

BienVEnu : An innovative Smart City project to encourage deployment of electric vehicles (EV) in collective housing

Paris, France – Thursday, October 22nd, 2015 – Project BienVEnu for EV charging in collective housing was launched today by project coordinator ERDF and seven partners, including CentraleSupélec, G2Mobility, MOPeasy, Nexans, Park’N’Plug, Tetragora, and Trialog. BienVEnu provides an innovative electric mobility solution for collective housing managers and residents who want to take part in the energy transition to low-carbon vehicles.

With 65,000 electric vehicles (EV) currently on the road in France and anticipated to rise to 500,000 by 2020, the charging issue has become the top priority. Residential housing is potentially one of the main locations for EV charging, however existing users struggle to find charging stations in urban areas. Supported by ADEME (French Agency for Environment and Energy Control) under the “Investments for the Future” program and by the Ile de France Region, BienVEnu aims to meet these challenges through a simple “all-inclusive” offering, designed to meet the needs of collective housing managers and residents in the Smart City.

Based in the Ile de France region, the three-year project has a 10 million euros budget. Charging facilities will be deployed in three “pilot” buildings during the first year, then seven more during the second year, both in private and socially owned collective housing. Initially, about 10 charging stations will be installed in each building. The project is designed around “charging clusters”. These provide an open-ended system that groups several charging stations together and can easily be expanded. This solution also limits the impact on both the local electricity distribution grid and the building’s power load, thus providing a cost reduction opportunity for the community.

In order to promote electric mobility, especially collaborative mobility, BienVEnu also offers a car sharing and pooling service specific to this project. In each building, two cars will be made available for the use of residents. This offer will be integrated with a global business model that will also be tested as part of the project.

A psycho-sociological study will also be conducted among residents throughout the project – covering both participants and non-participants. It will be used to analyze behavior and usage patterns, particularly depending on the layout of buildings, but also to identify any obstacles. This research will facilitate the sharing of feedback at the end of the project.

Property owners and managers are all welcome to contribute to the Smart City! To offer your participation or find out more, please contact the project coordinator.
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