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ESI is the pioneer and worldleading solution provider in virtual prototyping.

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ESI expands into new Tunisian office Inauguration and company presentation will be held on May 30, 2011

Paris, France – May 26, 2011 – <u>ESI Group</u>, pioneer and world-leading solution provider in <u>virtual prototyping</u>, announces the opening of its new Tunis office, ideally located near the National Institute for Applied Sciences and Technology and Tunis Science City.

A global software editor with a strong emphasis on high end services, <u>ESI</u> is experiencing continuous organic growth as well as expansion into emerging countries. Specialized in <u>virtual prototyping</u> solutions for industry, ESI addresses many sectors, from automotive to aeronautics, heavy industry, energy or electronics. The company brings to the Tunis region global projects from European clients such as Renault, Areva, Volkswagen Group or EADS.

"ESI is delighted to see its North African activities develop; we intend to build a new technical expertise that will contribute to the competitiveness of our Services activity in Europe and develop valuable local know-how," said Alain de Rouvray, Chairman and CEO of ESI Group.

Part of the group's near-shoring activity, ESI's Tunisian center of competency employs a team of engineers, including graduates from the best Tunisian institutes (such as the Tunisia Polytechnic School), supervised by ESI's international experts. Created in 2009, it now employs over twenty collaborators. This new office will allow an increasing number of local engineers to offer their expertise in ESI's software solutions for the delivery of high end projects.

"Since 2009 when ESI started operating in Tunisia, ESI has off-shored a number of projects carried out with French and German industrial customers that have expressed their satisfaction with the quality of the work performed, confirming the choice of ESI to establish a near-shore production center in Tunis. To complement this center, ESI has developed close relationships with local engineering schools to support their curricula as a clear commitment that this operation is planned for the long term," declared **Dr. Lech Tomasz Kisielewicz**, Executive Vice-President for Services Operations at ESI Group.

To celebrate the inauguration of this new office, <u>ESI Services Tunisia</u> has invited local industrialists, scientists and teachers to a half-day event including an overview of the company, selected customer case studies, followed by discussions and a lunch buffet. The company presentation will be delivered by Alain de Rouvray, along with Kamel Mekki, Manager of <u>ESI Services Tunisia</u>. The event will be followed by a tour of the new office.



ESI will welcome the press and guests from 9am on May 30, 2011 at the Hotel Concorde in Tunis. To find out more about the inauguration ceremony, please visit our <u>event page</u>.



ESI Services Tunisia

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For more ESI news, visit: www.esi-group.com/newsroom

About ESI Group

ESI is a pioneer and world-leading provider in virtual prototyping that takes into account the physics of materials. ESI has developed an extensive suite of coherent, industry-oriented applications to realistically simulate a product's behavior during testing, to fine-tune manufacturing processes in accordance with desired product performance, and to evaluate the environment's impact on performance. ESI's solutions fit into a single collaborative and open environment for End-to-End Virtual Prototyping, thus eliminating the need for physical prototypes during product development. The company employs over 800 high-level specialists worldwide covering more than 30 countries. ESI Group is listed in compartment C of NYSE Euronext Paris. For further information, visit www.esi-group.com.

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