

<press release>

## One year after launch, b<>com unveils its initial progress on sovereign private 5G

**Rennes - February 4, 2022 - One year after the launch of the xG initiative, b<>com is entering partnerships with major manufacturers, is more than 2/3 of the way to its hiring target, and is preparing to launch its private 5G solution for enterprises. Challenges remain, and 2022 will be a decisive year, but the action plan is unfolding as planned**

A year ago b<>com launched a major initiative centered on a sovereign French technological solution that meets the many challenges of 5G in terms of security, the Internet of things, latency, saturation, and network flexibility. This "xG sovereign" ambition has received the support of the French government as part of the France Recovery Plan.

### Hiring to keep expertise within the region

In order to drive this xG ambition and the development of a private 5G technology solution, b<>com has launched an extensive hiring plan through 2023. In 2021 alone, 60 of the 92 positions have been



filled to complement the existing R&D, sales, and marketing teams, bringing the total b<>com workforce to 400 people across the 4 existing sites: Rennes, Paris, Brest and Lannion.

Recruitment will continue over the next two years to strengthen the teams at the Lannion site, which is focused on developing the private 5G solution (70% to 80% of the staff will be based at this site).

*In order to cope with the increase in staff numbers, the b<>com employees at the Lannion site will move in 2023 to a new 1,200m<sup>2</sup> space located in the heart of the Anticipa technology complex.*

### Very promising partnerships with major industrial companies

In the space of a year, b<>com has entered into partnerships with large industrial groups, software publishers, and international integrators, as well as with small and medium-sized equipment-makers. This enthusiasm reflects the expectations and efficiency issues associated with the deployment of private 5G in enterprise settings.

*"Our hybrid strategic positioning allows us to be both an explorer of multiple fields of innovation and a solution provider to the world's leading software vendors and integrators. The advantages of our private 5G sovereign offering called \*Dome\* are already attracting big names such as Airbus, EDF, the Lacroix group and the SNCF," says Bertrand Guilbaud, CEO of b<>com*

The field tests address the various use cases that apply to these industries:

- Monitoring of hazardous sites (e.g. nuclear power plants),
- Optimization of connectivity on a large industrial site for production, maintenance etc.,
- Increased productivity on production lines thanks to augmented technicians,
- Optimization and efficiency of critical infrastructure networks - including avoiding waste and increasing efficiency

*"The year 2022 is important to the success of our \*Dome\* private 5G sovereign solution and our action plan is on track so far. We will be meeting our major upcoming goals, and we will be at the MWC in Barcelona, at the beginning of March, to launch \*Dome\* internationally" continues Bertrand Guilbaud.*

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## About b<>com

b<>com is a private French innovation center that pioneers, designs and delivers technologies to companies that want to digitally boost their competitiveness. Its technologies are developed to address digital infrastructure, the cultural and creative industries, health, defence, and industry 4.0. Its experts come up with solutions in areas like 5G networks and beyond, image and audio processing, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, cognitive science and mixed realities. Thanks to its world-class engineering team and its unique mix of scientific and industrial know-how, b<>com offers its clients technology innovations that make the difference.

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