delegates with the chance to enjoy a unique venue that subtly combines the highest technological standards with a genuine role for nature, here in the heart of La Défense. Europe’s largest business district is in need of event venues that meet the high expectations of professionals working there or who visit occasionally,” explains Arnaud Burlin, CEO of Viparis.

About Viparis

A joint-owned subsidiary of the Paris Île-de-France Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield group, Viparis is the leading holder of congresses and exhibitions in Paris.

Operating 12 major event venues in the Paris region, Viparis strives every day to make its venues and service offering ever more efficient and flexible. Viparis has created the Guest Attitude dedicated to the well-being of its clients: a unique blend of prestigious venues and premium-quality services deployed for the benefit of its 11 million visitors (general public, professional visitors, spectators) and the 800 events hosted every year on its various sites (CNIT Forest, Espace Champerret, Espace Grande Arche, Hôtel Salomon de Rothschild, La Serre, Les Salles du Carrousel, Palais des Congrès d’Issy, Palais des Congrès de Paris, Paris Convention Centre, Paris Expo Porte de Versailles, Paris Le Bourget, Paris Nord Villepinte).

Viparis moreover encourages positive impact synergies between stakeholders in the event sector through French Event Booster, a unique sector-focussed innovation platform of which it is one of the co-founders. Furthermore, as part of its CSR strategy entitled Better Events 2030, Viparis is deploying actions across all its sites in the aim of reducing its impact and offering venues and services for responsible and value-creating events.

Viparis is proud to be an Official Supporter of Paris 2024, and to have four venues that will feature among the major hubs for the 2024 Paris Games.

For further information, visit [Viparis.com](https://viparis.com), or join us and follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

Media enquiries

Jean-Benoît HAREL - jean-benoit.harel@vae-solis.com - +33 (0)7 60 84 52 72

Anna GUIHARD — anna.guihard@vae-solis.com - +33 (0)6 82 94 04 05