

PRESS RELEASE

Paris, 9 October 2018

Keolis undertakes a second trial of its autonomous electric shuttles in Belgium

9 October 2018 – on 4 October Keolis announced a second trial of its fully electric autonomous shuttle in Belgium, this time in Braine-l'Alleud (Waterloo), near Brussels. This follows the successful launch in Belgium of the first autonomous shuttle in early September. Keolis conducted this new trial in partnership with NAVYA, a French company which specialises in the design and construction of autonomous and electric vehicles, the Belgian ministry of mobility, the Vias institute (the Belgium Road Safety Institute) and Baloise Insurance.

The NAVYA autonomous electric shuttle will operate in normal traffic conditions on a 2.4-km route in the tourist area of Waterloo, a place famous for the battle that took place two centuries ago between the French, British, Dutch and German armies and which attracts over 500,000 visitors every year. The shuttle transports visitors between Lion's Mound, the Waterloo museum and the *Château d'Hougoumont* farmhouse.

This route features curves and slopes. In addition, the route is narrow and is used not only by bikers and pedestrians, but also by farmers and on their tractors.

Marc Renouprez, international regional director for continental Europe, said: *"We are pleased to be working with our partners on this new trial. With over 1,000 passengers in one month in Han-sur-Lesse, we are very much looking forward to the first results of the trial of our autonomous shuttle in Braine-l'Alleud. This new trial, conducted in an attractive tourist site in Belgium, is an exceptional opportunity for us to gauge the acceptability of this new shared mode of transport for the broader public. It also comes after a recent successful week long demonstration of our Autonom Cab at ITS World Congress in Copenhagen, Denmark, this September. The Autonom Cab, developed by NAVYA, is one of the first autonomous cabs on the market and 100% electric powered, with seating for up to six passengers"*.

The autonomous electric shuttle is an ideal mobility solution for university campuses, amusement parks and hospitals. The shuttle is best used to provide a last-mile connection solution to complete journeys on existing public transport networks.

The NAVYA autonomous electric shuttle can accommodate up to 15 passengers, including those with reduced mobility (it has a dedicated area for wheelchairs). It features Lidar sensors, a GPS RTK system, an odometric system, a V2X connection and cameras, so the vehicle can detect other vehicles and pedestrians and run on open roads. The trial aims to study the reactions of passengers and road users so as to improve the technology and ensure that it fits safely and seamlessly into day-to-day life in the city, before being implemented at other tourist locations.

In recent years, communities have shown growing interest in autonomous mobility solutions. This has allowed pilot projects to proliferate and has proven the viability of this technology in (re)designing everyday mobility, both now and for the future. A pioneer in shared autonomous mobility, Keolis is already conducting other trials in partnership with NAVYA. Long-term trials are currently being conducted in France (La Défense, Roissy-Charles de Gaulle with ADP, Lyon), as well as in the US (Las Vegas), Canada (Candiac), Australia (Melbourne and Adelaide) and now in Belgium.

Since the launch of the service in Lyon, France in September 2016 – the first autonomous shuttle transport service in the world – Keolis has carried out more than 30 trials and demonstrations, driven 40,000 kilometres and transported some 110,000 passengers in autonomous shuttles, both in France and abroad*.

* France: Paris (La Défense and Roissy-Charles de Gaulle with ADP), Lyon (Confluence), Strasbourg; Denmark (Aalborg); Spain (Barcelona); UK (London Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park); Canada (Candiac, Montreal); US (Las Vegas, Atlanta); Australia (Melbourne – la Trobe university, Adelaide – Flinders university); and Belgium (Han-sur-Lesse and Waterloo).

Keolis

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 developing new forms of shared and customised mobility, and reinforce its core business across a range of transport modes including trains, buses, coaches, 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 revenue of 5.4 billion euros in 2017. Each year, over 3 billion passengers worldwide use one of the shared mobility services provided 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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