

PRESS
KIT
2021



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Editorial

Collective strength

HEXIS is celebrating its thirty-second anniversary this year. Michel Mateu, our father, set up the SHAG HEXIS company in July 1989 to manufacture PVC films for use in computer-aided cutting and as communication media. He then embarked on research with a small team of enthusiasts: together, they made the company grow and evolve with the will to combine performance and quality of service.

Today we are jointly managing an international group. Perhaps we should say that we are trying to run it in the best possible conditions. Because beyond a family history, HEXIS has been, since its beginnings and more than ever, an exhilarating collective adventure. The company was built with the arrival of each and every one of us, each of us bringing his or her skills and point of view, first in Frontignan, in our subsidiaries abroad, at our site in Hagetmau...

We are convinced that the greatest asset of HEXIS is its people: they are the driving force behind change and thus of progress. Our co-workers can and must contribute to the cause, suggest their ideas, be amazed and amaze us. In the same way, we listen to our partners and clients, who constantly point us in the direction of new research. These exchanges between professionals allow us to innovate in a meaningful way!

To succeed is to dare to change, to dare to innovate while keeping our values in mind. This is what we are striving for within the HEXIS Group.

Thanks to our employees and our partners of the first and last generation for the trust they have placed in us. ■



Caroline Mateu | Chairman of the Board of Directors

Clément Mateu | Managing Director

HEXIS in figures

As a manufacturer and distributor of self-adhesive films for computer-aided cutting and large-format digital printing, HEXIS Group has established itself as a major player in the market for visual communication and surface protection.

Its premium Made in France products, its culture of tailor-made solutions and its ability to innovate and diversify its offerings have established its reputation among imaging professionals throughout the world. ■



Date of incorporation

July 1989

Average number of staff

465 employees of which 354 in France

Founder

Michel Mateu

Group turnover

2020: € 100 million

Chairman of the Board of Directors

Caroline Mateu

Six product lines

Films for computer-aided cutting (CAD)
Films for full wraps and decoration (WRAP)
Films for textile marking (FLEX)
Films for large format digital printing (IMN)
Films for surface protection (laminates)
Paint protection films (PPF)

Managing Director

Clément Mateu

Head office

ZI Horizons Sud
34110 FRONTIGNAN
FRANCE

Production in m²

2020: 20 million m²

Production sites

Frontignan (France)
Hagetmau (France)

Subsidiaries

- French West Indies: Baie-Mahault (Guadeloupe), Matoury (French Guiana), Le Lamantin (Martinique)
- Other countries: Birr (Switzerland), Yatala (Australia), Lawrenceville (United States), Haan (Germany), Mombretto (Italy), La Garriga and Arganda del Rey (Spain), Landskrona and Farsta (Sweden)

Six main application areas

HEXIS specialises in the manufacture and distribution of high-end cast PVC, PU and latex films. By listening to the market and keeping a close watch on changing consumer trends and the emergence of new needs, the group has been able to diversify its areas of application over the years, backed by its capacity for innovation. It can thus meet all the demands of the adhesive film market, from the most standard to the most technical: plotter media, digital printing, protection and decoration. ■

› MARKINGS & SIGNAGE

HEXIS produces plotter films and printable films for sign makers, graphic designers and signage professionals, the company's traditional customer base.

› FULL WRAPS

HEXIS is an expert in the design and manufacture of conformable cast films whose properties allow them to be applied to 3D surfaces. They are intended to wrap vehicles, furniture or other goods.

› PROTECTION

The specialist anti-UV, anti-scratch, anti-graffiti laminates from HEXIS ensure the protection of films and surfaces. HEXIS designs high-tech products such as the BODYFENCE range, clear films that protect vehicles from external elements, or the PURE ZONE® anti-microbial film intended for the protection of surfaces in premises requiring a high degree of hygiene.

