



# Press release

Nanterre, 11 May 2009

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## *Corporate volunteering: ECS continues its partnership with Passerelles numériques and its education project, CIST*

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**In 2009, ECS continued to support the charity *Passerelles numériques*, by taking part in another corporate volunteering project and sponsoring a class of 25 students.**

ECS Group's commitment to sustainable development is an integral part of the corporate culture, and perfectly in line with its three key values: professionalism, team spirit and innovation. Since 2006, ECS has been involved in various education projects for underprivileged young people by supporting Passerelles Numériques ("Digital Bridges"), a charity dedicated to helping provide education and training for young people from disadvantaged backgrounds.

In 2005, Passerelles Numériques set up CIST (Center for Information Systems Training) in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The college provides IT training for secondary school graduates from poor backgrounds, thereby offering them the opportunity to obtain qualified jobs and escape the poverty into which they were born.

### **Corporate Volunteering**

ECS offers its employees the opportunity to take part in a corporate volunteering programme with the charity, whereby they spend a few weeks of their holiday time teaching at CIST with travel and accommodation expenses paid by ECS. In addition to the valuable contribution employees can make to the college by offering them the benefit of their expertise, the programme is also an extremely rewarding experience for volunteers. To date, 6 ECS engineers and technicians have helped improve the college's IT infrastructure, and this summer, 4 new volunteers will be going to Cambodia to train the team in charge of finding work placements for CIST graduates with local businesses.

Says Véronique di Benedetto, Managing Director of ECS: *"We have wanted to involve our employees in the project from its inception. The programme is a great way of motivating staff and strengthening team spirit. It is also a source of great pride for the people who take part."*

## Sponsoring a new class of 25 students

The first “Class of ECS” graduated with flying colours a few months ago and other students are being sponsored by ECS until they graduate in 2010.

*“ECS has always been involved in various sustainable patronage projects in the arts and education,” explains Véronique di Benedetto. “In the current economic climate, where pessimism and uncertainty prevail, we at ECS feel that solidarity is important: today’s companies must be socially responsible and committed to promoting well-being. Patronage and corporate volunteering are vital for us as they are a way of fostering, promoting and sharing the Group’s values.”*

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## About ECS

A wholly-owned subsidiary of Société Générale Group, ECS is the European leader in IT infrastructure management.

ECS offers ongoing support to help its clients achieve optimal availability, flexibility and control of their IT resources, thereby enhancing their company’s market competitiveness and profitability. With its expertise in IT leasing and distributed and centralised infrastructure services, ECS can offer companies an end-to-end solution that is tailored to their requirements:

**Value-add leasing services:**

- Flexible budget management solutions tailored to the company’s technological environment
- Administrative and logistical management services – tracking of leased assets and budget allocation
- Expertise in structured leasing solutions and off-balance-sheet financing

**Services IT:**

- Business Continuity for IT assets and related services
- Selective outsourcing of centralised or distributed infrastructures s.
- Expertise in designing and implementing high availability, security, consolidation and virtualisation solutions

### ECS: key figures

+ 35 years’ experience  
€ 1.9 billion turnover  
1,600 employees, including 600 IT service staff  
65 offices in 16 countries  
12,000 clients  
1,000,000 PCs leased  
32,000 servers under maintenance

For more information: [www.ecs-group.com](http://www.ecs-group.com)

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### Press contacts:

#### ECS – Communications Department

Suzy Daninthe  
+33 141 673 083 [suzy.daninthe@ecs-Group.com](mailto:suzy.daninthe@ecs-Group.com)