PRESS RELEASE

UITP CELEBRATES RAIL ACHIEVEMENT AS AUTOMATED METRO REACHES 1000KM MILESTONE

Brussels, 9 May 2018

UITP is delighted to celebrate a major rail achievement – automated metro lines across the world have reached the 1000km milestone.

The UITP Observatory of Automated Metros – the permanent UITP body commissioned to disseminate and share the most current and relevant knowledge about automated metro lines – is pleased to see this achievement highlighted.

Thanks to the Pujiang Line, which opened late March in Shanghai, China, the total of kilometres of fully automated metros in the world is now over 1000km.

Today there are 63 FAO (Fully Automated Operations) lines in 42 cities in 19 countries, making a total of 1003km.

The world’s first FAO line was opened in 1981 in Kobe, Japan – with it taking 29 years to reach 500km.

However, it took only a further eight years to double that figure, bringing us to the current milestone.

“Fully automated metro operations is a proven solution which offers many benefits including safety, flexibility of operations, larger capacity, cost-efficiency and more fulfilling jobs for staff, which lead to an enhanced customer service. Significantly, no city that has built an automated metro line has ever reverted to conventional mode afterwards; furthermore it is expected that conversions of conventional lines to fully automated operations will also multiply. The milestone of 1,000 km has been reached after years of exponential growth and according to data collected by UITP’s Observatory of Automated Metros, expansion will continue at a faster rate still in the next decade.”

Ramón Malla
Director of Strategic Projects
Transports Metropolitans de Barcelona and
Chairman, Observatory of Automated Metros

The Observatory of Automated Metros is a permanent UITP body that gathers the world’s leading operators with experience in fully automated operations. It exchanges best practices in key issues affecting automatic metro operation and monitors the global evolution and trends in line automation development and implementation.

Growth of FAO has been exponential and UITP’s rail division is delighted to acknowledge this success.
“In these 1000km we find a diversity of profiles of lines and cities around the world. This demonstrates the broad range of services that automated lines can offer to meet the mobility challenges for cities in the years ahead. UITP has been working for many years to disseminate information about these solutions and help cities that adopt it. Our Association created the Observatory of Automated Metros in 2008 to study the specificities, monitor developments, disseminate knowledge and support the wider adoption of automated metros.”

Laurent Dauby
UITP Director Rail Transport

FAO also has a proven track-record for safety. With adequate redundancy built-in, fully automated metros are generally safer as human factors in safety-critical decisions are reduced.

AUTOMATION TODAY

To join UITP at our International Rail Conference, combined with SITCE for the first time in Asia, please visit our dedicated event page.

In order to stay involved with all of UITP’s news, events, press releases, policy briefs and position papers stay connected to our newsroom daily.

NOTE TO EDITORS
The International Association of Public Transport (UITP) is a passionate champion of sustainable urban mobility and is the only worldwide network to bring together all public transport stakeholders and all sustainable transport modes. We have 1,500 member companies giving access to 18,000 contacts from 96 countries. Our members are public transport authorities and operators, policy decision-makers, research institutes and the public transport supply and service industry. Visit our website www.uitp.org. Follow us on Twitter: @UITPpress

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