

## Press release

Versailles, 10 December 2018

Innovative Mobility: A French First!

### **Self-Driving, Connected Shuttles from VEDECOM in the Future Mobility Cluster**

Announcing *Framboise* and *Litchi*, two "extended perception" shuttles

**With the inauguration of the VEDECOM shuttles for the future mobility cluster on Monday 10 December 2018, the roll-out of self-driving vehicles is shifting into high gear.** Spearheaded by VEDECOM Tech, VEDECOM and Paris-Saclay, and operated by Transdev, this service is sponsored by a number of organisations: the Ile-de-France region, Versailles Grand Parc, the Department of Yvelines, the General Secretariat for Investment, and the Investing in the Future "City of Tomorrow" programme overseen by Banque des Territoires.

**For the first time ever in France,** the Satory plateau in Versailles (in the Yvelines department) will launch a service of EZ10 self-driving shuttles **equipped with extended perception on the open road.** These shuttles, developed using EasyMile technology, work for both passengers and researchers: they improve everyday mobility with a last-kilometre service, and they also serve as a valuable tool for mobility observations and research. This new service is the perfect fit for the goals of the Vision for Mobility bill that was introduced in late November; its aims include improving everyday travel with the introduction of self-driving shuttles.

#### **Smart Infrastructure**

These interconnected shuttles feature extended perception capabilities: they are connected to a monitoring centre that interfaces with road infrastructure. The goal of this unprecedented initiative is to continuously improve the intelligence of self-driving vehicles. Its strategic location in the heart of the future mobility cluster will keep this service on the cutting-edge of technology. In fact, researchers will be able to use these shuttles on a daily basis, giving them the chance to experience their latest innovations.

#### **Travel Made Easier Down to the Last Kilometre**

The arrival of self-driving shuttles makes travel easier for Allée des Marronniers employees and visitors, providing just the service they needed. This new offering fits in with the existing mobility range.

The free VEDECOM shuttles cover the last kilometre between the Cité des Cadres bus stop, located 1.1km away, and the companies on the Satory plateau.

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From 8 am to 7 pm, Monday through Friday, employees in the area can make use of the two self-driving shuttles, baptised Framboise and Litchi, each of which has 12 seats and offers access for persons with limited mobility.

### A Multi-Stage Roll-Out in 2019

The service will be getting even better in the coming months. With the BlushMeUp app, passengers can locate the shuttles in real time, call them for pickup, calculate their travel time and measure their environmental footprint. As stakeholders in the service, the passengers can also evaluate the service and suggest improvements. In time, digital kiosks will be set up at the stations, allowing passengers to locate and order the shuttles; the service will eventually be connected to the planned Bir-Hakeim smart car park located at the start of the route.

- **Project sponsors:** the Investing in the Future "City of Tomorrow" programme overseen by Banque des Territoires, the Ile-de-France region, Versailles Grand Parc, the Department of Yvelines, and the General Secretariat for Investment.
- **Implemented by:** VEDECOM Tech, VEDECOM, and the Paris-Saclay Public Development Agency
- **Self-driving EZ10 shuttles developed by:** EasyMile
- **Service operated by:** Transdev