PRESS RELEASE

THE FLEXBRICK® CERAMIC FABRIC ON THE NEW DIALYSIS CENTER IN TOULOUSE, FRANCE

- **The Flexbrick® building system filters natural light inside and absorbs some of the sun's heat, thus contributing to the building's sustainability.**

- **The building was designed by the architectural office of French architect Pierre Fernández.**

Barcelona, March 6, 2019. In Saint-Jean (Toulouse, France) the new *Centre de Dialyse de l'Union* has been built, which rounds off the medical services of the General Health Cluster in the northeastern part of Toulouse, where more than 70,000 patients a year are being seen. Therefore, the creation of a Medical Dialysis and Nephrology Unit in the Union results from a historical collaboration between the medical teams at the Union Clinic and those at Saint Exupéry.

The investment amounts to 3 million euros and includes 18 hemodialysis stations with medical assistance covering 650 m^2. The new center has been equipped with the latest technological advances, such as telemedicine, hence allowing specialists based at Saint-Exupéry to proceed via a live video channel.

The architectural office of French architect Pierre Fernández has been responsible for the project design. The architect has relied on the Flexbrick® system to provide the building with a modern and light touch by creating facades of white terracotta ceramic board meshes, which filter natural light inside and absorb part of solar radiation, thus contributing to the building's sustainability.

During the inauguration of the center, the general manager of the Saint-Exupéry Nephrology Clinic, Vincent Lacombe, mentioned that *"we wanted a wide and clear place that meets the needs of patients".*

For this project, the Flexbrick® fastening to the expressive perimeter metal structure has been carried out by means of a series of special pieces in the form of a bushing with

self-drilling fastening, in order to set out the building envelope outside of the planned maintenance walkway. In addition, signage lighting with the name of the center has been integrated into the facade. A new example of the ceramic fabric's versatility and adaptability to each project feature.

Technical data of the Centre de Dialyse de l'Union in Toulouse, France

Facade surface: 622 m^2
Number of sheets: 187
Average sheet length: 3.40 m
Size of the ceramic boards: 25 x 10 x 0.3 cm
Fabric openwork: 50%
Ceramic piece material: white terracotta
Mesh and façade support material: AISI 316 stainless steel
Project completion time: 21 days
Architect: Pierre Fernández
Developer: SATI

Flexbrick® innovates and updates the use of fired clay as a building material and offers endless architectural possibilities for dry-assembly coating systems. It can be customized with multiple design options, a large variety of materials (glass, wood, etc.) and color ranges, which makes it suitable for any project. In addition, its structure allows for large surfaces to be created with great accuracy in 10 times less time than traditional construction on a piece-by-piece basis. Another aspect to be highlighted about this building fabric is that of protecting buildings from solar radiation, thus significantly reducing energy expenditure.

This fabric was presented in 2011 and has been used successfully by large architectural firms, which can customize its design according to each project need. Among the architectural firms using Flexbrick® in some of their projects, the following should be noted: Archikubik, Blur Arquitectura, Michèle&Miquel, Pich Architects, PMMT, TDB Arquitectura and LG Arquitectos, Manel Ruisánchez and Francesc Bacardit, Barceló-Balanzó, Vicenç Sarrablo & Jaume Colom and Roviras-Castelao Arquitectos, Atelier Galante, Buun and Motto, Årstiderne Arkitekter among others.

For more information: www.flexbrick.net