***<< translation of French press release >>***

Nanterre, February 12, 2004

# Press Release

## Inauguration of SITA Rebond, a subsidiary specialized in professional and social integration through economic activity: a new partner for local development

**A subsidiary of SITA France (SUEZ Environnement), SITA Rebond, a job support program aiding unemployed workers to "rebound," was inaugurated in Paris, Thursday, February 12, 2004, by Gérard Mestrallet, CEO of SUEZ and by Patrice Dauvin, CEO of SITA France and Chairman of SITA Rebond.**

### An innovative entity for job placement through economic activity

SITA Rebond develops and implements professional development and life-skills projects under the framework law to combat social exclusion[1].

It targets disenfranchised populations, for example, the long-term unemployed, job seekers receiving RMI income support (minimum wage), and unskilled workers under 26 years old. SITA Rebond employees are hired under a fixed-term back-to-work contract up to 24 months and trained in critical safety and job-specific skills.

Supervised by a team of job placement professionals, employees identify their personal objectives, put their training (16% of payroll) into practice on the job and receive personalized assistance with everyday issues (housing, health, debt, etc.).

SITA employees contribute to this pioneering personal and professional development company through a mentoring program that encourages and empowers SITA Rebond employees.

SITA Rebond is supported by a professional development and temporary job placement company (ETTI) approved by local government offices, at French *Department* level, for labor and professional development (DDTFP).

This original structure makes it possible to improve the quality of recruitment, train employees, foster stability, and create permanent jobs that reduce reliance on temporary working.

*"We created this business as a way of strengthening our commitment to serving individuals and the community. By combining our range of environment-related businesses with a quality structure run by job placement professionals we are able to meet this challenge and fully assume our social responsibility as a company both economically and environmentally."*
Patrice DAUVIN – Chairman of SITA Rebond and CEO of SITA France

---

[1] *French law of July 29, 1998*

**Response to a local project**

SITA Rebond fulfills job placement objectives established with input from business entities, and meets the social responsibility obligation[2].

For the past eleven months, SITA Rebond has been developing its activity throughout France with logistical and economic support from a network of industrial and institutional partners (city halls, regional councils, governmental labor and job development offices, the ANPE national employment agency, the PLIE local plans for job placement through economic activity, and local task forces). This kind of active partnering has yielded encouraging results: of **121 people hired**, 18 have found new stability, both personally and professionally.

In **Gennevilliers** (Department 92), 28 individuals are now working on the selective-collection sorting line. In **Saint-Brice Courcelles** (Department 51),13 people are working in the same capacity for the Chazelle company (SITA Dectra). Another 35 "rebound" workers have been assigned to various operations at industrial companies.

In 2004, the company will consolidate and further develop its business initiatives in the greater Paris area of **Ile-de-France**. Meanwhile, local development projects are underway, particularly in **Valenciennes**, where a SITA Rebond unit will become operational by the end of the first quarter of 2004.

By positioning itself as a true partner for local development, SITA Rebond is asserting its identity as a socially responsible company whose goal is to become a quality reference for professional and social integration.

***SITA France, a subsidiary of SUEZ Environment, earned EUR 1.7 billion in revenues in 2002, up 11.9% over 2001. SITA France has 15,000 employees serving 4000 municipalities and 30,000 industrial and commercial customers. Its businesses cover every aspect of waste management: collection, sorting, waste-to-energy recovery, the processing of both solid and liquid household and hazardous waste (except nuclear), and urban waste management services.***

***SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT, a division of SUEZ, provides equipment and services essential to life and to protection of the environment: production and distribution of drinking water, collection and processing of waste water, and waste-to-energy recovery. Through its three global brands, Ondeo (water), Degrémont (specialized in water processing plants) and SITA (waste management), SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT earned EUR 12.9 billion in revenues in 2002 with a workforce of 97,000.***

**Press contacts:**
Hélène Huy-Orlando – Communications Director
Tel: +33 (1) 4291 6541 / Fax: +33 (1) 4291 6871 / helene.HUY_ORLANDO@sita.fr
Pascale Robert – Communications Manager
Tel: +33 (1) 4291 6542 / Fax: +33 (1) 4291 6871 / pascale.ROBERT@sita.fr

**For additional information on SITA**: **www.sita.fr**

[2] *Article 14 of the French Public Contracts Code*