PRESS RELEASE

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GSE ACQUIRES CRITICAL BUILDING AND CONFIRMS ITS AMBITION TO BECOME A LEADING EUROPEAN PLAYER IN THE DESIGN & BUILD OF DATA CENTERS AND DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE

GSE announces the acquisition of Critical Building, a leading expert company in data center development with expertise across the entire project cycle. This strategic move marks a significant step in GSE's growth within the critical infrastructure sector. Building on Critical Building's expert knowledge GSE will establish a European Center of Excellence in Data Center Engineering to support clients with complex infrastructure needs. This unique center of expertise will allow clients of GSE access to a fully integrated Design & Build solution, while meeting the major challenges of speed, flexibility and delivery security that characterise the data center market.

The acquisition fits perfectly into the strategic approach of the GOLDBECK Group, the parent company of GSE, to strengthen the engagement in the data center business throughout Europe. At the same time, Critical Building will continue to operate independently and to support its own customers with their well-established high level of expertise.

A comprehensive and integrated data center offering

This acquisition is built on the strong complementarity of expertise between the two companies, as well as on shared values: commitment, transparency, and the drive to create value for clients.

The collaboration with Critical Building strengthens GSE's capabilities in data center design. It enhances GSE's offering with specialised skills and broad expertise. At the same time, it enables the company to address the challenges of performance, sustainability, and reliability in the most complex projects, within a rapidly developing and technology-driven market. GSE strengthens its ability to offer a comprehensive solution, combining independent engineering, design excellence, execution mastery and integrated project management. GSE and Critical Building will jointly cover the entire lifecycle of data center construction, from site selection to operational certification at the end of construction.

20 years of experience in the field of critical infrastructures

Founded in 2006, Critical Building brings nearly 20 years of experience in the field of critical infrastructures. Its mission is to support clients in their data center projects: site selection, construction, renovation, and optimisation, with an independent, tailor-made approach focused on the real needs of users. The company operates across the entire value chain: site selection, due diligence, strategic studies, technical design, project management consultancy (PMC), design

& engineering, audits, energy optimisation, infrastructure security, innovation, commissioning, and operational support.

While becoming part of GSE, Critical Building will retain its own identity and governance. The company will continue to operate independently in the market and maintain its customer relationships.

A European ambition within the GOLDBECK Group

For several years, GSE has been developing dedicated expertise in data centers, with a clear ambition: to become the fastest, most flexible, and committed hub for Design & Build in this strategic sector in its European markets. Together with Critical Building, GSE will deliver a distinctive, agile, and high-value offering, tailored to the demands of a rapidly evolving sector. By combining their expertise, GSE and Critical Building demonstrate their commitment to establishing a European benchmark in data center engineering and construction.

This fits perfectly into the strategic approach of the GOLDBECK Group, the parent company of GSE, to engage into data center business throughout Europe. The entire GOLDBECK Group will benefit from the acquisition due to extensive inhouse data center expertise, thus creating substantial value for the future development of data center business.

Roland PAUL, President of GSE: "*By combining our recognised know-how in data center construction with Critical Building's cutting-edge expertise in independent engineering, we are accelerating the creation of a genuine European center of excellence, serving demanding customers in search of performance, sustainability and operational responsiveness*".

Thibaut SIMEON, Laurent TRESCARTES, Jean-Marc DUGOUJON & Yannick DELAS, founders of Critical Building: "*By selecting GSE and the GOLDBECK Group, we are opting for a solid industrial partner, whose strategic vision and values are perfectly in tune with our own. This operation marks a key stage in our development: it preserves our identity and our way of working, while providing us with the means to reach a new level. Together, we share the desire to build a European center of excellence in data center engineering and construction, capable of meeting our customers' growing challenges in terms of performance, resilience and sustainability. This partnership acts as a powerful catalyst that will enable us to strengthen our competitiveness, accelerate our growth and broaden our ability to support our customers across the continent.*

Hans-Jörg FRIAUFF, Managing Director of GOLDBECK Group: "*Data centers are the backbone of digital infrastructure – and demand is growing rapidly. With our approach of building economically, quickly, and at the highest technical level, we are contributing to Europe's digital future – always in close partnership with clients and other trades. This is how we create places where data flows securely, stably, and sustainably.*"

ABOUT GSE

Since its creation in 1976, GSE has been a specialist in corporate real estate. As a General Contractor, GSE manages construction projects from start to finish, covering every stage from land search and qualification to after-sales service, including technical studies, design, and execution. The company delivers smart and sustainable buildings in the industrial, logistics, and service sectors, notably through its range of eco-friendly buildings, *The Blue Suite*. GSE is also active in the construction of Data Centers, multi-storey car parks, and has launched a dedicated business unit for building renovation. In fiscal year 2024/25 (ending March 31), GSE achieved a turnover of €808 million. Since 2023, GSE has been a "Mission-driven Company" and now employs more than 600 people across 20 locations worldwide, with operations in 7 European countries and 13 sites in France.

Since 2019, GSE has been part of the GOLDBECK Group, a European leader in turnkey construction with revenues exceeding €6 billion and around 12,000 employees working across more than 100 sites.

For more information about GSE: https://www.gsegroup.com/

ABOUT GOLDBECK

Goldbeck builds future-oriented properties in Europe. The company views buildings as products, and offers all services for its customers as a one-stop provider – from the design and construction phase to services during operation. The 'building excellence' approach allows the family business to complete buildings economically, quickly and sustainably, without sacrificing custom functionality. Goldbeck is a partner for medium-sized businesses and large companies, investors, developers and public-sector clients alike. Our range of services includes warehouses and industrial buildings, multi-storey car parks, office and school buildings, sports halls, fire stations and residential buildings. This is rounded off with refurbishment projects and building-related services. The company completed more than 480 new build projects and 87 refurbishment projects in the 2024/25 financial year, with a total turnover of €6.3 billion. Goldbeck currently employs more than 13,000 people at over 100 locations across Europe.

For more information about GOLDBECK : www.goldbeck.de

ABOUT CRITICAL BUILDING

Critical Building is an independent French company founded in 2006, with expertise in the design, audit and construction of critical technical infrastructures, mainly data centers. It supports public and private sector players throughout the lifecycle of their IT infrastructures, using a neutral, high-performance and sustainable approach.

Drawing on its extensive experience, the company is involved in major projects for colocation and hyperscalers, both in France and internationally. In addition to its cutting-edge multi-technical skills, its expertise covers energy performance, regulatory compliance, carbon footprint reduction and innovation in environmental concepts (eco-efficiency).

Critical Building is recognised for its ability to orchestrate complex technical work packages and guarantee the overall coherence of projects by respecting the "Time - Quality - Cost - Energy Efficiency" mix.

For more information about Critical Building: https://www.criticalbuilding.fr/

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