France: Les Cars Air France become Le Bus Direct-Paris Aéroport

On 12 May, the leading coach service to Paris airports adopted a new name: Le Bus Direct-Paris Aéroport. Keolis’ subsidiary Aéroliis has been operating this premium coach line, previously known as Les Cars Air France, since 2008. By July 2016, two-thirds of the fleet will be replaced with new vehicles, which will be equipped with free wi-fi access and a USB plug for each seat. In light of its new brand name and the increasing number of international travellers to Paris, Keolis has set itself the objective of carrying 2.5 million passengers by 2018, an increase of 20 percent compared to 2015. As has traditionally been the case, ‘Le Bus Direct’ will be marketed as a service open to all passengers, regardless of the airline they choose. “With ‘Le Bus Direct’ we will once again deliver a premium service for our customers. The new brand highlights our expertise and commitment to passenger mobility for the development of the greater Paris region”, said Jean-Pierre Farandou, Executive Chairman of the Group.

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AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

Melbourne: Yarra Trams welcomes Shanghai Shentong Group

On 9 May Yarra Trams welcomed a delegation from Shanghai Shentong Group, which operates the Shanghai Metro in China. The President of the Group, Mr Yu, and his management team, visited Melbourne to familiarise themselves with tram operations and exchange knowledge about managing networks under joint-ventures, in cities with rapid population growth. Shanghai has the world’s second largest metro network, carrying around three billion passengers per year. Keolis is part of the ‘Shenkaí’ joint venture with Shanghai Shentong Consultancy, a subsidiary of Shanghai Shentong Group. Shentong will be the future operator of the 6.7km extension of Shanghai’s metro line 8. When launched at the end of 2017, this new section will become the first automatic metro system in Shanghai.

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UNITED KINGDOM

Thameslink’s leading green station

London Blackfriars station has achieved another ecological milestone by becoming ‘zero-of-the-station’s-waste ends up in landfill sites. The station, one of 234 managed by Keolis as part of its joint-venture with Go-Ahead Group, is built across the River Thames. It was constructed to be the world’s largest solar bridge with 4,400 solar panels on its roof that generate up to 50% of the station’s energy needs. Now, by segregating all the station’s waste for recycling and ensuring what cannot be recycled is sent to a facility to be incinerated to create energy, Blackfriars has maximised its recycling to reduce its impact on the environment and earned itself the title ‘zero-to-landfill’. Next on Thameslink’s target list are Stevenage, King’s Lynn and Brighton stations, where they are working closely with business partners and tenants to realise this commitment.

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CONTINENTAL EUROPE

Top 5 finish for Keolis in European Tram Driver Championships

Keolis achieved some excellent results at this year’s European Tram Driver Championships, held in Berlin (Germany) on 25 April. Its Lyon (France) team secured 3rd place, while its Bergen (Norway) team came 5th. The European Tram Driver Championships, now up to its 5th edition, attracts large crowds from all over Europe. A record 27 teams from 14 nations competed this year, in a series of precision drills based on the everyday duties of drivers. All challenges revolved around operating the tram in a secure, reliable and safe manner. World championships are currently being planned. Until then, we encourage our European tram operating subsidiaries to join in on the fun. Next years’ championships will be held in Tenerife, Canary Islands.

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NORTH AMERICA

Canada: Orléans Express named Company of the Year!

Orléans Express, KeoLis’ coach operator in Quebec, was announced as Company of the Year during the Relationship Marketing Association’s prestigious annual gala awards on 5 May. The prizes recognise Quebec’s best marketing campaigns, and by extension, outstanding performers in the industry. Orléans Express also won the award for the best campaign in its sector, for its “25 reasons to travel, 25 days before Christmas” campaign. On the night Orléans Express was praised not only for its marketing campaigns, but also for its ability to innovate and create a strong brand. These efforts helped bring about a significant turnaround in operational performance over the past year. Congratulations to the entire Orléans Express team for their hard work in achieving these awards and this operational success!

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BELGIUM

Brussels: New season for BCT

Brussels City Tours (BCT), a subsidiary of Keolis, has introduced a series of new updates to coincide with the arrival of spring. This includes a comprehensive review of the service offering, a new customer information brochure and an updated version of the website. Now more than ever, Brussels City Tours is ready to show tourists the best of Benelux!

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NEW PUBLICATIONS:
KeoLink - April/May 2016
Click here to view the latest edition of KeoLink.
2015 Financial report
Click here to view Keolis S.A.’s 2015 Financial report

The new www.keolis.com
Don’t forget to view the First pages of the new Corporate website by clicking here!

Corporate
Keolis’ globetrotting rail cadets
Four young engineering graduates have become Keolis’ first rail cadets, as part of a two-year graduate programme that started in January this year. “The international dimension of Keolis and this programme was definitely a drawcard for us. It’s also a great privilege to receive ongoing training from experienced mentors,” said one of the cadets. The programme provides a strong mix of classroom training and on the field immersion, including work experience in some of Keolis’ global subsidiaries. The cadets will be exposed to all aspects of rail operations, including driver training, infrastructure maintenance, safety procedures and crisis management. The programme is managed by the Keolis institute and SNCF’s in-house university. The cadets have already had the opportunity to work on driver shifts in England, Germany and France.

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Keolife Week 2016 will kick-off on 20 June. As per last year, www.keolife.keolis.com will be accessible to all employees. You can already view photos from the 2015 edition there, and from 20 May you will be able to consult the calendar of events for all subsidiaries. So get ready, we’re counting on you!