Located in Courbevoie at la Defense business district, the T1 Tower is one of the largest construction projects in France and the first skyscraper to be built since Coeur Defense in 2000. This HEQ tower, immense and original, is designed in the form of a huge sheet of glass measuring 185 metres tall, with 44 floors.

In 2010, a large French corporate group moved their headquarters to la Defense and leased the whole T1 tower. The company chose to place their trust in Alcea for access control for the new building and to adapt the systems to their needs.

In terms of security, one of the particularities of "blank slate" buildings is that they must be adaptable to the changes which future leaseholders may require.

Whether it is a vault for a private bank or a laboratory for a cosmetics company, access management systems must be modular and able to evolve with the needs of the leaseholder.

Alcea and the T1 project: a collaboration based on the technical quality of our bid

For Alcea the initial requirement was simple: to install an access control system for the 67,000m² of office space in the first tower.

In their study and response, Alcea was able to provide fine-tuned systems and functionality appropriate for a large-scale building complex.

Alcea’s experts took the time to envisage a variety of scenarios and to anticipate possible features: a hierarchical system, lift systems, various visitor-management systems etc.

It is this quality of response which makes all the difference. The developers chose Alcea because of the technical quality of their bid and for their ability to minimize disruption for the leaseholders during installation.
Alcea and T1: the collaboration is strengthened with building B

Our project manager followed the project from beginning to end and helped create a relationship of trust between the two companies. Alcea proved themselves on T1, and that project is now to be followed by the fitting out of building B. Both buildings will therefore now benefit from the Alwin solution from Alcea.

On arrival of the leaseholder: the functionality of the access control system can be specified.

Having made a heavy investment in both buildings, the Group has entrusted Alcea to adapt the access control system to the needs. And their needs are numerous.

It is precisely in this type of situation that the availability and flexibility of Alcea’s systems come to the fore. In order to be able to respond to our client’s we had to merge the 2 systems and combine a variety of technologies:

- **Long range Hyper X (2,45 GHz):**
  - Landings: door opening without badge presentation providing maximum comfort for visitors while in the building.
  - Car park access: preserving proximity badge readers at the exits (125KHz) as used in the new building.
  - Mifare (13,56 MHz) for main accesses (one way tripod barriers) and technical areas.
  - Radiofrequency remote control for retractable “VIP” access bollards in the forecourt.
  - APERIO locks for offices and meeting rooms.
  - Biometric ID for sensitive areas.

The number of readers was therefore dramatically increased and the system made more sophisticated, 1,700 readers were distributed over the 44 floors of T1 and the 11 floors of building B.

Furthermore, an electronic key management system with a capacity for 500 sites was installed to manage backup badges, priority access keys and technical areas etc.

The flexibility of the Alcea system allows different technologies to be merged and to communicate with a single system.

The supervision system can handle a variety of technologies covering access control, CCTV and key-management.

Alcea can supervise them all for transparent management of both the site and its users.

ALCEA’s strengths within the context of this project

- Evolution of the system to adapt it to the client’s needs
- Richness of technical response in order to anticipate evolving scenarios
- A variety of technologies managed by a single system
- Scalability of the system without the need for major equipment overhauls