Keolis and Volvo demonstrate an autonomous 12-metre long electric bus at a depot in Sweden

On 12 November 2019, Keolis and Volvo demonstrated a 12-metre long electric bus at the Keolis depot in Gothenburg, Sweden, able to park, wash and charge itself completely autonomously. The demonstration was given by Håkan Agnevall, CEO of Volvo Bus, and Jan Kilstroem, CEO of Keolis Sweden, to Lars Backström, CEO of Västrafik (Gothenburg PTA), Malin Andersson, Head of Development and International Affairs, City of Gothenburg, and Mats Peterson, Local Business Manager for Electrification at ABB, among other attendees.

Thanks to software developed by Volvo, the bus is controlled and monitored from a control room. Automating the operations performed in the bus depot reduces the time the buses spend there, which means that fleet availability is increased, and the size of the depot can be reduced. It also minimises the risk of collisions and optimises safety. Finally, it enables the bus to come to the driver, rather than the driver going to the bus.

A pioneer in autonomous vehicles, Keolis has been testing autonomous shuttles since 2016 with its partner Navya. Since then, Keolis has started operating autonomous shuttles in other cities in France including Paris, Rennes and Lille as well as in the UK, Australia, Canada, and the US. Since 2016, Keolis has carried 170,000 passengers in autonomous vehicles over 75,000 km. In the context of a growing autonomous vehicle market, Keolis is collaborating with Ericsson, a leader in mobile networks, to use 5G technology to remotely control and supervise autonomous vehicle fleets.

About 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, 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, coaches, trolleybuses, 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 62,200 people in 15 countries* and recorded revenue of 5.9 billion euros in 2018. Each year, over 3 billion passengers worldwide use one of the shared mobility services offered by Keolis. www.keolis.com

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

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