› DESIGN & DECORATION

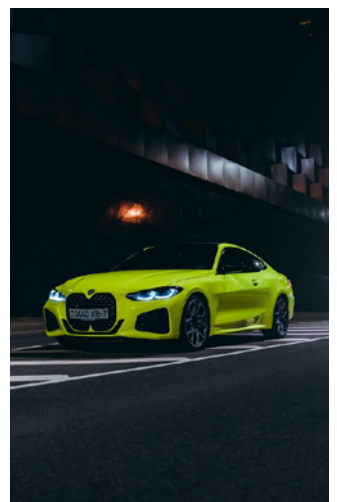
HEXIS has ventured into new markets by promoting the use of its cutting, digital and special films to designers, decorators and architects (wall, window and furniture decoration).

› TEXTILE

The HEXIS laboratories have developed films for textile marking. Flex for cutting or printing, these films are flexible and easy to weed due to their non-adhesive liner.

› INDUSTRIAL

Any industrial environment can use the innovations of HEXIS. The group works in particular in the transport industry, especially in the rail sector: paint replacement and anti-graffiti protection, window protection, decoration and interior and exterior signage of trains, train stations, metro stations...



Our featured products

Adhesive materials for computer-aided cutting, large format digital printing media, conformable films for full wraps and decoration, surface or paint protection films, textile marking films... HEXIS has more than 1,000 references in its catalogue and releases around fifty new products every year. Let's take a closer look at six of its innovations. ■

› TAKE HEAT EASY®: HEXIS TECHNOLOGY APPLIED TO A PREMIUM CAST PRINTABLE PVC FILM

THE190EVO is a 50-micron, new generation printable high performance white cast PVC film.

The film features Take Heat Easy® (THE) technology, which in turn consists of a new micro-structured liner and a solvent-based adhesive that provides the ideal tack during installation. The design of the embossing, which is engineered to reduce the initial tack, makes THE190EVO easier to install. The HEXIS R&D laboratory has also incorporated a special coating to increase the opacity of the film.

Conformable, versatile and with an excellent gloss finish, it has a wide range of uses: full wraps, fleet vehicles, interior decoration, cars, trucks, buses, coaches, boats etc.



› PURE ZONE®: THE ANTIMICROBIAL PROTECTION FILM THAT DESTROYS VIRUSES AND BACTERIA 24/7

This self-adhesive antimicrobial protective film, patented worldwide, has the property of inhibiting the growth of many microbes (including E.coli, staphylococcus aureus) and viruses such as SARS-CoV-2, the strain that leads to COVID-19.

It is of particular interest to hospitals, schools, fast-food chains, railway stations, airports, industry, public transport and, more broadly, places open to the public.

Both indoors and outdoors, PURE ZONE® can be used to protect everyday surfaces and objects in contact with people: handles, handrails, reception desks, telephones, terminals and touch screens etc.



Our featured products

› THE BODYFENCE RANGE, FLAGSHIP OF HEXIS INNOVATION

HEXIS has developed a clear self-adhesive PU film with improved surface slide to protect vehicle bodies from external aggressions (scratches, stone chips, abrasion, ultraviolet rays). BODYFENCE also facilitates cleaning by preventing dirt from sticking to the paintwork.

A film with self-healing properties, it is ideal for water-based paints that are more environment-friendly but more sensitive to impacts and climatic contingencies.

Perfectly clear, matt or gloss, it protects vehicles without altering them.

