

Press Release

LAUNCH OF “I2TC” PROJECT PUBLIC TRANSPORT INTERCONNECTIONS AND CABLE TECHNOLOGIES

CABLE TRANSPORT FOR SUSTAINABLE CITIES

The aim of the I2TC project is to adapt cable transport systems, typically used in mountain settings, to the requirements, challenges and needs of modern and sustainable cities. I2TC stands for “public transport interconnections and cable technologies”. This applied R&D project received funding from the French government after winning a call for projects (Fonds unique interministériel 17). It is being carried out by an Eiffage-led consortium comprising POMA, a cable transport specialist; RATP, a public transport corporation; CD-VIA, a consulting firm; The Vibrant Project, a digital agency; the University of Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne; and engineering schools ENSTA ParisTech and École Centrale de Lyon.

Certified by the Advancity and LUTB competitiveness clusters, the €4.3 million project receives €1.6 million in funding from the Fonds unique interministériel,* the City of Paris and the Île-de-France and Rhône-Alpes regions. The three-year I2TC project will encourage the development of cable-drawn urban transport both domestically and worldwide and will spotlight France’s excellence in this field.

The project’s major goal is to relieve traffic congestion by overcoming various obstacles and congested roads and by taking fullest advantage of the third, overhead dimension as a dedicated public transport lane. By avoiding interference with ground vehicle traffic, this method of transport provides an opportunity to improve dense or suburban sections of metropolitan areas and extend existing urban networks.

I2TC takes a market-based approach to implementing sustainable development objectives, with a strong focus on contemporary and future cities’ social and civic goals as well as a low-carbon, economical and energy-efficient environmental solution leading to significant urban improvement.

TECHNOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL CHALLENGES

The consortium draws on the complementary skills and technical expertise of its members, with the aim of:

- adapting to demanding urban requirements,
- increasing cable transport’s maximum speed to improve traffic flow and capacity,
- achieving smooth integration of the infrastructure into the urban environment,
- overcoming psychological and technical barriers to the urban use of public transport that most users associate with winter sports.



***Le Fonds unique interministériel (FUI 17)**

In coordination with the presidents of France's Regional Councils, the government ministries responsible for overseeing competitiveness cluster policy announced the funding of 65 new collaborative R&D projects, with the State awarding €50 million in grants. The projects were selected from among 134 proposals received in response to the 17th FUI call for projects. They were chosen for their high level of innovation and their potential for generating economic activity. In addition to the State's financial support, they will also receive €39 million in funding from regional authorities and the European Union (ERDF).

A CONSORTIUM WITH COMPLEMENTARY SKILLS SHOWCASING A NEW FIELD OF EXCELLENCE IN FRANCE

***Eiffage** is a one of Europe's leading construction and concessions companies. The Group's activities are organised as five business lines: construction, civil works, energy, metal and concessions with public-private partnerships. Thanks to the experience of more than 66,000 employees, Eiffage generated revenues of €14 billion in 2014, including 16% outside France. Eiffage Métal, a long-time leader in turnkey metal construction, builds outstanding structures both in France and abroad. It relies on the experience of nearly 5,000 employees and generated revenues of €894 million in 2014.
www.eiffage.com*

***RATP Group**, with some 14 million daily passengers worldwide, is the fifth largest urban transport operator in the world. With its 14 metro lines (including two driverless lines), two regional express rail lines, seven tramway lines and 350 bus lines and shuttle services catering for the Paris region's two international airports, the multimodal network operated by RATP in the Paris region is the largest in the world to be managed by a single company.*

RATP Group exports its operations and maintenance expertise all over the world through its RATP Dev subsidiary. RATP Dev now operates in 14 countries (United Kingdom, France, Italy, Switzerland, Algeria, Morocco, South Africa, Saudi Arabia, United States, Brazil, India, China, South Korea and the Philippines) across four continents (Europe, Asia, Africa and the Americas). In the area of cable transport systems, RATP Group operates the Montmartre funicular in Paris and the Salève cable car system in Haute-Savoie. This cable car is a major tourist attraction of the "Grand Genève" (Greater Geneva) development currently underway.

