



International Association of Public Transport
Union Internationale des Transports Publics
Internationaler Verband für öffentliches Verkehrswesen
Unión Internacional de Transporte Público

PRESS KIT

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Press Release

Brussels, 21 September 2011

Alain Flausch to follow Hans Rat as Secretary General of UITP

The members of the Executive Board of the International Association of Public Transport (UITP) have selected Alain Flausch as new Secretary General. He will take over from Hans Rat, who will retire after running the Association for 13 years. This appointment will be effective by the end of the year. Mr. Ousmane Thiam, most senior Vice-President, will follow Alain Flausch as President, effective mid-October 2011.

As the CEO of the Société des Transports Intercommunaux de Bruxelles (STIB), the public transport company in Brussels, for the last 11 years, and President of UITP since 2009, Alain Flausch has long-standing experience in the public transport sector and in UITP.

Since April 2000, Mr Flausch has led the STIB through an in-depth cultural change, conducting a complete renewal both of the commercial approach and the corporate management, setting a new company culture where clients are at the very heart of the service provision. Since 1999, STIB ridership has increased by more than 100% and last June STIB received the '4-star Recognised for Excellence' label awarded by the European Foundation for Quality Management (EFQM).

Alain Flausch's election acknowledges his strong commitment to UITP. Among other roles, he has been a member of the UITP Policy Board since 2004 and has been President of the Association since 2009. He has been a member of the UITP Business and Human Resources Management Commission and the Metropolitan Railway Committee and chaired the UITP European Assembly.

"UITP gains a highly experienced person both in the private and the public sectors. He is strongly committed to UITP and to PTx2, the ambition to double the public transport market share worldwide by 2025. He actually contributed to it by achieving impressive results with the Brussels public transport network. I am convinced that UITP is in good hands," said Hans Rat.

In accordance with the UITP by-laws, Ousmane Thiam, most senior Vice-President, will take over Alain Flausch's mandate as President. Mr Thiam is President of the Conseil Exécutif des Transports urbains de Dakar (CETUD), Senegal, and President of the African Association of Public Transport (UATP), acting as the African Division of UITP. His mandate will be confirmed at the next UITP Executive Board meeting, to be held in mid-October 2011 in Milan.

Current UITP Secretary General Hans Rat is retiring after 13 years at the helm of the Association. During his time, UITP grew and diversified its membership to embrace the

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full public transport supply chain. Today, UITP has an impressive worldwide presence thanks to the establishment of 11 regional/country offices.

“Hans Rat’s passion for the sector and his worldwide strategic vision for the Association have pushed the sector to be ambitious and it will be an exciting challenge to continue in his footsteps,” stated Alain Flausch. “He has created a strong legacy at UITP and amongst its membership through his personal commitment. UITP thanks him for all his achievements.”

* * *

Note to Editors

The International Association of Public Transport (**UITP**) is the international network of public transport authorities and operators, policy decision-makers, scientific institutes and the public transport supply and service industry. It is a platform for worldwide cooperation, business development and the sharing of know-how between its **3,400 members from 92 countries**. UITP is the global advocate of public transport and sustainable mobility, and the promoter of innovations in the sector. Visit our website www.uitp.org

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Alain Flausch Secretary General of the International Association of Public Transport (UITP)

Alain Flausch was selected Secretary General of the International Association of Public Transport (UITP) in September 2011 by UITP Executive Board.

This election acknowledges the long-standing engagement of Mr Flausch on the international stage. President of the sub-committee Finance & Commerce of the International Metro Committee (2001-2009), he was also member of the UITP Executive and Policy Boards (2004-2009), Executive member of the International Metro Committee (UITP- 2001/2009), member of the Transport Management Committee (UITP) and President of the Design & Culture Platform.

Mr Flausch was also elected President of UITP during the Association's 58th World Congress in Vienna in June 2009.

Mr Flausch is also the president of the Belgium Union of Regional Public Transports (UBTCUR) which gathers the three national public transport companies.

Since April 2000, Mr. Flausch has led the STIB through an in-depth cultural change, conducting a complete renewal both of the commercial approach and the corporate management, setting a new company culture where clients are at the very heart of the service provision. Since 1999, STIB ridership has increased by more than 100% and last June STIB received the '4-star Recognised for Excellence' label awarded by the European Foundation for Quality Management (EFQM).