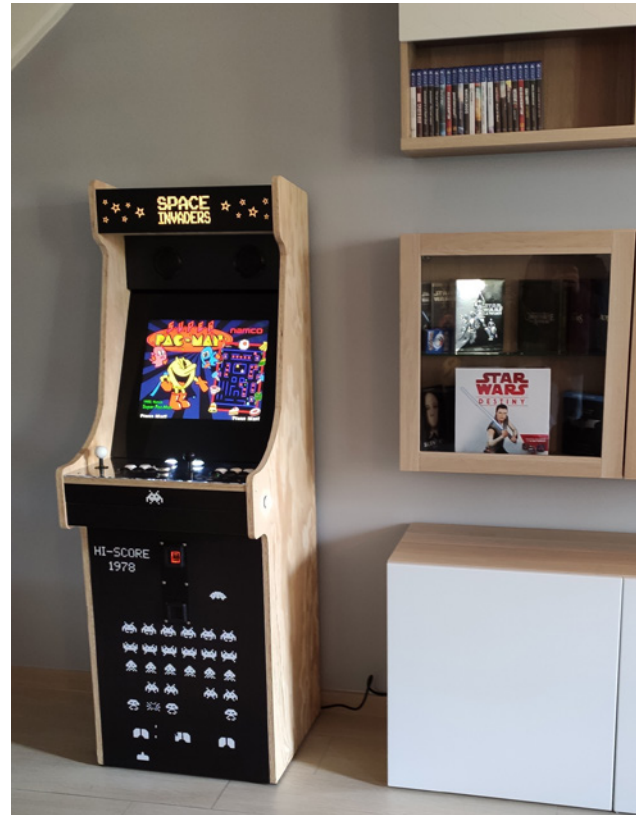


› PVC-FREE: LESS SOLVENTS, MORE ECO-DESIGN

HEXIS develops 100% PVC-FREE products. This new water-based manufacturing technology reduces the amount of solvents used in production by up to 85%.

These "eco-designed" products are available in three application areas: full wraps with the HX500WG2 printable conformable film, signage with the 14-colour A5000 range for lettering and protection with the PC500G2 and PC500M laminates, two finishes (gloss and matt) for durable protection in extreme conditions.

These HEXIS products are more durable than PVC films.

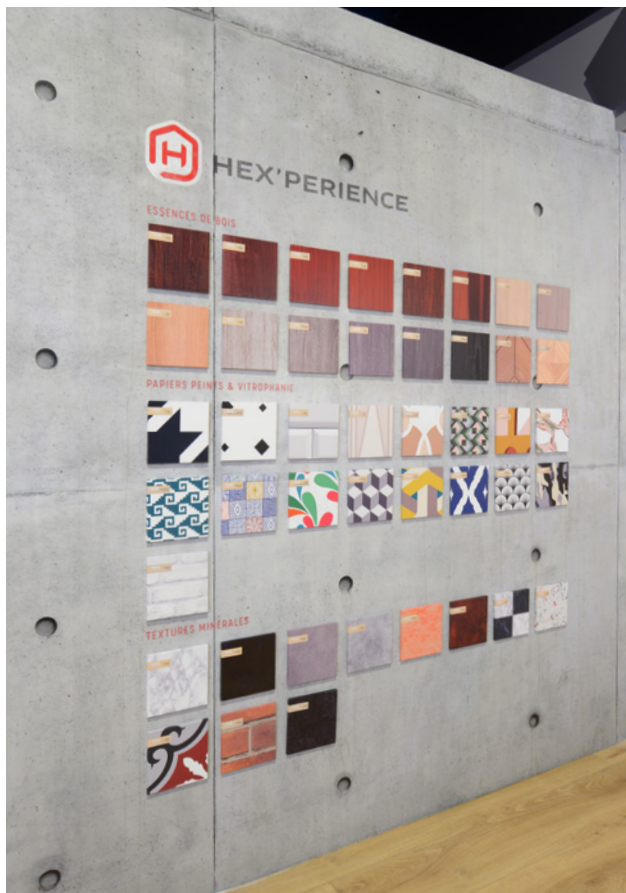


Our featured products

› HEX'PERIENCE: RELEASE ALL THE CREATIVE TALENT WITHIN YOU!

Decorators, architects and designers can freely experiment with materials by using textured laminates and the HEX'PERIENCE library of print files. The HEX'PERIENCE laminates protect the prints and meet the fire and slip standards (EN 13501-1 and DIN 51 130). Their textures offer a bluffing material sensation and realism.

With our large number of textures, you can create your own projects and give free rein to your creativity: wood, mineral, leather, metallic, grained and other effects.

