LeCab launches PLUS, a new fixed-price, shared transport solution

LeCab, in partnership with Keolis and the American start-up Via, has this week launched a unique shared transport service in Paris called PLUS. This new-generation private driver service is designed to optimise travel time and cost by providing fixed-price, shared journeys that are as direct as possible. The partnership combines on-demand transport technology developed by Via, LeCab’s expertise in private driver services and the financial and strategic support of Keolis to provide Parisians with a unique connected mobility solution. Laurent Kocher, Keolis Executive Director Innovation, Marketing and Services said: “PLUS represents the missing link between private driver services and public transport, reducing individual car usage by providing a comfortable, practical, and accessible transport service.” To support the introduction of this new service, the Group has established an exclusive partnership with Via in France and taken a minority share in the start-up. Read the press release here.

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The digital revolution continues on Orleans’ TAO network

TAO, Keolis’ transport network in Orleans, France, is extending the digitalisation of its services. Building on the success of its e-boutique launched in August 2016 (16% of all ticket purchases, or more than 8,000 transactions, were made online), TAO is deploying the third stage of the Group’s “Plan Book Ticket” mobile app. From June 2017, passengers will be able to buy their ticket and validate it via their smartphone using scanners on-board vehicles. The “M Ticket” will initially be deployed on trams, before being extended to the bus network.

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Keolis Canada acquires Skyport

On 16 January, Keolis Canada acquired Skyport, a bus company specialising in airport services. The acquisition is an ideal opportunity to consolidate existing activities at Montreal-Trudeau airport and expand the service in the region: Keolis Canada already operates airport shuttles, including a service between Quebec City and Montreal airport. The takeover will enable the subsidiary to introduce a new range of services for Concordia University, crew transport, and the delivery of luggage. Read the press release here.

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India: Stakeholder workshop & Bordeaux Métropole visit

At the end of January, Keolis Hyderabad held a public transport workshop with key stakeholders including several French Ministers and the Mayor of Hyderabad. During the two-day meeting the Indian government announced the launch of a viability study for the Charminar Tram project and its potential synergies with the Hyderabad metro network. Keolis Hyderabad also recently hosted a delegation from Bordeaux Métropole for a visit of Stage 2 of the Hyderabad metro. The French delegates had the opportunity to take a ride on the network as part of an employee family event to celebrate India’s Republic Day.

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Melbourne’s tram network to be solar powered by 2019

The Victorian Government has announced plans to build 75MW of new solar farms in regional Victoria, and 35MW of this power will be used to operate Melbourne’s entire tram network. This will save 80,000 tonnes of CO2 emissions, which is the equivalent of taking 17,000 cars off the road for a year, or planting two million trees. The Yarra Trams network will be 100% solar-powered by 2019, strengthening Keolis’ commitment to sustainable transport solutions. Read the press release here.

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Keolis Industrial Internet Day

On 19 January, around fifty people from the Group’s French and international subsidiaries gathered in Paris to discover, share and develop ideas about the Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT). For Laurent Kocher, Keolis Executive Director Marketing, Innovation and Services, the importance of the IIoT is clear: “Improved service quality and operational performance, potential savings: the IIoT provides valuable opportunities for our business.” All subsidiaries are encouraged to study the topic to see what could be implemented at a local level. More information will soon be made available on KeoShare.

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Any news? Send your stories to international@keolis.com - Follow us on Twitter @groupkeolis