

## 1 THE ECONOMY: LYON SPECIALITIES

### LYON: AN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AND SCIENTIFIC HUB

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Lyon's economic strength is based on industry, trade and banking, with new sectors – biotechnology and health, fine chemicals, pharmaceuticals and others – driving such major international groups as Rhodia, Rhône-Poulenc/Aventis and BioMérieux. These assets are enhanced by education and research facilities of international repute.

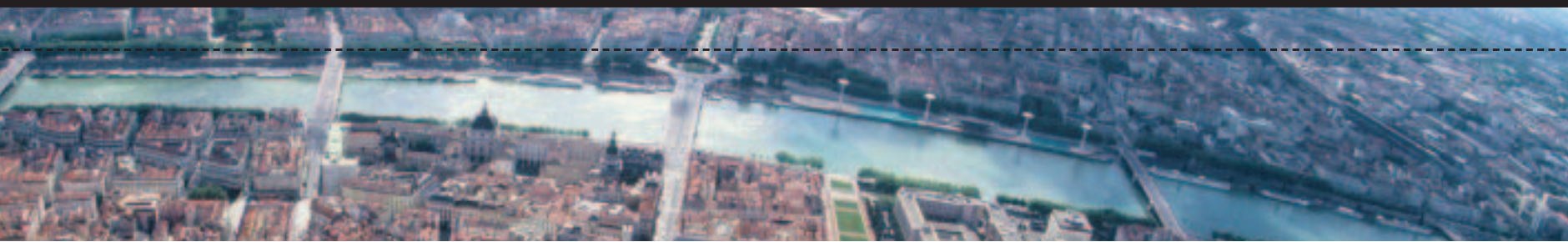


**IN THE BEGINNING THERE WERE TEXTILES**  
Textiles, and silk in particular, ensured Lyon's fame for centuries. This industrial foundation, together with major trade fairs and a highly efficient banking system are still marked local features; but what makes the Lyon textile sector different is the way it has generated other industries, notably chemicals, mechanical engineering and banking, while continuing to expand and gain in strength. The local synthetic textiles sector now provides an impressive 70% of France's output and almost 20% of Europe's.

**FASHION AND DESIGN**  
Fashion and related fields – haute couture, design studios, jewellery, goldsmithing, and others : reflect the city's long experience in silk and other textiles; with the rise of a new generation of designers, they represent a busy, highly innovative sector of the economy.

**CHEMICALS**  
The chemicals sector grew up in response to the textile industry's need for colorants, with the Lyon area now leading France in heavy and specialist chemicals. Home to 20% of the country's researchers

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in the field, it is backed by teaching and research facilities of international standing, including the French Petroleum Institute (IFP), the Lyon Textile and Chemicals Institute and the Catalysis Research Institute.

## **MECHANICS AND METALLURGY**

The components sector for makers of cars and industrial vehicles has developed strongly in the region, through the activity of companies like Renault Trucks, Alstom, Robert Bosch, Contitech Fluid and others. There is also Framatome ANP, representing a major commitment to nuclear engineering and maintenance.

## **NEW AREAS: HEALTH AND BIOTECHNOLOGY**

The region's health-biotechnology sector is number two in France, accounting for 20% of the country's work in biological and medical engineering. Among top world companies on the local scene are Aguetant, Aventis Pasteur, Aventis MSD, BioMérieux and world homeopathy leader Boiron. Lyon offers an overall positive environment for the development of life sciences and has top-ranking hospital facilities, including a world-famed centre for victims of severe burns and a centre for the

treatment of heart disease. This leading role in the health sector can also be seen in the area of vaccine production (world #1). The metropolitan area is recognized internationally for its expertise in oncology, bio-engineering, post-genomics and bio-services.

Lyon is home to such leading research laboratories, technology platforms and scientific foundations as the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), the World Health Organisation's infectious diseases early warning centre, the World Vaccine Fund, INSERM, CNRS and the Rhône-Alpes Genome Centre. With this kind of expertise at hand, Greater Lyon works alongside the State and Region in the project to create the "Lyon-Rhône-Alpes Cancer Centre".

## **THE DIGITAL SECTOR**

A city of exchanges and innovation, a pioneer in the adventure of printing and the cinema, Lyon takes on the challenge of the digital age with many assets on its side: nearly 30,000 jobs in 2000 companies specialising in information and communication technologies. Backed by a university system which shines in the fields of information science, the local economy has

earned an international reputation that has attracted such industry leaders as Electronics Arts, Infogrames/Atari, Codemaster, Getronics Decan, etc.

## **TOWN PLANNING, THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

The Lyon area possesses a wealth of skills in the fields of town planning, urban development, the environment and sustainable development. These are concentrated in university research teams (INSA, ENTPE, ECL, Lyon 1 University) and in research and development bodies at the Ministry of Planning and Transport and the Ministry of Agriculture: the Tunnels Study Centre, CERTU, INRETS, Planning and Transport Study Centre, CEMAGREF, and others.