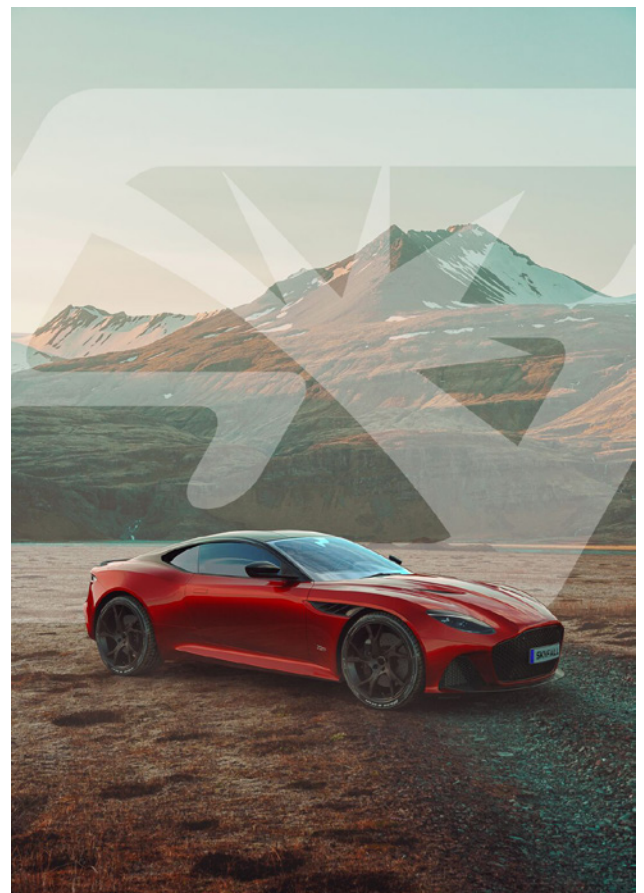


› SKYTINT: JOIN THE ULTRA-PERFORMANCE ERA OF SOLAR FILMS

HEXIS launches a range of tinted films combining aesthetic appeal, protection and innovation.

The new range of sun protection films, named SKYTINT, constitutes a real protective barrier against the harmful effects of the sun. Innovative technologies that provide the perfect combination of style, safety and health protection.

The two ranges of tinted films SKYFALL and MAJESTIK concentrate technologies conferring them unique properties for an unequalled driving experience.



Choosing Made in France

The entire manufacturing activity of HEXIS films is guaranteed Made in France. HEXIS manufactures its rolls in its two factories in Frontignan (Hérault) and Hagetmau (Landes). HEXIS thus guarantees its customers a stable manufacture and takes on a premium positioning.

HEXIS manufactures its own cast vinyls. The raw materials are carefully blended and then cast on special transfer sheets. The film can be very thin (from 30 to 80 microns) and has consistent and uniform properties regardless of its orientation.

Its range of Made in France films is continuously expanding! ■



Area allocated to manufacturing

35,000 m²

Frontignan site

250 people work on the manufacture site, covering all activities (manufacturing, maintenance, sales, support services etc.).

Manufacturing equipment

- › 1 mixing and blending workshop
- › 1 coating line, capacity of 125,000 m² / day
- › 2 casting lines, capacity of 22,000 m² / day
- › 3 semi-manual slitting machines
- › 3 robotic slitting machines
- › 1 automatic packing machine
- › 2 thermal oxidisers to burn VOCs

Hagetmau site

In 2013, HEXIS initiated the restructuring of its manufacture facilities with the commissioning of the Hagetmau site. 75 people work there, all activities combined.



The HEXIS Group operates two entirely self-contained sites. Such a configuration enables it to respond to all markets, from the most standard to the most technical.



Jean-Philippe Naud / Plant Manager

Manufacturing equipment

- › 1 blending and pigment mix workshop
- › 2 casting lines, capacity of 20,000 m² / day
- › 3 semi-manual slitting machines
- › 1 laminating unit
- › 1 thermal oxidiser to burn VOCs
- › 1 processing and packing line
- › 1 mixing and blending workshop

Projects - Planned purchases

- › 1 latest generation semi-manual slitting machine
- › Extension of the Frontignan site until 2023



Direct sales and distributor network: the winning formula

HEXIS is a family holding company that has chosen to distribute its own products directly to its BtoB customers and to market products that it does not manufacture (accessories, displays etc.).

