

**PRESS RELEASE**

#EcologicalTransition

**Groupe Renault partners with NEOLINE, designer and operator of cargo sailing ships, to experience a new maritime transport solution and reduce the carbon footprint of the Group's supply chain**

- **A project in line with the Group's environmental strategy in the aim of reducing its carbon footprint by 25% between 2010-2022, with a 6% target for its supply chain versus 2016**
- **A solution for the future: the construction of two wind-powered cargo ships by 2020 to reduce dependency on fossil fuels and greenhouse gases for transoceanic routes, between Saint-Nazaire, the eastern seaboard of the United States and Saint-Pierre & Miquelon**

**Paris, 27 November 2018** - During the Assises de la Mer maritime conference, Groupe Renault announced the signing of a 3-year partnership with Nantes start-up NEOLINE to develop a more sustainable maritime transport service powered by wind, and to contribute to the environmental management of its logistics chain while nearly 60% of the Group's parts and vehicles are transported by sea.

Jean-Philippe Hermine, Vice President, Strategic Environmental Planning Groupe Renault, stated: *"Groupe Renault's objective **is to reduce the environmental impact of each vehicle throughout its entire life cycle**, from parts transportation up to delivery and end-of-life processing. In the context of our strategy to explore new sustainable mobility solutions and to continue along the road to reducing our carbon footprint, the solution designed by NEOLINE, which combines energy efficiency and operational relevance, has truly captured our attention".*

Jean-François Salles, Alliance Global Director, Production Control, added: *"The partnership with NEOLINE is the latest example of **our supply chain's commitment to reduce its carbon footprint by 6% between 2016 and 2022**. For nearly 10 years, we have been working to identify the most environmentally sustainable solutions: for example, optimizing the fill rates of the containers and trucks, producing eco-friendly packaging, and implementing a multimodal system. We are also developing more initiatives, such as the use of natural gas transportation between parts suppliers and production sites, the evaluation of transporters' environmental performance, the modernization of truck fleets, and of course the optimization of our flows to reduce the number of kilometers traveled and to eliminate empty trips".*

Jean Zanuttini, CEO of NEOLINE, declared: *"We are especially pleased that Groupe Renault, a key player in accessible and sustainable mobility for all, is the first partner to join us on board our journey by trusting in NEOLINE's maritime transport solution. Considering that the traditional sea freight accounts for nearly 3% of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Europe\*, NEOLINE aims to build an innovative French solution to address a **global environmental challenge while remaining within an industrial and competitive framework**, with the support from its partners."*

To create a maritime transport solution capable of meeting the environmental challenges of our time, NEOLINE is developing its **industrial-scale wind-powered freight services** that are cleaner, customized and competitive, in response to the logistical needs of shippers. Led by a team of maritime professionals, this shipowner project has culminated in the design of a commercial demo with the potential **to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by up to 90% through the use of wind power primarily, combined with a cost-cutting speed and optimized energy mix**, compared to a traditional cargo ship on an equivalent route. The demo, a 136-meter ro-ro ship and 4200 square

meters of sail area, features an innovative blend of technical solutions borrowed from the maritime transport industry, as well as from competitive sailing, in order to make transport more logistically and economically proficient, while also setting the bar for energy efficiency.

The objective is **to build two ships** based on this model and to commission the vessels by 2020-2021 on a pilot route joining Saint-Nazaire, the U.S. Eastern seaboard and Saint-Pierre & Miquelon.

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### **About Groupe Renault**

Groupe Renault, which has been making cars since 1898, is now an international corporation with a presence in 134 countries and sales of 3.76 million vehicles in 2017. Today, the company has over 180,000 employees, 36 manufacturing sites and 12,700 sales outlets worldwide. To meet the major technological challenges of the future while continuing to pursue its profitable growth strategy, the group is focusing on international expansion. To this end, it is drawing on the synergies of its five brands (Renault, Dacia, Renault Samsung Motors, Alpine and LADA), electric vehicles, and its unique alliance with Nissan and Mitsubishi. With a Formula 1 racing team, Renault is leveraging motor sports to drive innovation and boost brand awareness.

### **About NEOLINE**

The company was founded in 2015 by a team of maritime professionals dedicated to transforming the shipping industry into a more responsible maritime transport business. NEOLINE's objective is to become the first shipowner to fully embrace energy efficiency by relying on wind power as its primary energy source. It is supported by the Pays de la Loire Region and BPI France. The project carries labels from the Atlantic Brittany Maritime Cluster and the EMC<sup>2</sup> Cluster.

**Learn more on [www.neoline.eu](http://www.neoline.eu)**

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