

## Rhône-Alpes Region

The Rhône-Alpes region, centred on the city of Lyon, has a population of around 5.6 million, with a research and science base second only to that of Paris. There is some 20,000 research staff in the region (7,000 of them in the private sector) and about 180,000 higher education students. In order to encourage and support the transfer of technology from this research base into new entrepreneurial firms, the region has developed an integrated structure funded jointly by national, regional and local agencies. The Chamber of Commerce in Lyon, as a leading actor in this system, contributes with around 30 to 40 industrial consultants to the structure.

Lyon is the third city of France with 453 187 inhabitants. Lyon concentrates more than 28 % of the population of the department and about 8 % of the population of the Rhone-Alpes Region. The working population is around 600 000 persons. Lyon includes most of the industrial activities of the Rhone around its 63 000 companies, among which 1 700 of more than 50 employees

Other cities:

Grenoble (153 298 inhabitants)

Annecy (50 348 inhabitants)

Chambéry (55 786 inhabitants)

Main companies

Bosch, SMI KOYO, Renault V.I., Aventis Pasteur, Merck, Lipha, Mannesmann Rexroth, Valèo, Rhodia

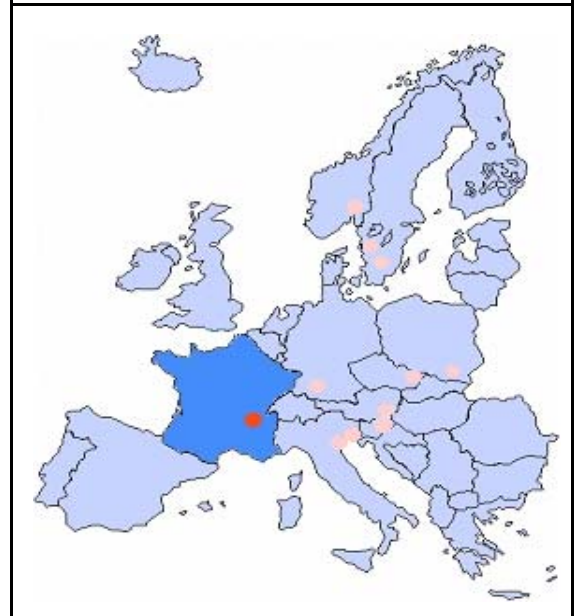
Research Institutions:

University Claude Bernard of Lyon, INSA de Lyon, Ecole Nationale Supérieure, Institute Français du Textile et de l'Habillement, Institute Français du Pétrole, Institute National de Recherche sur le Transports et leur Sécurité, Ecole Nationale des Travaux Publics de l'Etat, Ecole Centrale de Lyon

Education (universities and colleges):

University Claude Bernard, University Lumière, Centre d'Etudes Techniques et d'Equipements, CEMAGREF (Recherche pour l'Ingénierie de l'Agriculture et de l'Environnement), Centre National de Recherche Supérieure, CPE

	Rhône-Alpes	France
<b>area</b>	43,698 km <sup>2</sup>	549,000 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>population</b>	5.3 millions	57 millions
<b>Unemployment rate</b>	~ 10 %	~ 11.5 %



## **“Rhône Alpes Industrial Vehicles” cluster profile**

"Rhône-Alpes Industrial Vehicles" is a cluster oriented through the network of the suppliers and subcontractors which serve this market. We have 400 Companies and they represent a turn over of 500 Millions €. The purchases made locally represent 20 % of the total amount of Renault V.I. The recent acquisition of Renault V.I. by Volvo AB Group leads to a view scheme of the European suppliers of their market segment.

The strategy of the group is to define on a 2005 term a new range of kinematics chain which includes engine, gear boxes, rear boxes .... In order to standardize the different ranges (heavy, medium, light). These new aspects, will lead to a restructuration of the suppliers in order to get critical mass; It is the main reason that led our organisation to structure this new cluster.