

## Press Release

# Hydrogen fuel cell bus at La Roche-sur-Yon: RATP Dev active in hydrogen fuel ecosystem unmatched in France

**La Roche-sur-Yon, 9 December 2021 – RATP Dev, whose subsidiary CTY operates the La Roche-sur-Yon municipal federation's Impulsyon transport network, has put a hydrogen-fuelled bus into service. This deployment is a concrete result of the unprecedented 100% green, 100% local hydrogen fuel production ecosystem that the Vendée energy authority (SyDEV) manages through its public-private entity Vendée Energie. With the new bus, RATP Dev demonstrates its ability to support urban transport networks of all sizes in their transition to emission-free fleets.**

### A green, local energy production model

With the 9 December inauguration of the multienergy (i.e., green electricity, green hydrogen, and biomethane) station in La Roche-sur-Yon, SyDEV has finished implementing an energy production ecosystem that is 100% local and 100% green, making it unique in France.

The local players involved include RATP Dev, urban transport operator and trusted partner of the La Roche-sur-Yon municipal federation, which hosts the station and uses it to power its Impulsyon transport network. The start-up Lhyfe, which recently opened its first hydrogen production plant, has also embarked on this adventure.

### Environmentally conscious local government and transport operator

The La Roche-sur-Yon municipal federation, which is especially committed to addressing environmental issues, could count on the support of RATP Dev. As early as 2018, the federation adopted a clean air and energy plan it resolutely applies. Mobility measures taken under the plan include training in green driving habits for network bus drivers, replacement of certain regular bus lines with demand-responsive transport (DRT) services, and adaptation of vehicle lubricants.

In February 2017, the French Environment and Energy Management Agency (ADEME) and the AFT (transport vocational training development association) awarded the La Roche-sur-Yon municipal federation and CTY the prize for best collaboration between a local authority and its urban transport operator at the first edition of the Trophées Objectif CO<sub>2</sub>, inaugurated after the Grenelle de l'Environnement.

To ensure this pilot project contributes to the dissemination of hydrogen fuel technology, RATP Dev is actively involved in a CNAM-sponsored joint professorship whose founding members are the La Roche-sur-Yon municipal federation and SyDEV.

Hiring an electrical engineering trainee specialized in smart grids is the first task of RATP Dev within the scope of this professorship. The engineer will analyse and model the behaviour of the bus's electrical systems. The aim is for the resulting digital model to virtually replicate the vehicle, allowing the simulation of any bus operating conditions, and determination of those that are best.

## RATP Dev accompanies local authorities in their clean energy transitions

### **Jorge Couto, Head of Industrial Performance for RATP Dev in France and Switzerland:**

As experts and promoters of clean mobility solutions, our priority is to get local authorities to think bigger than mere means of propulsion (e.g., electric, biomethane, or hydrogen) and to help them embrace a comprehensive approach that integrates all facets of the transport network operation ecosystem: infrastructures, vehicle fleet, maintenance, training, regulatory aspects, and information systems.

One of our convictions is that the energy transition must proceed without sacrificing any of the network-specific improvements—in comfort, reliability, service quality, and the adaptation of infrastructure to operating conditions—made over the years and from which our clients benefit.

We are also persuaded that the path to clean mobility must be trodden by municipalities of all sizes, from rural towns to metropolises. Thus, we are proud to support the mid-sized La Roche-sur-Yon municipal federation in the implementation of a clean and innovative energy mix.

### **Alexandre Galvez, Director of CTY, operator of the Impulsyon transport network:**

Diesel, biomethane, electric, and hydrogen buses each have specific characteristics and constraints. So you need to assign the right type of bus to the right kind of route, and at La Roche-sur-Yon, we have all four types! Through the skills and expertise of RATP Dev, we have perfectly integrated hydrogen into the energy mix of the Impulsyon network. And this is obvious to our passengers because the hydrogen bus, in addition to being emission-free, is silent and offers the same comfort, interior, and road behaviour as the other vehicles in the fleet.

The level of support offered by RATP Dev for the energy transition of vehicle fleets is matched to the ambition of the municipality in question and the size of its transport network. It may consist in the loan of a vehicle for a test period of a few days, or the deployment of the network's first clean-fuel vehicle, or assistance for the full transition of the entire fleet. The approach taken by RATP Dev evidently covers all aspects of this process, including guidance for vehicle acquisition, bus depot transformation, and training for drivers and maintenance personnel.

## Press contact

Lucas Goret

+33 (0)1 58 78 37 37

[lucas.goret@ratp.fr](mailto:lucas.goret@ratp.fr) / [servicedepresse@ratp.fr](mailto:servicedepresse@ratp.fr)

### About the RATP Group

With 16 million passengers transported every day around the world, the RATP group is one of the world's largest urban transport operators. Established in 14 countries across four continents through the subsidiary RATP Dev, the Group operates eight modes of transport daily (namely metro, urban and interurban bus, tram, rail, cable car, maritime shuttle, DRT and sightseeing services). It is also integrated all along the new mobility chain, through its role in the provision of driverless shuttle, shared electric scooter, ride-sharing, car-sharing, and smart parking lot services. A renowned expert in infrastructure management and engineering, the Group also offers a wide range of urban services through its subsidiaries, working in property management and engineering, commercial space, fibre optics, and bespoke passenger-information and innovative ticketing solutions. In Île-de-France, RATP has been operating one of the world's densest multimodal networks for over 70 years. Through its 69,000 employees, the Group designs, deploys, and drives innovative mobility solutions and services for more liveable and sustainable cities. @RATPGroup

### About RATP Dev

Created in 2002, RATP Dev operates and maintains urban and interurban transport networks in 14 countries on 4 continents—in Algeria, Belgium, China, Egypt, France, Italy, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Switzerland, the Philippines, the United Kingdom, and the United States. With more than 1.5 billion passengers travelling on its networks every year, RATP Dev demonstrates every day its extensive and renowned expertise in a wide range of mobility services, ranging from rail, regional express rail, tramway, to bus, cable car and sightseeing activities. RATP Dev leverages in France, outside of Paris, and across international markets the technical expertise and experience of the RATP group, the leader in driverless and tramway operations and operator of the Paris network, one of the largest public transportation networks in the world.