PRESS RELEASE
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Keolis to continue as operator of the Bergen light rail network in Norway

Keolis will continue operating the light rail network of Bergen for another eight years and will now also manage the maintenance of the trams

Passenger numbers have doubled on the network since Keolis started the operations in 2010

This new contract award illustrates the strong partnership between Keolis and Bybanen AS – the new transport authority - over the past eight years

The new contract also reaffirms Keolis’ position as a world leader in light rail operations

On 29 June 2018, Keolis’ Norwegian subsidiary, Keolis Norge, was awarded a contract by Bybanen AS, the local transport authority, to continue operating the Bergen light rail network for another eight years\(^1\) and to also manage the maintenance of the trams\(^2\). The renewed contract which is subject to a statutory 10-day standstill period will be effective from July 2019.

Bernard Tabary, CEO International Keolis, declared: “We are very pleased by the trust that Bybanen AS has placed in us to continue managing the Bergen light rail network. At their side, we have successfully delivered continuous performance while meeting the demands of a growing network. We are looking forward to eight more years of collaboration with Bybanen AS, and we are more committed than ever to providing the residents and visitors of the city of Bergen with a sustainable, comfortable and safe service.”

Bergen is Norway’s second largest city with a population of over 280,000 inhabitants. The project for the tram network was initiated by Skyss SA with the operation of the network awarded to Keolis in 2009. Since its launch in 2010, the Bergen tramway network has undergone rapid expansion. Initially 9.6 km long, linking the city centre to Nesttun, it has been extended twice, once in 2013 to Lagunen and once in 2017 to Flesland airport, and is now 20 km long. The Bergen tram network has 28 trams manufactured by Stadler, capable of carrying up to 280 passengers. The service is currently used by 12 million passengers every year. Service frequency is once every five minutes during peak hours, with an extended service on Friday and Saturday nights.

The tram network has brought economic and employment benefits to the city and the surrounding region. Since the opening of the network, the number of operational employees has increased by 80% with current staff numbers at 140 overall. Improvements to the service have caused passenger satisfaction rates to remain consistently between 95% and 99%.

With the success of the light rail network, Bybanen AS now plans to extend the network to the north and to the west, delivering an additional 10 km by 2022. This extension will also include a new depot and 12 to 14 additional new trams.

\(^1\) possible extension of two more years
\(^2\) Stadler as a subcontractor
Keolis is the world leader in tram operations, operating on 930 km of tracks and 22 networks worldwide.

Leading the way in public transport, Keolis partners with public decision makers to make shared mobility an asset for cities and their communities. Internationally recognised as the leading operator of trams and automated metros, Keolis adopts an innovative approach with all its partners and subsidiaries (Kisio, LeCab, EFFIA, Keolis Santé and Cykleo) to develop new forms of shared and customised mobility, and reinforce its core business across a range of transport modes including trains, buses, cars, trolleybuses, shared private hire vehicles, river shuttles, ferries, cycles, car sharing services, electric autonomous vehicles and urban cable cars. In France, Keolis is now the leader in medical transport services through the creation of Keolis Santé in July 2017 and positioned as the number two car park operator, through its subsidiary EFFIA.

The company is 70% owned by SNCF and 30% by the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec (CDPQ). Keolis employs 63,000 people in 16 countries and recorded a turnover of 5.4 billion euros in 2017. Each year, over 3 billion passengers worldwide use one of the shared mobility services offered by Keolis.

*Historically based in France, Keolis has expanded its operations in Germany, Australia, Belgium, Canada, China, Denmark, India, Luxembourg, Norway, the Netherlands, Portugal, Qatar, Sweden, the UK and the USA.

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