

Press release

RATP Dev and Borini Développement operate the new STAR'T public transit network on behalf of the Thonon Municipal Authority

Thonon-les-Bains, France – On May 2, 2022, RATP Dev and Borini Développement began operating the new STAR'T unified public transit network on behalf of the Thonon Municipal Authority. With this contract, RATP Dev reaffirms its status as the leading public transit operator in the Haute-Savoie region. This new network brings together and seamlessly operates what were previously six independently managed networks. This new organization is modernized, better connected, and easier for passengers to understand. Starting on January 1, 2023 the STAR'T network will double the current public transit offer, marking a commitment to mobility never before seen in France.

A network designed on the ground, with the needs of local residents in mind

With this decision to entrust a single operator with a public transit service previously split between six independent networks, the municipal authority of Thonon has shown its commitment to mobility.

In practical terms, this is illustrated by a doubling of the public transit service provision within the area governed by the municipal authority. “This scale of increase in the provision of public transit is a first in France. We can take pride in that. Furthermore, our new STAR'T network will make more sense, with a service provision and timetables tailored to the needs of commuters and schoolchildren, and better connected with the French and Swiss intercity networks,” explained **Christophe Arminjon, Chairman of the Thonon Municipal Authority**.

“Anticipating passengers’ needs and providing a high-quality service requires a pragmatic approach, some useful innovations, and detailed knowledge of the local area. A culture of innovation is something that we inherited from our parent company, the RATP Group. We have been operating public transit services in Haute-Savoie for almost 20 years now. Today, we are the leading operator in the region, which gives us in-depth knowledge of the local mobility issues. We use that knowledge to better serve the people of Thonon,” explained **Jean-Pierre Philibert, RATP Dev’s Director for the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes and Switzerland zone**. That local knowledge is further strengthened by a partnership with Borini Développement, a family-owned transportation company based in Haute-Savoie. Together, these two partners created RDB Thonon, the entity that manages the STAR'T network.

A modern public transit service, a seamless and connected network

This new network is easier for its users to understand. With 75 vehicles running 11 bus routes and a cable railway, it covers the whole municipality at both peak and off-peak times. The service is structured to pick up passengers arriving at railway stations and lakeside landing stages to get them to

Geneva and Lausanne before 7.30 a.m. We offer them an easy way to get to the main business districts, such as Douvaine les Esserts, Bons-en-Chablais, and the Bracots business park.

In terms of locations and timetables, the STAR'T network also meets the needs of commuters using the CGN-Mobility boat service, the 271 bus route (operated by RATP Dev), and the Léman Express rail service, ensuring easier travel throughout the region. Commuting is also made easier by the integration of all those modes of transportation into the network's newly created MaaS (Mobility as a Service) mobile app.

The vehicles that operate the STAR'T network are housed in two depots, including one newly created in the Espace Leman intercommunal business park in Anthy-sur-Léman.

RATP Dev and Borini Développement are also committed to implementing the most modern operating standards through an MaaS (Mobility as a Service) approach: paperless tickets (M-ticketing), a dedicated mobile app that commuters can use, for example, to plan their itinerary and look up information in real time (buses and coaches), or plan upcoming journeys (train, Léman Express, or regional coaches).

Employment and working conditions as a priority

RATP Dev and Borini Développement are committed to corporate social responsibility and job creation. Not only will all the employees of the six existing networks be kept on, but ultimately 40 additional jobs will be created.

The new STAR'T network requested by the municipal authority and operated by RATP Dev and Borini Développement has also led to improvements for the staff, in particular by increasing the number of permanent/full-time employment contracts and improving their working conditions.

RATP Group press office

+33 (0)1 58 78 37 37

servicedepresse@ratp.fr

About RATP Dev

Created in 2002, RATP Dev operates and maintains urban and intercity public transit networks in 14 countries on four continents (France, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Italy, Belgium, Algeria, Morocco, Egypt, South Africa, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, China, the Philippines, and the United States of America). Day by day, RATP Dev demonstrates 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 services. RATP Dev capitalizes on the technical know-how and experience of the RATP Group—the leader in driverless mobility, tramway services, and operator of the Paris multimodal public transit network, one of the largest in the world—to develop its activities in France and internationally. In France, RATP Dev operates networks in some 40 cities, towns, and administrative regions (Bourges, Boulogne-sur-Mer, Vierzon, Charleville-Mézières, Annemasse...).