

Press release

Montpellier, 20 December 2023



The French State, the Occitanie Region and Montpellier Méditerranée Métropole alongside VOGO to respond to the global challenges of preventing and detecting concussions in sport

€800,000 granted to advance innovation

The French State, the Occitanie Region, Montpellier Méditerranée Métropole and VOGO (ISIN: ALVGO) are announcing the allocation of funds for the DISNUM programme on the development of innovative solutions to prevent and detect concussions in sports. DISNUM, part of DIAGINSPORT global project, was selected in the context of France 2030's call for I-DEMO collaborative projects conducted in partnership with the French State. The first round of financing, totalling €800,000 and taking the form of grants and repayable advances, was provided by the Occitanie Region, Montpellier Méditerranée Métropole and the State, fully committed alongside VOGO to respond to a global public health challenge for professional, amateur and young athletes.

VOGO, a pioneer in innovation on assistance in the detection of concussions, leads a multidisciplinary consortium committed to developing a French sector of excellence.

In France, the concussion rate among athletes is estimated between 0.8 and 8 per 1,000 athletes per hour, and as much as 15/1,000 athletes per hour for rugby. Internationally, it is estimated that 100 million athletes in Europe and the United States are exposed to this risk. It has thus become a priority to find solutions that can enhance the detection of head injuries alongside existing protocols, while developing best practices to minimise the risk and number of accidents.

Athletes' health and protection have been a central focus of VOGO since its creation, through the development of video technologies for professionals to optimise the effectiveness of existing protocols for assistance in the detection of concussions. This early commitment materialized in 2017 alongside the National Rugby League, for the Top 14 and Pro-D2 championships.

Building on this legitimacy, VOGO has established itself as the leader of a multidisciplinary consortium launched in January 2022 to develop an innovative, integrated and turnkey solution to improve concussion detection rates and concussion management in addition to existing protocols. The aim is to facilitate the decision-making of medical personnel and people on the playing field for all professional and amateur athletes, all disciplines combined.

Innovative projects are supported as part of the "I-démo – France 2030" regional partnership between the French State, the Region and Bpifrance. The DISNUM project expands this collaboration to the Montpellier metropolitan area.



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Clubs and federations committed to the initiative immediately, with the memberships of the French Football Federation (FFF), the French Rugby Federation (FFR), the Ile-de-France Rugby League, the Catalan Dragons and the French Judo Federation. The consortium was also joined from its launch by leading partners from the scientific, industrial and technological world, including Hôpital Beaujon AP-HP, CNRS, Institut de biomécanique humaine Georges Charpak, Université de Paris, Université de Lille, Move in Med, and Skill Cell.

A project supported by local authorities

Fully committed to development and innovation in the health sector, the Occitanie Region and Montpellier Méditerranée Métropole are supporting VOGO and Move in Med through several grants. The financing directly allocated to VOGO is:

- For the Occitanie Region: **€450,000 in financing**, €150,000 of which in grants and €300,000 in repayable advances
- For Montpellier Méditerranée Métropole: **€350,000 in financing**, including €150,000 in grants and €200,000 in repayable advances.

This financing is part of the regional I-DEMO scheme of the France 2030 investment plan co-financed in equal parts by the State and the Regional Council. The aim is to develop industrial companies and services in attractive markets, create value and competitiveness for the French economy, and contribute to the energy, ecological and digital transitions.

This initial financing package will serve to roll out new innovations starting in 2025, driven by video solutions already marketed by VOGO for professional sports. In addition to professional sports, this acceleration of the research programme also aims to provide new solutions in semi-professional sport, amateur sport and among young sports practitioners.

Commenting, Pierre-André Durand, Prefect of the Occitanie Region and Prefect of the Haute-Garonne, said: *"France 2030 supports French excellence in all French regions. The health sector is particularly dynamic in our region, and the DISNUM project combines innovation and sporting commitment with a view to better protecting practitioners. More broadly, the regional component of France 2030 has already supported 56 projects with more than €16.6 million in financing."*

Carole Delga, President of the Occitanie/Pyrénées-Méditerranée Region, said: *"Concussions in the world of sport are a vital concern for society and public health, and so the Region naturally sought to support the project led by VOGO and DIAGINSPO consortium. The project is fully in line with the momentum we have initiated in Montpellier with Michaël Delafosse, in the shape of MedVallée, and with the strategy that we are pursuing with our AD'OCC agency to support the development of sport and health sectors. As access to care is a local priority, the Region has made the health sector one of its economic priorities. This is reflected in particular by the commitment of all regional players – AD'OCC, companies, Eurobiomed competitiveness cluster, research laboratories, CHU hospitals – to lead a collective strategy as part of a 'Contrat de Filière'*

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sector contract. It should also not be forgotten that Occitanie is the key rugby region in France, so it was a given for us to engage in all the promising initiatives that will make it possible to better protect our athletes in the future!"

Michaël Delafosse, Mayor of Montpellier, said: "We are extremely proud to support our Montpellier sportech VOGO in its determination to provide innovative solutions to a priority issue in the world of sport. We have always been committed to supporting local innovation and talent. This commitment has taken on its full meaning today, particularly as part of MedVallée!"

A public health project central to environmental and societal challenges

The multidisciplinary consortium led by VOGO aims to respond to the lack of protection for young practitioners and amateurs in the world of sport, which constitutes a societal challenge. And the DIAGINSPOUR programme is showing promise not just in the field of athlete health. It also addresses environmental issues by exclusively using existing video streams requiring no additional sensors. It is thus part of a voluntary approach to reducing carbon footprints in line with today's top-priority ecological challenges.

Commenting, Christophe Carniel, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of VOGO, said: "CSR issues have been central to our development since our creation. The DIAGINSPOUR programme is fully consistent with this commitment, the aim being to respond to a global health challenge without sacrificing environmental requirements. I would therefore like to warmly thank the Occitanie Region and Montpellier Méditerranée Métropole for their support, which will give us new resources for responsible innovation at the service of all sports players."

About VOGO

In the Sports sector, **VOGO** is a leading international player, with its audio and video solutions for fans and professionals alike. For professionals, VOGO offers analysis and decision-making tools (referee assistance, medical diagnostics, coaching). VOGO's disruptive solution for fans transforms the stadium experience by providing multi-camera content on demand for tablets and smartphones, no matter how many people are connected. VOGO also operates in the Industry sector. All of the Group's technologies are patent-protected. VOGO is based in France (Montpellier, Grenoble and Paris) and has two subsidiaries, one in North America and the other in the United Kingdom.

VOGO operates indirectly in other countries through its network composed of around thirty distributors. VOGO has been listed on the Euronext Growth Paris stock market since November 2018 (ISIN code: FR0011532225 – ALVGO).

More information on www.vogo-group.com

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