Press release - 26 June, 2020



## The French National Institute of Intellectual Property (INPI) once again honours SuperGrid Institute in its patent applications rankings

26<sup>th</sup> of June 2020 – The French National Institute of Intellectual Property (INPI) publishes its 2019 patent applications rankings

For the second year running, SuperGrid Institute appeared on the French patent applications podium, in the SME category, highlighting its expertise and its dynamic approach to Research and Development.

SuperGrid Institute reinforced its strong performance in 2018 by **achieving second place in the 2019 INPI French patent application rankings** in the SME category. The Institute for Energy Transition (ITE) based in Villeurbanne, which already boasts **72 patent families**, filed **15 new applications in 2019**, 10 of which resulted from collaboration between research and industry. This also places SuperGrid Institute amongst the Top 10 entities to file joint patent applications with research bodies, higher education establishments and government institutions.

In addition to this new recognition from the INPI, which serves as proof of the excellence inherent in the research conducted by ITE and its teams, Carole Guillaumin, SuperGrid Institute's Valorisation and Intellectual Property Director, emphasised the changing focus of the institute's patent application strategy. "Now, when we file a patent application, we don't just look at the technological innovation. We also take into account all the opportunities for exploitation and promotion that may be connected with the patent. Every time we file a new patent, we define how we are going to create value from it and how we are going to use it to reach the market."

The rankings were officially declared just a few days after SuperGrid Institute published its first annual report (download available here: <u>https://bit.ly/2V7LqtN</u>), in which the ITE discussed the development of its main research programmes, its increasing focus on market needs, and the many highlights of the 2019 financial year. The INPI rankings testify to the company's energy and drive as well as its capacity to support le development of French industry. This ability was recognised and further strengthened by the French government's announcement on Thursday the 4<sup>th</sup> of June, stating that it was to invest an additional €450 M in France's Technological Research Institutes and Energy Transition Institutes, as part of its economic recovery plan. "This means an extra €3 M for us over the 2021 / 2023 period," explained Hubert de la Grandière, who sees this decision as renewed proof of the government's confidence in SuperGrid Institute.

## **ABOUT SUPERGRID INSTITUTE:**

SuperGrid Institute was created in 2014 by a consortium of fourteen shareholders from the electrical industry in France (industrialists, institutional players and research & academic organisations). As a centre for research, testing and consulting services relating to technologies for future electricity transmission networks, SuperGrid Institute obtained financial support from the French government's "Investments for the future" programme, the Auvergne Rhône-Alps region and Greater Lyon. A collaborative research platform that counts 174 people from 28 different countries as part of its team, SuperGrid Institute brings together the complementary skills of academic researchers and engineers from the world of industry. Their work revolves principally around high-voltage direct current and the large-scale integration of renewable energy in order to ensure the stability and security of tomorrow's electricity network.

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