

Chermayeff, Sollogub & Poole, Inc.

CSP

**Marine Science Center
Master Plan
La Ciotat, France**



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This 100-acre urban waterfront site was master planned by CSP principals (while at Cambridge Seven). An inactive shipyard and dry dock would be transformed into a mixed use development. Located near Marseille, on the Mediterranean Sea, the project was conceived as a Marine Science Center. The plan complemented the existing ancient town and inner harbor, where existing uses included a marina with yacht manufacturing and repair facilities, a museum of film, small businesses and low-rise urban residential units. The proposed new uses included a Marine Mammal Research Institute (utilizing the original shipyard's dry dock as a holding tank), a shopping and dining complex, a four star hotel and convention center, a cruise ship terminal, an IMAX® large screen theater, and a world class public aquarium. Synergy between these elements (e.g. the Cruise Ship Terminal and the Aquarium located next to each other) were a key to the economic strategy.