On an international level, HEXIS distributes its own products through its eight subsidiaries, and relies on a network of distributors in some sixty countries for export. The group achieves 44% of its turnover on the domestic market and 56% internationally (subsidiaries and export). ■

› MASTERING THE PRODUCT

With its R&D laboratory and raw material sourcing department, HEXIS has the necessary reactivity and flexibility to meet the needs of its customers, from the most standard to the most demanding. Thus, the sales network can transmit requests for very specific products: industrial products, custom tinting, ICC profiles etc.

This particular feature is a real strength for the group.

› THE SALES NETWORK IN FRANCE

HEXIS sales forces span the whole of France. The mobile sales force is deployed in all departments and regions, assisted by the Sales Administration, an office-based sales force, which remotely handles commercial relationships.

› EXPORT: DISTRIBUTORS AND FRANCHISEES

HEXIS is present on all five continents. As early as the 1990s, the group focused its international development on the European market. It now has a solid network of distributors.

HEXIS then entered export markets with a strong presence in South Africa, the Middle East and the Pacific.

For the past five years, HEXIS has successfully focused its efforts on the North American continent. The development towards Asia is one of its current targets.

The group is today distributing directly through its eight subsidiaries to their domestic markets: Germany, Australia, Spain, Italy, Sweden, United States, French West Indies (French Guiana, Guadeloupe and Martinique). In early 2021 HEXIS set up a new subsidiary in Birr, Switzerland.

This distribution model makes it possible to deliver to customers of all sizes and to adapt to different markets.

HEXIS has an export sales unit at its Frontignan headquarters and field sales staff. The department is in charge of managing the network of distributors operating in over 60 countries.

› TRADITIONAL AND INDUSTRIAL MARKETS

The sales departments, backed up by the Business Development Managers, also directly manage major industrial projects and support their customers in the course of major industrial calls for tender issued by major international and global contractors.

In this respect, HEXIS has extensive know-how in the rail and rolling stock markets (railway, tramway, bus).



HEXIS | Landskrona (Sweden)

Field-focussed R&D

Each HEXIS production site operates its own laboratory. Inspection, applied development and production monitoring involve 19 employees in Frontignan and Hagetmau. HEXIS invests an average of 2.5% of its turnover in Research & Development.

In 2010 HEXIS was the regional prizewinner of the INPI Innovation Awards. In 2014 its teams received two European Digital Press Awards for the HX190WG2 cast film for digital printing and for the HFLEX100P, a PVC-free Flex film for textile marking. In 2019 HEXIS is launching a new range of films for communication on curtain-sided lorries to replace paints, thus cutting the carbon impact. ■

› PRODUCTS UNDER CONTROL

HEXIS applies strict quality control to raw materials, as well as to finished products during manufacture and at the end of the production line.

We measure:

- › colour conformity
- › elongation and force at break
- › surface roughness
- › peel
- › immediate adhesion (tack)
- › final adhesion on the substrate
- › stability over time (in an oven, QUV, Weatherometer...)

QUV and Weatherometer, accelerated ageing techniques, allow us to assess the durability of CAC media and to benchmark them against the competition. HEXIS technicians chemically analyse raw materials at the time of purchase to obtain a 0-point control, as well as those of competing products. They study the molecular structure of the products, the solvents in the inks, the nature of the pigments and the different constituents of the polymers.



Feedback from the field guides most of our research: more than 30% of new products come from "custom" development commissioned by our customers. A large part of our innovation consists of continuously improving the properties of our products and optimising their stability while respecting market constraints. Today, films are no longer simply decorative but can perform several functions: limiting microbial growth, conducting electricity, reflecting light, reducing surface adhesion. HEXIS is addressing all these challenges in its laboratories to bring new applications to our clients.



Christophe Baudrion / Laboratory Director

› THE ART OF CHEMISTRY

Research at HEXIS concentrates on innovation, improvement of product properties and environmental friendliness. The compatibility of the various interfaces is essential to achieve a stable final product. Expertise in chemistry is paramount, as a PVC film is the result of a complex formulation of ten or even fifteen different products.

