

PRESS RELEASE

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HERMÈS ANNOUNCES THE CREATION OF 250 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW LEATHER GOODS WORKSHOP IN ARDENNES

Hermès is delighted to announce the creation of a new leather goods workshop straddling the villages of Tournes and Cliron (Ardennes) by 2022. Ultimately, 250 artisans will use their exceptional know-how to craft bags in this atelier, which will be located on a business park run by the Ardennes Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Building on local partnerships, notably with the government employment agency Pôle emploi, this new production site confirms Hermès' anchoring in the Grand Est region.

It will also be in keeping with the Group's sustainable development goals for the building of its workshops: full control of energy consumption and a choice of innovative technologies to reduce its carbon footprint, a high-quality working environment, respect for the site's biodiversity and blending in with the landscape are all, for example, key focuses for the project.

Drawing on its unique artisan model, Hermès is strengthening its leather goods activities by creating sustainable jobs and meeting the demand of its customers, who are attached to the quality and creativity of its objects.

From its inception, Hermès has valued handcraft and fostered its artisans' personal growth through skills development throughout their careers.

In an approach based on internal networking and the transmission of an artisan culture, eighteen months of training will be provided by the Hermès craftsmen who are currently applying their know-how at the Maroquinerie des Ardennes, which opened in Bogny-sur-Meuse in 2004.

With these two leather workshops, the Hermès facilities in Ardennes will eventually employ more than 500 artisans. They will become the Group's sixth cluster of leather goods workshops, on the heels of Paris-Val-de-Seine, Normandy, Franche-Comté, the South West and the Savoie-Dauphiné region.

Since 2010, Hermès has opened nine leather goods production sites and recruited more than 2,100 artisans, bringing the number of saddler-leatherworkers to more than 3,400. With the imminent opening of leather goods workshops in Guyenne (Gironde – 2020), Montereau (Seine-et-Marne – 2021) and Louviers (Eure – 2021), the new workshop in Ardennes will be Hermès' twenty-first leather goods and saddlery production site. They are all located in France.

Since 1837, Hermès has remained faithful to its artisan model and its humanist values. The freedom to create, the constant search for beautiful materials, the transmission of a savoir-faire of excellence, and the aesthetic of functionality all forge the singularity of Hermès, a house of objects. An independent, family owned company, Hermès is dedicated to keeping the essential element of production in France through its 42 workshops and to developing its network of 310 stores in over 49 countries. As of the 30th of June 2019, Hermès employed more than 14,000 people worldwide, including 8,800 in France and more than 5,100 in the production divisions. Axel Dumas, a sixth-generation family member, has been Hermès CEO since 2013. Founded in 2008, the Fondation d'entreprise Hermès supports projects in the areas of artistic creation, training and the transmission of savoir-faire, biodiversity, and the preservation of the environment.

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