

## Data4 confirms its largest data center project in the North of France

***With the support of the local administration La Communauté d'Agglomération de La Porte du Hainaut, in the Hauts-de-France region, the French group and European leader will invest five billion euros to transform an industrial brownfield site in the city of Escaudain into a data center campus dedicated to the development of artificial intelligence.***



*Mock-up of the new Data4 campus in Escaudain – DC01 view*

[Data4](#), French and European leader in the data center market, confirms the launch of its new data center campus project in the city of Escaudain, in the Hauts-de-France region, located in Northern France. Five billion euros will be invested to transform the industrial brownfield site called “Parc des Soufflantes” into an innovative technology campus which, once completed, will create 2,400 permanent jobs in the region.

The group announced at the end of 2025 that it had been selected by the local administration La Communauté d'Agglomération de La Porte du Hainaut as the exclusive partner to rehabilitate the former Usinor factory site. Six months later, feasibility studies conducted by the stakeholders confirm that all conditions are met to make the Hauts-de-France a host region for the digital world of tomorrow, extending the Paris area, and forming what is now called the “AI Valley.”

### **Data4, the French champion serving European sovereignty**

At a time when most Europeans’ data is stored outside the continent, developing data center campuses on European soil is essential to support the growth of digital usage, the explosion of artificial intelligence, and to ensure Europe’s strategic autonomy in the digital sector.

By making the rehabilitation of industrial brownfields a priority, Data4 had already transformed former Alcatel (PAR01 campus) and Nokia (PAR03 campus) factories near Paris into one of Europe’s largest 500 MW data center hubs. The upcoming Escaudain campus, **with a capacity of 700 MW** over 33 hectares, is now Data4’s largest

project in France. It will strengthen the group's presence in a region at the heart of Europe, at the crossroads of data exchanges with other continents, anchoring Europe firmly into the global technological race.

*"We are delighted to bring our project to life in the Hauts-de-France region, a highly strategic area and a major connectivity and communication hub for Europe," says **Olivier Micheli, President & CEO of Data4**. "With the support of national and regional authorities and La Communauté d'Agglomération de La Porte du Hainaut, we will be able to revitalize this territory through the digital industry and build the sovereign, sustainable, and competitive infrastructures that France and Europe so urgently need."*

*"With this major data center campus project dedicated to artificial intelligence, we aim to erase the last remnants of an industrial era and open a new, more technological chapter. We will support this transformation so that our residents can benefit from these job opportunities and new prospects, including in professions that rely on these new technologies, such as healthcare, services, or security. This is about shaping a region and its people for the jobs of tomorrow," declares **Aymeric Robin, Mayor of Raismes and President of La Communauté d'Agglomération de La Porte du Hainaut**. "This win-win collaboration addresses the challenges of modernity, security, and the development of a new era that will create wealth for our community."*

Data4, which celebrates this year its 20 years of expertise and the successful development of a platform of 10 campuses in six European countries, plans to invest more than 20 billion euros by 2030 to expand its campuses in Europe, including five billion dedicated to the Escaudain site.

The site benefited from the "fast track" procedure launched last year by the French government and RTE (France's Electricity Transmission System Operator) to identify "ready-to-use" locations and facilitate the installation of data centers, in line with national ambitions for innovation and artificial intelligence.

Additional studies and preliminary construction work will take place over the next 12 months. Four next-generation data centers will be built to expand the campus in the coming years. The building design incorporates the latest environmental innovations, such as the use of low-carbon concrete and the recycling of residual heat emitted by servers, helping to reduce the environmental footprint.

### **The North of France: a connectivity crossroad and heart of Europe's digital future**

The Hauts-de-France region, located at the intersection of the four major FLAP markets (Frankfurt, London, Amsterdam, Paris), is a large employment pool and benefits from reliable, decarbonized, and available energy to support the rapid development of data centers. By establishing itself there, Data4 aims to contribute to the region's industrial renewal and influence, turning it into a new hub dedicated to cloud and AI.

With a strong ambition to generate a positive impact across all the regions where it operates, Data4 strengthens its focus on sustainability and innovation, aiming to build a future-driven ecosystem that creates jobs and benefits all. As part of this effort, Data4 will build on its Escaudain campus a new center of excellence and innovation called "Data4 Pour Tous," designed to make the site a hub for training, research, and entrepreneurship in collaboration with local schools, institutions, and associations.





*Mock-up of the new Data4 campus in Escaudain – Aerial view*

#### **About Data4**

*Created in France, Data4 is a European leader in the data center market. With over 20 years of expertise, the group finances, designs, builds and operates its own data centers to support companies' digital growth, as well as the development of cloud computing and artificial intelligence. As a pioneer of an ultra-connected, resilient and sustainable data center campus model, Data4 offers secure and scalable solutions, from a single rack to a custom-built building.*

*Data4 runs some of Europe's most powerful data center campuses in France, Italy, Spain, Germany, Poland and Greece, enabling it to meet large-scale digital needs while actively supporting local communities and reducing its environmental footprint through its Data4Good program.*

*For more information: [www.data4group.com/en/](http://www.data4group.com/en/)*

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#### **About La Communauté d'Agglomération de La Porte du Hainaut**

*La Communauté d'Agglomération de La Porte du Hainaut brings together 47 municipalities in the heart of Northern France. Drawing strength from its industrial heritage and committed to a forward-looking strategy, it is pursuing a clear vision for 2044: investing in health, well-being, and the personal development of its population. By combining economic transformation (notably through digital innovation) with human development, the agglomeration is working to sustainably reshape its territory and ensure a high quality of life for its residents. Aymeric Robin, Mayor of Raismes, has served as President of the agglomeration since 2020.*

*For more information: <https://www.agglo-porteduhainaut.fr/>*

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