



Press release

RATP Dev UK and Tower Transit announce new joint venture in West London

- A new joint venture will operate across West London under the London United, London Sovereign and newly created London Transit brands
- Partnership will further electrification efforts, drive efficiencies and provide greater opportunities for shared expertise

23rd September 2021, London – In response to an increasingly competitive London bus market requiring greater investment and market adaptation, RATP Dev UK and Tower Transit announce today the formation of a new joint venture. Effective from December 2021, this new joint venture will see two established players in the London bus market come together in West London as RATP Dev Transit London. Under the terms of the joint venture agreement, RATP Dev will operate as the majority partner.

Under the London United, London Sovereign and the new London Transit brands, the joint venture will operate 115 routes from 10 garages, in West London. Lea Interchange, in East London, will remain a separate Tower Transit entity.

Commenting today, Mehdi Sinaceur, RATP Dev Senior VP - United Kingdom, South Africa, and Americas Business Unit, said: “We are delighted to have reached a joint venture agreement with Tower Transit. Both RATP Dev London* and Tower Transit are well established operators in West London and this partnership will increase our competitiveness, improve our cost base, further our commitment to electrification, enhance our offer to passengers and expand opportunities for employees. We look forward to working closely with our colleagues at Tower Transit to ensure the opportunities afforded by the partnership are fully realised.”

Paul Cox, Chairman of the Tower Transit Group and CFO of SeaLink Travel Group’s international operations, added “This is a very exciting development for Tower Transit and its parent, the SeaLink Travel Group. The negotiation of this agreement has already proved a close working relationship can be achieved which will be mutually beneficial, with common vision and values existing from the outset.

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(*) trading name for the London bus operations of RATP Dev UK

About RATP Dev

Founded in 2002, RATP Dev operates and maintains urban transportation systems in 13 countries on four continents (the United Kingdom, France, Italy, Switzerland, Algeria, Morocco, South Africa, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, China, the Philippines, and the United States of America). 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. More information: www.ratpdev.com

In London, RATP Dev London employs over 3,500 valued team members transporting 250 million passengers each year around the capital. It operates 1,100 buses on over 100 routes from 10 garages located in West London. By 2022, 24% of the RATP Dev London fleet will be electric with the electrification of 6 of its garages operating 13 electric routes.

About Tower Transit

Since 2013, Tower Transit Group has operated from sites in West and East London, and since 2015 also in Singapore. It was acquired by SeaLink Travel Group Limited (ASX: SLK) in 2020, Australia’s largest integrated land and marine tourism service provider. SeaLink is one of Australia’s most experienced and diverse multi-modal transport businesses, boasting performance-driven capabilities across ferry, bus and light rail. SeaLink is made up of Australian marine and tourism operations and Transit Systems’ domestic and international public bus and light rail transport operations. SeaLink moved more than 207 million customers in FY2021, has approximately 9,000 employees and operates approximately 3,800 buses, 117 ferries and 24 light rail vehicles.

For more information, see <http://sealinktravelgroup.com.au>

In West London, Tower Transit employs around 500 staff who facilitate over 12 million passenger journeys each year on 8 routes. Of the current 131 vehicles in operation 37, representing 28% of the fleet, are on two fully electrified routes.

Further information

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