



Press release
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Strategic partnership with Qarnot computing : the Casino Group pushes ahead with its asset monetisation strategy by installing data centres in its warehouses and storerooms

The Casino Group is pushing ahead with its asset monetisation strategy by forming a strategic partnership with Qarnot computing, covering the installation and operation of new-generation data centres in the Group's warehouses and storerooms.

The venture will generate additional revenue for the Casino Group through the rental of available space and the supply of power required to run the data centres, via its GreenYellow subsidiary. There are also plans to reuse the heat from the servers to heat the buildings housing the data centres (i.e., stores and warehouses), which will create savings at a time of rising energy costs.

The data centres will be operated by ScaleMax, a company jointly owned by the Casino Group and Qarnot computing.

The first data centre will begin operating in the first quarter of 2019, at a Cdiscount logistics warehouse located in the Greater Paris region. Some 20 additional sites are expected to be fitted out by 2023, coinciding with significant growth in the high-performance computing market.

"ScaleMax provides our clients with France-wide access to high-performance computing capacity that is sustainable and secure and can be rapidly deployed on a very large scale. This project is a natural extension of Qarnot's 'Compute Anywhere' vision of scalable, environmentally responsible infrastructure. Qarnot is expanding, in line with our strategy, to provide a sustainable response to the strong demand for computing power" says Paul BENOIT, CEO of Qarnot.

"ScaleMax represents an opportunity for the Casino Group to make better use of the surface area in our warehouses and storerooms while redeploying environmentally friendly energy with our GreenYellow subsidiary, in a forward-looking market experiencing significant growth worldwide" says Martin CALMELS, the Casino Group's Head of Innovation.

** Primarily banks, insurers, 3D animation studios, research centres, pharmaceutical labs, manufacturers, and companies involved in machine learning and artificial intelligence.*

About Casino Group

Casino Group is a well-established and key player in the French retail industry as well as a leader in the global food retail market, with more than 12,000 stores worldwide - in France, Latin America and in the Indian Ocean region. The Group has built up a portfolio of strong, dynamic and complementary banners, thanks to its workforce of over 220,000 people driven by a passion for retail and customer service, generating consolidated net sales of €38bn in 2017. In all of its host countries, the Casino Group focuses its development on the formats with the highest potential and ability to adapt in order to meet customer needs, both today and in the future. For more information, www.groupe-casino.fr.

About Qarnot

Operating the first cloud distributed throughout cities in the form of heaters and boilers, Qarnot opens the way to a disruptive digital infrastructure at the crossroad between Cloud Computing and Smart Buildings. Since 2014, residential and commercial buildings are heated for free with Qarnot's computing infrastructure, computing remotely for major banks, 3D animation studios and research labs. In 2018, Qarnot monitors more than 10.000 computing cores thanks to its Q.ware technology, for clients in the bank, insurance, research, or simulation sectors, appealed by its low-carbon model and agility of its solutions. Founded in 2010, based in Montrouge (South of Paris), Qarnot's team counts 30+ people. The company has recently announced international developments in the Netherlands and in China. www.qarnot.com

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