CFAO, a subsidiary of Japanese conglomerate Toyota Tsusho Corporation, is a major player in Africa and beyond. Based in Boulogne, Greater Paris, this diversified group plays a major role in vital industries including mobility, healthcare, consumer goods, infrastructure and energy.

Operating 89 sites in 38 African countries and six French overseas territories, CFAO is a leader in distribution across the continent. Key business CFAO Healthcare (formerly Eurapharma) is a major player, serving more than 27 countries in sub-Saharan Africa. The healthcare arm efficiently supplies pharmaceutical wholesalers and distributors through its subsidiaries Continental Pharmaceutique and E.P.DIS.

CFAO Healthcare's network facilitates access to quality medicines, which are essential to support local healthcare systems and meet the challenges of sustainable development.

Winner
GRANDS PRIX
SIMI 2024

NEEDS & CHALLENGES

CONTEXT

CFAO's parent company, Toyota Tsusho Corp, has pledged to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. This goal is reflected in the Val de Reuil project, which is designed to serve as a benchmark for the group. Bringing together two subsidiaries and support services on a single site, it combines decarbonisation with employee wellbeing – thanks to workspaces & amenities that promote collaboration in ideal working conditions.

PROJECT

Set in lush green surroundings in Val de Reuil, Normandy, the 46,254 m² facility combines landscape integration with a design adapted to the steep slope of the land. It comprises 41,140 m² of temperature-controlled warehouses and 5,105 m² of two-storey offices and staff facilities. Two footbridges provide easy access and create an interior street, functioning as a social space for the 250 employees of the two subsidiaries.

TECHNICALS CHALLENGES

The site's steep slope drops by more than 21 metres from its southeast to its northwest corners, affecting the building design and earthworks. Special attention was paid to their ecological and economic impact.
A footbridge connects the car parks (+14 m) to the offices (upper floor) and platforms (+9 m). The site also includes a solar power plant and a system to recover heat from the nearby EDF datacentre.

KEY FEATURES

CFAO Healthcare is consolidating the activities of its two subsidiaries on a single site, designed to meet the needs of the next ten years and incorporating its head office and administrative services. The facility's layout offers a high-quality working environment, promotes communication & interaction and fosters synergies. Designed for energy performance, it contributes to Toyota Tsusho Corporation's 2050 net zero target.



GSE'S ENVIRONMENTAL EXPERTISE AND STRATEGY

FOCUS ON CERTIFICATION

FRANCE / VAL-DE-REUIL (NORMANDY)

CFAO HEALTHCARE

Aiming for the BREEAM Very Good certificate, the project focuses on reducing its carbon footprint thanks to green solutions: on-site solar power generation, low-carbon concrete paving, waste heat recovery from the neighbouring datacentre and environmentally friendly landscaping.



LOW CARBON

- A 60-year LCA with more than ten standardised environmental product declarations (EPDs)

ENERGY PERFORMANCE

- Energy consumption monitored & managed by a building management system (BMS)

BIODIVERSITY

- Construction on an industrial brownfield

PHILIPPE VALENTIN
OPERATIONS DIRECTOR
CFAO HEALTHCARE

This new pharmaceutical site will spearhead our distribution network. Serving as both storage centre and head office, it will help us support our customers' and subsidiaries' continued growth. Its deployment is strategic for our development. A pharma-grade facility, it will be user-friendly & safe for our teams, exemplary in its design, cost-effective & sustainable in its operation, and integrated into its environment. That's a complex set of specifications! The challenge was met by Aotu Architecture and the GSE team – from the design phase through to completion. The result clearly meets our requirements and we are very proud of its commissioning.