### 2 1 HIGHER EDUCATION

The Lyon metropolitan area offers educational and research facilities of the highest standard, boosted by the relocation of renowned advanced education establishments, together with international projects like Minerve and Eurforia. The last ten years have seen a rise of close on 25% in student numbers at the city's four universities.

Lyon's vitality in the academic world derives from its strength in research, backed up by the presence of such bodies as the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) and the Mérieux Foundation's BSL4 Laboratory. The Rhône-Alpes Region is Europe's number 3 source of international patents, surpassed only by London and Paris.

With over 110,000 students – 11% of them from abroad – and 6500 postgraduate degrees per year, Lyon is a leading light in French higher education. Lyon is, after Paris, the second largest university town in France: 4 universities (Lyon 1, Lyon 2, Lyon 3, Catholic University) and the prestigious elite academies: Ecoles Normales Supérieures (ENS Lyon and ENS Arts and Social Sciences), Ecole Centrale School of Engineering (ECL), National Institute of Applied Science (INSA), School of Advanced Studies in Chemistry, Physics and Electronics (ESCPE), Textile and Chemicals Institute (ITECH), EM Lyon (Management), National School of Veterinary Science, National School of Advanced Studies in Information Science and Librarianship (ENSSIB), and others.

Université de Lyon



**The Lyon University Complex (PUL)**

*The Lyon University Complex is a State-recognised grouping of 13 public and private higher education establishments. Its primary purpose is the development and international promotion of the City's university scene, higher education and top-level research.*

- PUL - La Doua Science Complex - "La Pagode" Building  
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69622 Villeurbanne cedex
- Address at the La Doua Complex:  
38 Boulevard Niels Bohr - Villeurbanne  
Tel: 33 (0)4.72.43.26.41 - E-mail: pul@univ-lyon1.fr  
Website: www.univ-lyon.asso.fr or www.pul.fr

### 2 2 RESEARCH

Inventiveness and research have always been a part of Lyon's industrial landscape, examples including Jacquard, the inventor of the silk loom; the Lumière brothers, inventors of the cinema; physicist André-Marie Ampère; and physiologist Claude Bernard. Currently 10,000 top-level researchers are working in and around Lyon, 10% of their number being from abroad.

The range of fields studied by research laboratories and teams covers all the main areas of human and social sciences, economics and law, materials sciences and technology, as well as life and health sciences.

Lyon's research potential notably includes teacher-researchers in the universities and grandes écoles, researchers at CNRS (National Centre for Scientific Research, 2300 persons in all), at INSERM (National Institute for Medical Research), INRA (National Institute for Agronomic Research), IARC, the BSL4 Laboratory, along with private industrial laboratories.

**THE LYON CREATIVE METROPOLIS PROGRAMME**

This research and higher education promotion programme is piloted by the Greater Lyon Urban Community. It works to bring together the academic/scientific community to focus on the priority programmes of the Lyon area in terms of cultural, economic and social development. At the main technology sites of the metropolitan area, project managers can provide you with information about science and technology transfers actions and events, as well as partnerships between research teams and industry.

# AN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AND SCIENTIFIC HUB

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## **"City and Planning" High-Tech Site in Vaux en Velin**

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## **West Lyon technology site**

Official site of Greater Lyon

[www.grandlyon.com](http://www.grandlyon.com)

Official site of the City of Lyon

[www.mairie-lyon.fr](http://www.mairie-lyon.fr)

Starting a Business in Greater Lyon

[www.eco.grandlyon.com](http://www.eco.grandlyon.com)

Lyon: Creative Metropolis

[www.techgrandlyon.prd.fr](http://www.techgrandlyon.prd.fr)

Lyon Science Resources

[www.lyon-sciences.prd.fr](http://www.lyon-sciences.prd.fr)

Gerland High Tech Complex

[www.lyongerland.com](http://www.lyongerland.com)

La Doua Science Complex

[www.techlyon-ladoua.prd.fr](http://www.techlyon-ladoua.prd.fr)

Lyon University Complex

[www.univ-lyon.asso.fr](http://www.univ-lyon.asso.fr)

Services for Lyon students

[www.lyoncampus.org](http://www.lyoncampus.org)