www.ratp.fr - www.twitter.com/GroupeRATP

*With over 8,000 installations worldwide over the last 80 years, **French company POMA** has become a major player in cable transport solutions. POMA's innovative solutions span the world, with the company providing its cable transport expertise in snowy environments as well as the sciences, industry and urban transport. Each day, over 6.5 million people are transported by POMA-manufactured equipment. In 2014, POMA generated revenues of €290.6 million.
www.poma.net - www.twitter.com/POMARPEWAYS*

***CD-VIA** is an independent French consulting firm specialising in travel and mobility. Its 30-person staff focuses on measuring, analysing and modelling transport, traffic and accessibility issues.
www.cdvia.fr*



The Vibrant Project, an agency that specializes in creating innovative spaces, has for 10 years been designing singular projects based on a defining concept: actual places must be redefined by the impact of the virtual and then “repackaged” using technology and new digital tools, such as images, light, and mobile or 3D apps. The Vibrant Project thus creates “augmented” objects and places, i.e. programmable, narrative, experiential and interactive. The agency focuses on three areas: cities, retail space and hospitality (such as hotels at corporate headquarters).

www.thevibrantproject.com

The University of Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne is a French university offering programmes in economics, management, arts, humanities, law and political science. Since the early 2000s, it has played an important role in the environmental sciences after developing a programme in law, economics and regional planning with a focus on this scientific and operational field. The university’s first corporate chair was created in this discipline.

www.univ-paris1.fr

ENSTA ParisTech, located in Palaiseau at the Paris-Saclay technology competitiveness cluster, is an elite French engineering school that belongs to the Conférence des Grandes Ecoles. It educates 200 engineers a year. It also offers Master’s and Specialized Master’s degrees, and a large number of PhD. students conduct research in its laboratories.

www.ensta-paristech.fr

Founded in 1857 to meet the needs of a rapidly growing industrial sector, the **École Centrale de Lyon** awards some 400 engineering degrees and 70 PhDs every year (220 PhD. students were enrolled during the 2010/2011 academic year). The coursework benefits from the excellence of the research conducted in six on-campus laboratories supported by the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) as well as the influence of the international joint research project the school is carrying out with Canada and four partner laboratories in South Korea, Japan, China and Brazil.

With the openness of mind common to all institutions belonging to the Groupe des Écoles Centrales (an engineering school federation), it has become widely recognized for its very high level of generalist education by both companies and prestigious universities, with which it has signed dual-degree agreements.

www.ec-lyon.fr



Press Contacts

Eiffage

Sophie Mairé

Tel.: + 33 (0)1 41 32 81 12

sophie.maire@eiffage.com

RATP

Steve Viala

Tel.: + 33 (0)1 58 78 37 37

servicedepresse@ratp.fr

POMA

Alexandre Bérard

Tel.: + 33 (0)6 08 61 36 97

alex@alternativemedia.fr

CD-VIA

Mathieu Philippot

Tel.: + 33 (0)1 43 53 76 06

m.philippot@cdvia.fr

The Vibrant Project

Émilie Prévost

Tel.: + 33 (0)6 25 17 34 46

emilie.prevost@thevibrantproject.com

Université Paris I

Panthéon-Sorbonne

Pierre Pech

Tel.: +33 (0)6 87 58 18 64

pierre.pech@univ-paris1.fr

ENTSA ParisTech

Sandra Lanfranchi

Tel.: + 33 (0)1 81 87 17 75

relationspresse

@ensta-paristech.fr

École Centrale de Lyon

Catherine Giraud-Mainand

Tel.: + 33 (0)1 72 18 63 76

catherine.giraud-

mainand@ec-lyon.fr

TBWA Corporate:

Lea Manuel

Tel.: + 33 (0)4 37 47 36 29

lea.manuel@tbwa-

corporate.com