

Press Release

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GRTgaz launches a third cohort for its Nova incubator, to accelerate development of three new start-ups

As part of its third call for applications, a GRTgaz panel has selected three start-ups involved in the energy transition: LC-Engineering, Octométha and Rift. They will receive a year's worth of support at the Nova incubator based at GRTgaz's RICE research centre in Villeneuve la Garenne (Paris region).

Committed to an industrial, technological and digital transformation, GRTgaz has announced a new call for applications to join Nova – an incubator set up to help innovative start-ups engaged in the industrial, energy and ecological transition grow their business, while at the same time creating synergies with the gas industry.

Three winners, all with different profiles and offering varied areas of expertise, have been selected:

- **LC-Engineering** (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/laurent-cordier-engineering/>) has developed a solution for measuring hydrogen (H₂) and carbon dioxide (CO₂) and determining the GCV (Gross Calorific Value) of H₂ at a lower cost while using AI to determine the physical properties of gases. LC-Engineering has developed advanced technology for analysing and measuring the quality of CO₂ and H₂, harnessing high-performance AI tools to deliver accurate and reliable results.
- **Octométha** (<https://www.octometha.com/>) specialises in the design and manufacture of agricultural methanisation solutions and has developed a new technology, for producing green energy from organic farm waste. Octométha develops next-generation methanisation units that do not contain any mechanical moving parts, making them more reliable and easy to use. The company's innovative digesters are designed to be used on farms of all sizes, thereby meeting the sector's varied needs.
- **Rift** (<https://rift.aero/>) is France's first manufacturer of fully remote-controlled long-range drones. The company provides aerial image capture services on request, either on-the-fly or scheduled, without the need for an operative on site. Rift has a complete range of drones embedded with cutting-edge technology which enables them to cover significantly greater distances than traditional drones, allowing them to reach remote or hard-to-access areas.

The start-ups in this cohort will receive access to co-working areas at GRTgaz's premises. They will also enjoy the support of its RICE research and innovation centre, including access to testing areas and input from researchers. Furthermore, the Nova incubator will provide the start-ups with bespoke technical, methodological and entrepreneurial support (market studies, economic studies, expertise on intellectual property, introduction to investment funds, etc.).

GRTgaz is continually looking for innovative solutions to improve its performance and help decarbonise energy. The Nova incubator is an opportunity for the company to find start-ups that can contribute to meeting these goals. They will be able to run experiments, draw on GRTgaz's expertise and capitalise on synergies fostered with other members of the cohort.

Further practical information on the call for applications, details of the incubation process and actions carried out, as well as testimonials from previous incubated start-ups are available here:

<https://open-inno.grtgaz.com/incubateur-nova/>

About RICE:

RICE – GRTgaz's Research & Innovation Centre for Energy. [RICE](#) is a leading centre for global expertise. It conducts dedicated R&D across the whole gas supply chain to help facilitate the energy transition for operators working in the sector, manufacturers and other international research bodies, such as the Pipeline Research Council International (PRCI) and the European Gas Research Group (GERG). The multidisciplinary expertise of RICE's 100 experts (technicians, engineers, researchers, etc.) and the research and testing facilities they have are prime assets for supporting the development of renewable gases (testing, sampling, gas quality analysis, technical adaptation of equipment, etc.).

GRTgaz is France's primary gas transmission system operator and the second biggest in Europe. The Group has two subsidiaries: Elengy – the European leader in LNG terminals, and GRTgaz Deutschland, which operates the MEGAL network. In line with its mission statement – “Together, we enable an energy future that is safe, affordable and climate neutral” – GRTgaz has a public service mission, ensuring the safety of gas transmission for its 865 clients (biomethane producers, shippers, industrial companies, electricity power plants and distributors). GRTgaz is committed to achieving net zero and is adapting its network to new ecological and digital challenges; it supports the development of low-carbon hydrogen and renewable gas sectors (biomethane and gas from solid and liquid waste). It also transports waste CO₂ for the purposes of decarbonising the industrial sector. Key figures: 32,600 km of pipes, 625 TWh of gas transported, 3300 employees, €2.1 billion in turnover generated in 2023 (€2.6 billion at Group level).

Find out more at: <https://www.grtgaz.com/>, [X](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#).

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