



Press release  
Massy, 7<sup>th</sup> February 2019

## **Energy transition: Carrefour & Urbasolar become pioneers in the generation of own-use photovoltaic energy for hypermarkets in France**

**Carrefour is joining forces with Urbasolar, France's leading independent photovoltaic panel specialists, to speed up the energy transition of its hypermarkets with an initial deployment of photovoltaic awnings in the car parks of 36 of them. All of the electricity generated this way will be for the hypermarkets own use. Carrefour is the first retailer in France to deploy a system of this scale for generating electricity for its own use.**

### **A new innovative partnership and a new milestone for Carrefour in its climate plan**

To speed up its energy transition, Carrefour has entered into a partnership with France's leading independent photovoltaics company – Urbasolar. This industrial player specialises in photovoltaics and is set to help Carrefour install photovoltaic awnings in the car parks of 36 of its hypermarkets in France. Ultimately, these will generate a total of 21,000 MWh of clean, green energy every year for Carrefour's own use. This is equivalent to the annual consumption (excluding heating) of 4600 households – i.e. 210 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> avoided every year.

### **A new scheme designed to enable Carrefour to make direct use of the energy it generates**

The energy generated by installing these photovoltaic awnings will not be injected into the national grid, as it usually would be. Instead, it will be used to meet some of these hypermarkets' energy requirements. By leveraging Urbasolar's expertise in innovative photovoltaic projects, Carrefour is establishing itself as a large-scale forerunner in own-use generating systems. Through this initiative, Carrefour becomes the leading producer of electricity for its own use in France and one of the biggest in Europe. It falls within the Group's aim of diversifying its energy sources and striving to develop the solutions of the future for giving stores greater energy autonomy.

### **An installation that also helps users**

These photovoltaic awnings installed over several hundred hypermarket parking places will also increase consumers' levels of comfort. Indeed, they will provide protection against the elements (wind, rain and sunshine) – for both the cars parked underneath them and their users.

### **About Urbasolar**

Urbasolar is France's leading independent photovoltaics specialist and as such is the preferred partner of local authorities and companies seeking to share this technology – a technology which will play a key role in providing humanity with electricity.

2017/2018 turnover: €108 million, including electricity sales (financial year ending in April).

- Founder member of PV Cycle France (2014).
- ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 certified, and certified as an AQPV (quality photovoltaic alliance) General Contractor.
- 2018 winner of the 2018 Growth Enterprises Award in the Greentech & Energies category.
- Recipient of the Green and Blue Growth Award in 2017.
- Ranked among the 150 best-performing intermediary-sized companies in France in 2014 and 2015 by the magazine *Express*.
- 2012 winner of Deloitte's Fast50 Energy and Greentech Award.
- Ranked 10th in Deloitte's list of Fast 500 European Greentech companies.

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### **About Carrefour in France**

Carrefour has over 5600 stores in France operating in four formats (hypermarket, supermarket, convenience and cash & carry). For over fifty years, Carrefour has been a partner in the daily lives of millions of customers, offering them a wide range of products and services at the lowest prices. So as to keep pace with new consumer modes and make shopping easier for its customers, Carrefour has developed a number of omnichannel solutions (e-commerce, Drive, Click and Collect, home delivery and mobile applications). Carrefour is the world's second largest retailer and the largest in France. It employs 115,000 people and welcomes more than 3 million customers every day throughout the country. Carrefour is committed to a more sustainable and responsible form of trade through its daily initiatives. The group's CSR policy is structured around three key areas: tackling all forms of waste, protecting biodiversity and providing the company's partners with support.

For more information, visit: [www.carrefour.com](http://www.carrefour.com) (press page), [www.carrefour.fr](http://www.carrefour.fr) or to follow us on Twitter: @CarrefourFrance, @GroupeCarrefour

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