

## **Press Release**

Paris, 10 December 2008

## Granite Tower, the first HQE®-accredited High-Rise Building in France, wins SIMI 2008 Grand Prize in the New Building category

On 4 December 2008, the *Grands Prix du SIMI*\* jury, comprised of real estate directors representing France's largest corporations, awarded its New Building Grand Prize to Société Générale for the Granite Tower.

Office buildings constructed in France and delivered between December 1, 2007 and November 30, 2008 were eligible to compete for this prize. The jury reviewed nominated buildings based on documentation as well as a site visit and interview with the corporate real estate director, taking into account such factors as efficiency, functionality, comfort, technology, sustainable development performance, architecture.

The Granite Tower, the first high-rise building certified to high environmental quality (HQE®) in France and the first sustainable development initiative in the La Défense business district, is the result of a collaboration among three committed stakeholders: architect Christian de Portzamparc, real estate developer Nexity, and construction company Vinci. Société Générale's commitment to innovation in sustainable development led to the creation of the Granite Tower project in 2003, as a pilot initiative for setting the HQE® standard for high-rise buildings.

\* Salon de l'Immobilier d'Entreprise held at the Palais des Congrès, Paris, from 3 to 8 December 2008.

## Société Générale

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PRESS RELATIONS SOCIETE GENERALE Stéphanie CARSON-PARKER +33 (0)1 42 14 95 77 Hélène MAZIER +33 (0)1 58 98 72 74 Mireille MOURTADA +33 (0)1 42 14 58 19 Laura SCHALK +33 (0)1 42 14 52 86 P.A +33(0)1 42 14 49 48 Fax +33(0)1 42 14 28 98 SOCIETE GENERALE COMM/PRS 75886 PARIS CEDEX 18 www.socgen.com A French corporation with share capital of EUR 725,909,055 552 120 222 RCS PARIS