

26 September 2008

SOCOMECS UPS : 40 years of success

The Socomec Group's UPS Division recently celebrated its 40th anniversary in the presence of Bernard Steyert, founder of the Division and today Chairman of the Socomec Group.

On this occasion Bernard Steyert reminded the audience that the creation of the Division in 1968 was the company's first strategic diversification, a diversification that resulted in Socomec becoming the pioneering French manufacturer of high power UPS systems on French soil.

Bernard Steyert paid homage to the company directors during that period - Pierre and Maurice Siat, his uncles and sons of the Socomec founder - for having let him take up this significant challenge. He also thanked the Group's historic "Switching and Protection" Division for enabling and fostering the emergence of new know-how within the company. He also paid homage to the men and women who had accompanied him on this fascinating journey, especially the first companions, the majority of whom were present in the room.

The celebration was held in the factory's workshops and gathered together the entire personnel, managers from all of the Group's subsidiaries, as well as 24 journalists from the specialist European press who had been specially invited for the event. In all there were 250 people welcomed by Pascal Kim, Managing Director of Socomec UPS, who went on to outline the Division's good results and its capacity for adaptation and innovation in order to tackle the challenges of tomorrow.

Michael Carter, CEO of the Socomec Group, spoke of the pride he felt at having been Managing Director of the UPS Division for 10 years – a leadership that Bernard Steyert had personally entrusted to him – and for having given impetus to its international dimension and for overseeing the forging of closer ties with the Italian manufacturer Sicon, which finally merged with the Group in 1998.

The end of the morning saw participants enjoying a buffet laid out in the factory itself, and an opportunity for a souvenir group photo arranged to depict the day's symbolic number.



From left to right, M. Bernard Steyert (Chairman), Renato Fratta (Director of the Sicon subsidiary), Pascal Kim (Managing Director of the UPS Division) and Michael Carter (CEO of the Socomec Group), cutting the 40th anniversary cake.