Médiathèque  
de Vaise

## **CNRS, INSERM AND INRA: REGIONAL DELEGATIONS**

### **Regional Delegation of the National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS)**

2, avenue Albert Einstein - 69609 Villeurbanne cedex

Tel 33 (0)4 72 44 56 00

### **Regional Delegation of the National Institute for Medical Research (INSERM)**

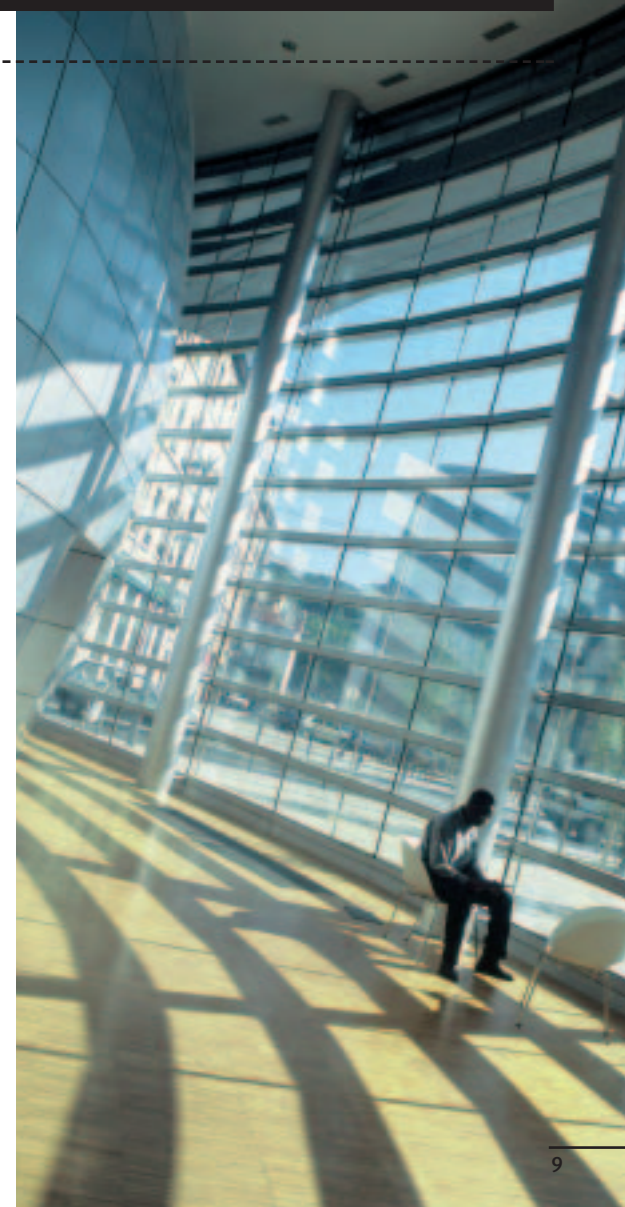
162, avenue Lacassagne - 69394 Lyon cedex 03

Tel 33 (0)4 72 13 18 02

### **Regional Delegation of the National Institute for Agronomic Research (INRA)**

1, avenue Bourgelat - 69280 Marcy l'Etoile

Fax 33 (0)4 78 87 05 84



Since the time of the European fairs during the Renaissance Lyon has been a city where people meet and exchange knowledge. Today its hosting capacity for international fairs and congresses is being steadily enhanced: Pollutec, Biovision and Lyon Mode City are only the three most recent examples of a success due to two local sites: the downtown Palais des Congrès convention centre and the Eurexpo exhibition complex.

Palais  
des  
Congrès



### THE PALAIS DES CONGRÈS (AT THE CITÉ INTERNATIONALE)

The Cité Internationale is Lyon's convention centre par excellence. In a modular space bearing the unmistakable stamp of architect Renzo Piano, the Palais can be adapted to meet all needs. Current capacity is 6650 people (with seating for 2000), 3000 sq. m. of uninterrupted floor space, 2 auditoriums with seating for 300 and 900 respectively, 16 meeting rooms, and a private level with rooms and panoramic terraces overlooking the park on one side and the river on the other. The Cité is close to the centre of town – the Opera, City Hall, Renaissance district and TGV high-speed train station – and only 20 minutes from Lyon-Saint-Exupéry airport. Extensions are in progress in the form of a hall with seating for 3000, scheduled to open in 2006.

### EVENTS HOSTED AT THE PALAIS DES CONGRÈS

G7, United Nations Conference for Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Green Cross, Biovision, Climat, World Veterinary Congress, and others.

### EUREXPO

Each year the Eurexpo convention and exhibition centre welcomes 15,000 exhibitors and 1.5 million visitors. Situated next door to France's number 2 private airport (Lyon-Bron), it is 15 minutes from Lyon-Saint Exupéry international airport and 20 minutes from downtown Lyon. It is also served by three motorway entries.

### Lyon and its districts

*The City of Lyon is divided up into nine arrondissements or districts, each of which has its own town hall. The metropolitan area comprises 55 municipalities. Greater Lyon, also known as the Lyon Urban Community, is the body in charge of managing the Lyon region.*