From September 1973 to January 1982 Mr Flausch was an attorney at the cabinet Simont Gutt & Simont in Brussels.

From February 1982 to March 1990 He held the position of Deputy General Manager with the Chemical Belgian Group Prayon-Rupel.

From April 1990 to 1999 Alain Flausch joins IP Belgium, the first media sales house in Belgium, as Managing Director.

Mr Flausch was born in Brussels on November 1950. He still lives in the Belgium capital. He is a lawyer and holds a Master from the University of Berkeley (California). He is bilingual French-Dutch, he speaks fluently English and as a good command of Italian.

Alain Flausch is married and father of two children. His centres of interest include all different forms of arts and culture as well as political history. Mr Flausch is also engaged in favour of nature preservation.

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Ousmane THIAM
President of the International Association of Public Transport (UITP)

Ousmane Thiam is 59 years old and is a Civil Engineer (1978). He holds a PhD in Transport Economics (1984).

Mr Thiam occupied various high-level posts in the Senegal public administration at regional and central levels managing public works (roads planning and management).

Mr Thiam then went on to occupy the post of Principal Technical Adviser to the Minister of Equipment and Land Transport (1993). In 1995, he was appointed Principal Private Secretary at the Town Planning and Housing Ministry (1995). Since September 1997, Mr Thiam has been Chairman of the Conseil exécutif des Transports urbains de Dakar (the Dakar Urban Transport Executive Council), the first urban public transport organising authority in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Since April 2007, Mr. Thiam has been President of UATP (African Association of Public Transport), headquartered in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, and he has been UITP Vice-President since May 2007.

Furthermore, Ousmane Thiam has attended several high-level international meetings relating to transport and housing issues.

He is Commander of Senegal's National Order of the Lion.

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Hans Rat Outgoing Secretary General of the International Association of Public Transport

Hans Rat has been the Secretary General of the International Association of Public Transport (UITP) since 19 June 1998, having his contract renewed for a third term in 2006.

Significant achievements for UITP under Mr Rat's direction so far include:

- UITP's expansion onto the global marketplace;
- a stronger representation of all mobility actors within the Association;
- a more decisive role in policy development; and
- the active involvement of UITP members in their Association's activities.

In 1990 Mr Rat was appointed as Managing Director and a Board Member of NV Verenigd Streekvervoer Nederland, a holding company which owned public transport, taxi and coach companies. He was responsible for the group's marketing and information technology and he shared responsibilities on strategy and international affairs. He was also President of the Dutch Pedestrians Association (2000).

In 1975 he was appointed as Secretary to the Public Transport Division of KNVTO and in 1978 he became the Deputy General Secretary of that Association. He was responsible for the Association's contribution to public transport's policy in several ways, such as the introduction of a nation-wide tariff system for public transport which is still unique in the world.

In 1973 he joined the Royal Dutch Association of Transport Companies (KNVTO) as a junior staff member where he specialised in financial matters for companies operating in the following sectors: public transport, road, haulage, coaches and taxis.

Mr Rat's involvement in UITP dates back to before his role as Secretary General with previous offices including Chairman of the Commission on Transport Economics, Vice-President, and member of the European Union Committee.

Mr Rat was born in 's-Hertogenbosch, the Netherlands in 1945. He graduated in International Economics at the University of Tilburg. He went on to be a trainee at the European Community Commission in Brussels for six months.

Mr Rat is married and has five children. He lives both in Brussels and in the old 'silver town' of Schoonhoven near Utrecht. His leisure pursuits include sailing his 80-year-old sailing barge, rowing and, in the past, running the New York Marathon, an event in which he took part several times. He is also a fervent user of public transport and bike.

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International Association of Public Transport (UITP) Connecting the world of Public Transport

UITP ACTS AS...

**3,400
Members**



The global **network** of all mobility actors

**92
countries**

UITP is a global network with **3,400** members from some **92** countries, including public transport authorities and operators, policy decision-makers, scientific institutes and the public transport supply and service industry.

**All
modes**

> It is a platform covering **all** modes of public transport where members can connect and share experiences.

> UITP has its headquarters in Brussels and **11** regional and liaison offices around the globe.

> About **30** events every year

**11
regional
offices**

**30
events/year**

**World
Congress
every 2
years**



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UITP ACTS AS...



