

## PRESS RELEASE

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### HERMÈS CONTINUES TO INVEST IN ITS PRODUCTION CAPACITY, LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE FOR THE MAROQUINERIE DE LOUVIERS (NORMANDY, FRANCE) ULTIMATELY CREATING 250 JOBS

**Opening in 2022, this new manufacture, Hermès' twentieth leather goods workshop, will ultimately employ 250 artisans trained in the house's exceptional know-how.**

The Maroquinerie de Louviers will be the second site of Hermès' Leather Goods & Saddlery division in Normandy, following the inauguration of a leather goods workshop in Val-de-Reuil in 2017. Hermès thus reaffirms its anchor in Normandy, leveraging local partnerships with the Louviers employment agency (Pôle emploi) for recruiting new artisans, and with the Greta (Group of state educational institutions), the Augustin Boismard high school (Eure) and the Haras national du Pin (Orne) for their training.

The close proximity of the two Normandy manufactures promotes the sharing of the saddler-leatherworker's métier culture and the acquisition of the unique Hermès know-how needed to make bags and objects in leather. The site will also house a saddlery and bridle-making workshop that will complement the existing equestrian activity at 24, rue du Faubourg Saint-Honoré in Paris.

Redeveloping an industrial brownfield site near the city centre, the architectural project for the Louviers leather goods workshop is in line with the Hermès group's environmental ambitions. A positive-energy building – producing more energy than it consumes – this brick and wood construction designed by French-Lebanese architect Lina Ghotmeh will benefit from a triple sawtooth roof providing the natural, uniform light that is essential for the artisans' work. To preserve the site's biodiversity, most of the trees will be retained for the gardens and more will be planted. Belgian landscape architect Erik Dhont contributed to the project with his techniques for capturing and redirecting water.

Since 2010, Hermès has opened nine leather goods workshops and recruited more than 2,500 artisans, bringing the number of saddler-leatherworkers to more than 3,800.

The Maroquinerie de Guyenne (Gironde) and the Maroquinerie de Montereau (Seine-et-Marne) will be inaugurated in 2021, and a new manufacture is scheduled to open in the Ardennes in 2023. All Hermès' leather goods and saddlery production sites are located in France.

Since 1837, Hermès has remained faithful to its artisan model and its humanist values. The freedom to create, the constant search for beautiful materials, the transmission of savoir-faire of excellence, and the aesthetic of functionality all forge the singularity of Hermès, a house of objects created to last. An independent, family owned company, Hermès is dedicated to keeping the majority of its production in France through its 43 workshops and to developing its network of 311 stores in 45 countries. The group employs more than 15,600 people worldwide, including more than 9,700 in France, among whom nearly 5,250 are craftsmen\*.

Axel Dumas, a sixth-generation family member, has been Hermès CEO since 2013. Founded in 2008, the Fondation d'entreprise Hermès supports projects in the areas of artistic creation, training and the transmission of savoir-faire, biodiversity, and the preservation of the environment.

*\* As of 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020*

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