Status of the SOLEIL Project*, The SOLEIL project team** - During this year, the configuration of the ring has been defined (cell structure, periodicity, superperiodicity, length of the straight sections). A large number of operating points has been studied to reach, with a fair safety margin, the project's required performances. Special attention was paid to optimize energy acceptance up to $\pm 4\%$, leading to a maximized beam lifetime even at very high brilliance. Optics with negative momentum compaction factor is also under consideration. This paper presents all these results and deals with the magnetic design and R&D, both on RF and vacuum chamber systems.

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