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Press release

SPIE Sud-Ouest announces the acquisition of Socotech

The SPIE subsidiary moves into the aggregates extraction market SPIE Sud-Ouest, a subsidiary of SPIE SA, is strengthening its position in the fields of mechanical engineering, industrial maintenance, sheet-metal working and metalwork with the acquisition of Socotech, a company based in Nègrepelisse, near Montauban, in France's Tarn et Garonne department. Founded in 1989, Socotech mainly works for clients in the mineral industry sector (quarries, gravel pits, sand pits, etc.) in south-west France. Its biggest customers are the Cemex, Lafarge, Colas, Malet, Denjean, Daniel, Vicat and Appia groups. The company takes charge of the installation and maintenance of tools for the working and transportation of aggregates (including crushers, extractors, screens and conveyors). It also brings worker safety installations up to standard (walkways, guard rails, etc.). In 2007, Socotech achieved sales of €7 million. Its workforce of 53 employees will contribute their expertise to SPIE Sud-Ouest's services to industry. Taking advantage of a booming market, the firm's management plans to hire more technicians in the fields of mechanical and electromechanical engineering in the short term. "This acquisition enables us to move into a market where we previously had only a low profile", explains Bernard Gisbert, head of SPIE Sud-Ouest Industry, Energy and Environment department. "Thanks to Socotech's excellent reputation, we will be building up a new set of skills in a stable and buoyant sector where there is a real demand."

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