Some of the major innovations of HEXIS:

- › HEX'Press technology facilitates the application of self-adhesive films on a substrate by means of an air bubble evacuation system (2006)
- › The casting process allows to obtain an extremely conformable and ultra-thin PVC film (30 to 80 µm). Winning new shares of the global market for self-adhesive media for full wraps (2006)
- › PURE ZONE® antimicrobial film combats bacterial growth (2008) and helps inactivate SARS-CoV-2 (2021)
- › The Cutflex for CAC and Printflex printable film ranges are intended for textile marking (2010)
- › The self-healing BODYFENCE range, which protects vehicle paintwork in a wide range of different climates around the world (desert, tropical etc.)
- › HEXIS is constantly innovating, particularly in the industrial sector (rail): film installation time, surface protection properties

From client culture to training

Client culture is one of the founding values of HEXIS. In fact, the service relating to the use of the products is part of the "HEXIS quality". HEXIS has always supported its customers in the choice of products, printing and installation of its adhesive materials. This includes the training of HEXIS-certified installers. ■

› TOGETHER TO MAKE A GOOD IMPACT

The development of digital printing has prompted HEXIS to share the expertise of its employees in this field with its clients. The company has created a Printing Division to help its customers optimise the printing of its media. It also participates in their development in conjunction with the laboratories, in quality control and in after-sales service.

In parallel, the Printing Division keeps a constant watch on technology. As a partner of manufacturers of printers, RIPs and laminators, it is able to upgrade its products in line with market technologies.

HEXIS puts more than 2,500 ICC profiles at the disposal of its clients.



› WHO BETTER THAN HEXIS TO TRAIN YOU TO INSTALL SELF-ADHESIVE FILMS?

The Application Division at HEXIS participates in the development and testing of products over time and provides training to the group's clients.

HEXIS trains between 400 and 450 installers per year in its two training centres in Frontignan and Lille. HEXIS is the only manufacturer to provide its own training courses, whereas its competitors use subcontractors.

In France, the centre has five trainers and manages certified installers in all the countries where the group is established.

It delivers around ten training courses:

- › Full wrap: basic, introductory, advanced
- › The ABC of self-adhesive film: signage
- › BODYFENCE vehicle protection film: basic, advanced
- › Automotive solar protection film: basic, advanced
- › Window graphics
- › HEX'PERIENCE: interior decoration
- › Digital imaging: basic, optimisation
- › PURE ZONE® antimicrobial protection film
- › Racing Optics

HEXIS offers three categories of "HEXIS certified installer" certification: Sign, Wrap and BODYFENCE.



A strong CSR policy

HEXIS has incorporated many of the values of sustainable development into its operations since its beginnings. Its Quality Health Safety Environment (QHSE) and Human Resources departments are particularly involved in their practical implementation at all the group's French sites. This synergy is crucial for a company in constant evolution. ■

➤ HEXIS ISO 9001:2015 AND ISO 14001:2015 APPROVAL

Since 2005 the company has been developing its strategy around a quality management system for the design, manufacture, distribution and marketing of visual communication media and protective films at all its sites.

In July 2020 HEXIS also obtained ISO 14001 approval, enabling it to structure its environmental initiatives through a certified management system that is recognised worldwide. The environmental analysis and the Life Cycle Analysis of its products are the foundations of the strategy for sustainable development.



➤ HEXIS KEEPS AN EYE ON ITS IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT

HEXIS complies with ICPE (Installations Classified for the Protection of the Environment) regulations. As such, the company is equipped with three thermal oxidisers to treat Volatile Organic Compounds at the discharge of the coating lines and the liquid solution preparation facilities. Their operation in tandem ensures safe manufacture. In 10 years, all of these commitments have enabled us to considerably reduce our environmental footprint, characterised by a significant reduction in atmospheric emissions from 271 tonnes of VOCs in 2015 to 39 tonnes of VOCs in 2018. The objective for the coming years is to sustain this performance.