The catalyst for new **business** opportunities



UITP is a platform

where public transport stakeholders can:

- > set up business **partnerships** and **joint ventures**
- > establish **connections** in a neutral and trusted environment

UITP holds

- > the **largest** urban and transport exhibition in the world every two years
- > several **regional** and **thematic** congresses and showcases

10 training programmes

10 visionary and innovative projects

Biennial world exhibition



The promoter of **innovations** and forward looking **solutions**

UITP anticipates needs and comes up with innovative solutions to be prepared for tomorrow through:

- > About 10 **training programmes** held by UITP every year
- > Some 10 **visionary** and **innovative projects**
- > A **biennial World Exhibition** as well as regional ones

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UITP ACTS AS...



The global centre of knowledge and **know-how**

Mobi+
database
32,000
references

PTI
magazine **6**
times a
year in **6**
languages

15 new
publications
every year



UITP is an EXPERT for the entire public transport sector acting as a:

- > Point of **reference**, centre of **best practices** and **benchmarking**, and a **knowledge hub** on past and current developments as well as future trends
- > Thanks to the work of the different UITP **Commissions** and **Committees**, the Association offers its members various tools:
 - **Mobi+**, electronic library with some **32,000** references
 - **Public Transport International**, published **6** times a year in **6** languages
 - About **15 new publications** every year in addition to many reports, surveys, studies and projects

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UITP ACTS AS...



The **advocate** for public transport and sustainable mobility

UITP is the voice of the entire public transport sector and has a strong political and economic influence when defending the sector's interests through:

- > The **EU-Committee**
- > Collaboration with **international bodies** such as the United Nations (UNEP, UNESCO, UN-HABITAT, UNFCCC...) and the World Bank
- > **Focus Papers** (official UITP positions)
- > The **Charter on Sustainable Development** already signed by more than 150 UITP members
- > **Press relations** with both general and trade press
- > **Awareness campaigns** 
- > The **Youth Project** 
- > UITP **Strategy** for the public transport sector: doubling public transport market share worldwide by **2025**. In order to reduce energy consumption caused by transport, public transport is the smart green solution.



Public transport: the smart green solution

Doubling the market share of public transport worldwide by 2025

2025=PTx2

Cities and governments have a crucial role to play in order to foster economic development and wealth creation. For urban mobility, this involves prioritizing public transport.

- Public transport empowers the economy
- Public transport helps the planet breathe
- Public transport alleviates congestion
- Public transport brings everyone everywhere

Therefore UITP calls on governments, operators, authorities, investors and the industry to take action and forge a better mobility for our cities.

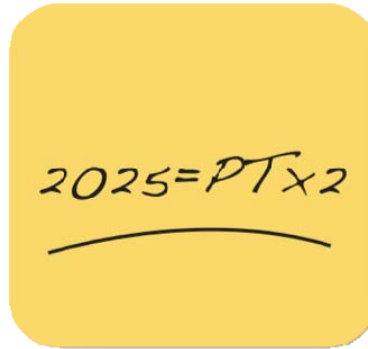
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Doubling the market share of public transport worldwide by 2025

In June 2009, the International Association of Public Transport (UITP), set out an ambitious aim for the sector, namely to double the market share of public transport worldwide by 2025. This ambition goes by the name of **'PTx2'**.

Whilst this aim is undoubtedly bold, it is not unrealistic: many cities have already taken up the challenge and are working towards this goal, in line with their specific political, geographical and historical contexts.

Why such an ambition?

With urban population due to reach more than half of the world population by 2025, cities will come to a standstill if we do not take action.

The financial, economic and environmental crises are a stark reminder of the need for urgent action to ensure that our cities offer a comfortable living environment.

Public transport is a vital part of the solution. It:

- empowers the economy;
- helps the planet breathe;
- connects everyone everywhere; and
- alleviates congestion.

How to achieve such an ambition?

UITP's call for action is aimed at governments, local authorities, investors and stakeholders, as well as public transport actors themselves, be they organising authorities, operators or industry suppliers.

Strong political will, intelligent urban planning, the right balance between private cars, public transport, walking and cycling, good operating conditions and a dynamic public transport sector: these are some of the essential ingredients needed to keep our cities moving.

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