The Welcome Office

More than 1,400 people have already benefited from its services since 2006. The Welcome Office (Agence ITER France) is in charge of welcoming the ITER staff and offering personalized services: an interface with French authorities for administrative procedures, housing and accommodation solutions, transport. It has also gained extensive experience in international exchanges. Companies can benefit from this solid experience working closely with the various welcome centers located in Provence.

The Research, Industry and Training Triangle

A new program has been created to strengthen the links between research, industry and training. The\n\nEFDA - European Fusion Development Agreement - is launching the EFDA professional development program for future fusion engineers with strong technical expertise coupled with skills on fusion technologies. The program offers them a 6-month internship to an assigned company. It provides an opportunity for doctoral students and engineers. Having 3 to 5 years of professional experience, they will be able to transfer their skills from national research centers to the private sector.

What is the role of the state?

We are in charge of creating a regional office in terms of welfare, employment, housing and training of new workers. We have to ensure that a large number of workers can find a job and that the labor market is sustainable. In the case of ITER, we are trying to create a situation where workers can find a job and that the labor market is sustainable.

One stop shop for employment?

One stop shop for employment is a place where companies can come and find potential employees. There is a lot of talk about this subject and it is important to have a clear idea of what it means. Companies need to be able to find the right person for the job.

Questions for Auguste Parant

PREFET OF BOUCHES-DU-RHÔNE AND PRESIDENT OF ALPES-CÔTE D’AZUR REGION

In 2007, the Prime Minister instructed the Prefect of the Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur region to reinforce the ITER project in the best possible conditions, welcome the project, listen with all the actors and create partnerships with local communities.

How important is ITER for the region?

Along with the CEA research center, ITER is a center of primary importance in the development of the region and is a great accelerator of talent, innovation, economic opportunities and jobs. This is a solid anchorage point for employment, training and research in a region where a large number of people live and work. It also means that companies can benefit from this solid experience working closely with the various welcome centers located in Provence.

Industrial Opportunities: Advantages of Networking

The French ITER Industrial Committee (CII) is the cornerstone of a vast network aiming to prepare industry to deliver high-quality offers for the ITER project. More than 4 billion-euro engineering and works contracts are generated by the creation of ITER each year to come.

The tip of the iceberg

The tip of the iceberg can be seen in the organization of business meetings such as the ITER Business Forum, which are an opportunity to make contact during the thematic workshops or the business meetings, thus allowing industries to identify potential partners or form consortia and respond to calls for tender. This is why, after these meetings, we need to be able to find the right person for the job.

Regions industries meet the ITER challenge

The ITER Business Forum is a two-day event bringing together more than 1,400 participants in 2013. More than 1,400 participants are expected to attend the ITER Business Forum. "The tip of the iceberg" can be seen in the organization of business meetings such as the ITER Business Forum, which are an opportunity to make contact during the thematic workshops or the business meetings, thus allowing industries to identify potential partners or form consortia and respond to calls for tender. This is why, after these meetings, we need to be able to find the right person for the job.
Regional industries meet the ITER challenge

Companies such as CNIM, Bertin Technologies, Comex Nucléaire, Thales and EADS Astrium, are developing International partnerships to ensure the success of the ITER project.

The Tore Supra facility at Cadarache (CEF) was also provided with heating sources made in Veyle, in the Paris suburb and in Thonon. To design and implement these systems, it is necessary to use specific technologies and industrial resources as for the assembly of materials with very different mechanical and thermal properties: highly pure copper associated with synthetic diamond or sapphire enabled the creation of the microwave windows of Tore Supra's gyrotrons. To be developed and mastered industrially, these technologies need suit, mature technological experience and unique knowledge in the fields of thermomechanics, metallurgy, chemistry and radio frequencies.

During the experiments, the heart of the machine is under high surveillance. The question is: How should we work in the extreme conditions necessary to achieve the fusion reaction? The company Bertin Technologies is a subsidiary of CNIM and currently working on the issue within the ITER team. "Specializing in the field of metrology of measurements and controls, we provide technical support for ITER within the diagnostic division, especially for the production of the windows and the development of glass capable of withstanding the conditions at the heart of the tokamak", said Jean-Baptiste Haumonté, sales manager of the Aix-en-Provence branch with a hundred employees. This company also works on facilities such as the Laser Megajoule in Aquitaine and in the fields of defense and space in Toulouse.

Local skills and international partnerships

The company Thales Electron Devices (TED), with nearly 2,000 employees in the region, signed a contract with these million-euro with ITER India in 2009. It is for the realization of a first demonstrator of ITER's ion cyclotron resonance heating system on the frequency (35 to 40 GHz) on a CERN system to be manufactured in Thonon-les-Bains, which will be used to test the ITER's systems. This equipment is manufactured in Guangdong, China. Thales is currently charged with the purchasing of the local components and the final assembly. The company believes it will have to be made as a subcontractor of the ITER project. "For the first time, China is a member of the ITER project, and we are proud to be part of it. We are very pleased with the job we have done. We have been working on this project for several months, and we are confident in our ability to meet the deadlines", said Pierre Ruibanys, general manager of Thales electron Devices.

Work For SMEs Too

Of the contracts awarded by F4E, too, nearly 10% have benefited small and medium-sized companies (not including R&D contracts). A wide range of skills and expertise are needed to achieve the ITER project in Cadarache. With ITER International as well as local SMEs find many opportunities to promote their skills. The construction of the ITER headquarters buildings, the Lolou-Craven Provence-Aix consortium, under the project management of Agence Iter France, created work for fifteen medium-sized subcontractors.

Many engineering companies have been working alongside ITER since 2008. Domestic agencies that will deliver the components now being manufactured will require support during the assembly phase of the machine. This is shared by the CINES, Provence company, based in Marseille, they believe that this perspective will most probably arise at the machine assembly and at the high-tech and industrial equipment."