Mindful of the need to preserve the environment, the HEXIS Group is committed on a daily basis to reducing waste, optimising its energy consumption and continually strives to reduce its environmental footprint to a minimum. At the same time, and still in the framework of controlling atmospheric emissions, HEXIS is a member of ATMO OCCITANIE.

➤ COMMITMENT TO CSR AT THE HEART OF THE HEXIS POLICY

In 2021 the HEXIS Group aims to reassert its CSR approach. In this framework, HEXIS has commissioned Bureau VERITAS to carry out a "3 scopes" carbon audit to obtain factual data on the carbon emissions of its processes and associated products.

In the same vein, HEXIS has launched an evaluation of its CSR policy through ECOVADIS. All of this work is scheduled to be delivered by the end of the third quarter. Nevertheless, a good number of CSR measures have already been put in place by HEXIS.

➤ HEXIS IS GROWING WHILE UPHOLDING ITS HUMAN VALUES

Integration and social cohesion policy at HEXIS is implemented in particular through:

- non-discrimination in recruitment
- the recruitment of people with difficulties
- cooperation with Assisted Workshop Centres, sponsorship of disabled sports and humanitarian aid
- a local employment policy, without relocation abroad
- staff training, information and incentive schemes

In December 2017 HEXIS organised its first Open Forum, an initiative open to all employees to co-construct future projects.

➤ HEXIS DEPLOYS A CONTINGENCY PLAN

In the context of the continuous operation of its activities, HEXIS has opted for the implementation of a BCP or Business Continuity Plan. This line guide allows us to improve our reactivity in order to face major risk scenarios by implementing clear, simple and effective action levers. Thus HEXIS ensures the sustainability of its industrial and service activities by means of the BCP.

They wrap with HEXIS media

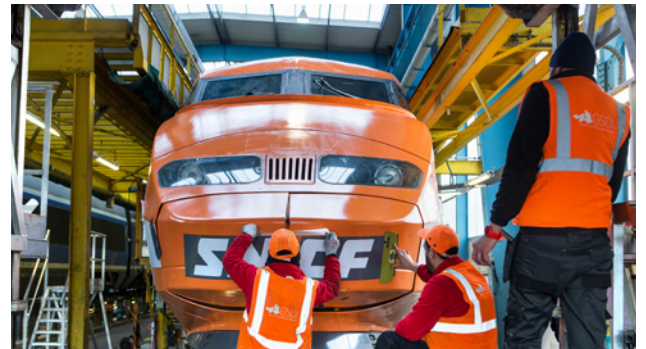
HEXIS products are approved by major accounts in France and abroad, notably in the rail sector with the French railway company SNCF and Paris underground RATP (polymeric or cast film and anti-graffiti, with GSDI Paris), or the London Underground (100% of the market with polymeric film and anti-graffiti properties).

In the aviation industry HEXIS is working with Airbus: Airbus A380 (polyester films for technical markings, with DISATECH) and Airbus Helicopter (latex films for technical markings, with Oxy-Signalétique).

As an expert in the automotive sphere, HEXIS in January 2021 signed a second technical partnership with the French Formula 1 team Alpine F1 Team® to produce the signage for their Enstone site in the United Kingdom as well as for the prestigious F1 factory in Viry-Châtillon in France. ■

› DECORATION AND ARTISTIC EXPRESSION

HEXIS also works with designers and architects on large-scale projects. Thus Philippe Schleret used CRISTAL and V202CG1 films for digital printing to create a huge pixel mural in the Ravenstein Gallery in Brussels.



PRESS CONTACT

Camille Mosler

Tel. +33 4 48 17 51 67

E-mail: contact.presse@hexis.fr



HEXIS S.A.S.

Z.I. Horizons Sud
CS 970003
F-34118 FRONTIGNAN CEDEX
FRANCE

Tel. +33 4 67 18 66 86



S.A.S AU CAPITAL DE 10 000 000 €
R.C.S. MONTPELLIER 351 372 677
VAT FR 31 351 372 677 - APE 2229 B



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