



June 11, 2020 – 2:00pm



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French Agency for the Safety of Health Products authorizes the start of clinical trials of the MakAir ventilator produced by Groupe SEB

On June 9, 2020, the French Agency for the Safety of Health Products (*Agence nationale de sécurité du médicament et des produits de santé* [ANSM]) authorized the start of clinical trials of the MakAir ventilator, which is specifically designed to treat COVID-19-related respiratory distress. It was developed by a French team of contributors, “Makers for life”, in partnership with the French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission (*Commissariat à l’énergie atomique et aux énergies alternatives* [CEA]) and the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region. Groupe SEB has been involved in the initiative from the very beginning, and is preparing for its wide-scale production.

Clinical trials of the MakAir ventilator are set to begin shortly at hospitals in Nantes and Brest, headed up by Nantes University Hospital (*Centre hospitalier universitaire de Nantes* [CHU]), the test promoter.

A project supported by the CEA and the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region

At the outset of this project, Makers for Life worked closely with the CEA’s technology research unit, who gave access to its innovation center, expert teams and technology platforms to develop the first prototypes. The CEA also secured supplier funding in order to get the project off the ground more quickly. The Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region then took on most of the funding, under the leadership of its president Laurent Wauquiez. On April 22, the Region announced that it would also take on the role of manufacturer, before handing it over to Groupe SEB.

A low-cost ventilator that can be used worldwide

Groupe SEB will be responsible for the production of the MakAir ventilator, and several hundred pre-series have already been produced in one of its French plants since April. The Group’s production capacities will allow them to offer the MakAir ventilator not only to hospitals across France, but also internationally, as it is more cost-effective than a traditional ventilator.

This project received the support of numerous companies in the manufacturing sector (STMicroelectronics, HP France, Parrot, Tronico, Renault, Michelin, Legrand, Diabeloop, among others), healthcare institutions, universities (notably Nantes university), and local authorities.



Press Release

Next key dates

July 23 | before market opens

H1 2020 sales and results

October 26 | after market closes

9-month 2020 sales and financial data

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