PRESS RELEASE
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Developing decarbonised mobility

Montpellier Méditerranée Métropole and NGE pave the way for sustainable urban mobility in Montpellier with the delivery of the northern section of tram Line 5

The completion of works on the northern section of Montpellier tram Line 5 marks a decisive milestone in the development of the city's transport infrastructure. The programme was initiated by Montpellier Méditerranée Métropole and delivered by TaM (Transports de l'Agglomération de Montpellier), with NGE, Alstom and SPIE Batignolles Malet contributing to the northern section. Drawing on NGE Group's multi-disciplinary expertise, the project demonstrates a genuine urban transformation in support of sustainable mobility and reflects NGE's commitment to developing decarbonised transport.

After 38 months of work, the northern section of Montpellier's future tram Line 5 has been completed. At the heart of a major scheme initiated and supported by Montpellier Méditerranée Métropole, the new 16 km line, serving 27 stops, will ultimately strengthen links to the city centre and provide reliable, modern connections to the metropolitan area's many business, residential and employment hubs.

A major multi-disciplinary project led by NGE

To meet the demands of a project of this scale, NGE drew on its multi-disciplinary capabilities to provide an integrated offer bringing together all the expertise required to deliver the works.

TSO, NGE Group's rail subsidiary, delivered all track construction works on the northern section, covering 10 km. As lead contractor for the consortium, TSO worked alongside two other NGE subsidiaries: Guintoli for earthworks and AGILIS for surfacing, as well as Alstom and Spie Batignolles Malet.

In parallel, Guintoli and EHTP also contributed under a separate public-realm works contract, carrying out earthworks, drainage and roadworks. Landscaping was delivered by Espaces verts du Midi, an NGE Paysages subsidiary.

Through close coordination between its subsidiaries and project partners, NGE successfully addressed the logistical and technical challenges of construction in a dense urban environment, delivering reliable, modern infrastructure designed for the mobility needs of the future while meeting the agreed programme.

Urban infrastructure supporting sustainable mobility

Montpellier Méditerranée Métropole is addressing one of the key challenges of its ecological transition: delivering greener mobility that is both socially inclusive and accessible, as set out in its ambitious mobility strategy.

Long awaited since 2017, Line 5 will finally provide residents in the west and north of the metropolitan area with an effective public transport solution when it enters service on 20 December 2025. More than 80,000 passengers are expected to use the fifth tram line each day, providing a collective response to the public-health and environmental emergency.

As the scheme is located in the heart of the city, measures were introduced to reduce its environmental impact and minimise disruption during construction:

- **Reuse of excavated material:** A total of 65,000 m² of excavated material was recycled and reused, reducing demand for new materials and limiting the transport of goods.
- **Sustainable landscaping:** 4,000 linear metres of planted track bed and 490 tree pits were installed to help integrate the line into the urban landscape and improve the living environment.
- **Noise mitigation:** 2,100 linear metres of track were laid on floating slabs, reducing noise levels by 20 dB.
- **Optimised rainwater management:** Retention basins and high-performance drainage systems were installed to minimise impacts on the ground.

A positive impact on employment and work integration

NGE is committed to employment and skills development and made access to work a core component of the project. Throughout the works, the Group recruited people through work-integration schemes, providing tangible opportunities for those furthest from the labour market in a sector with strong prospects. Tailored pathways were developed in partnership with local employment and training organisations. In total, more than 30,000 hours of work-integration employment were delivered.

Beyond the construction project itself, the initiative reflects a long-term approach to employment, with each scheme serving as a springboard to new opportunities for all.

“This project is an excellent example of what NGE does best: combining expertise with a smooth, cross-functional and agile organisation capable of managing the complexity of an urban construction project and delivering infrastructure that benefits everyone. In Montpellier, our multi-disciplinary expertise played a decisive role in the successful completion of this strategic section of Line 5. Through the commitment of our teams and the synergies between our different areas of expertise, we were able to provide an ambitious technical and environmental response. By strengthening decarbonised transport networks, we are helping to deliver lasting changes in travel behaviour. This is NGE’s strength: offering integrated, sustainable solutions that are firmly rooted in local realities. It is in this spirit that we are building the future with determination.”

Stéphane PEREZ MORILLAS, Chief Executive Officer, NGE

“The delivery of the northern section of Montpellier tram Line 5 marks another milestone in our commitment to sustainable urban mobility. At TSO, as across NGE Group, we are proud to support the ecological transition of local areas by bringing our multi-disciplinary expertise to major infrastructure projects. Working closely with NGE’s teams and all project partners, we successfully met the challenges of this scheme and delivered infrastructure that addresses Montpellier’s current and future needs. This project embodies our vision for reimagined urban mobility: accessible, responsible and future-focused.”

Romauld HUGUES, President, TSO

ABOUT NGE

Nouvelles Générations d’Entrepreneurs (NGE), France’s fourth-largest construction and civil engineering group, delivers major infrastructure schemes and urban and local projects. With expertise spanning financing, design, construction and maintenance, the Group is a leading provider of assets tailored to the economic and environmental challenges facing local areas. Its entrepreneurial model is underpinned by strong employee ownership: the founders, management and employees hold 72% of the Group’s share capital, with the remaining 28% held by French investment fund Montefiore. With revenue of €4.5 billion, NGE operates in around 20 countries and supports public- and private-sector clients in financing, designing and delivering transition projects across water, mobility, urban regeneration, energy and telecommunications. NGE’s 24,000 employees are proud to help build infrastructure that changes the world.

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ABOUT TSO

Drawing on more than 98 years of experience in France and internationally, TSO provides expertise across all railway works and systems, including track construction, renewal and maintenance; electrification and overhead line modifications; surveying and railway software development; and railway safety. With a strong focus on innovation, TSO continually seeks improvements that combine quality, delivery efficiency and workforce safety. Synergies between TSO’s activities and NGE’s complementary capabilities enable the Group to provide an integrated offer.

Further information: https://tso.fr