Flexible mobility for all: ioki launches first demand responsive transport project in France

First service with technology powered by ioki in France • mobility project with inclusive purpose • attractive and environmentally friendly alternative to the private car

(Frankfurt/Les Mureaux, 9thDecember 2021) The software company ioki launches its very first demand responsive transport (DRT) project in France together with mobility start-up VanO. ioki, leading provider of on-demand platform solutions and mobility analytics in Europe, supplies its smart ridepooling technology for the project, VanO is responsible for the operation.

The service in the city of Les Mureaux, 40 kilometres west of Paris, will start on Saturday, 11th of December and is intended to improve the mobility for residents, especially beyond the regular operating hours of public transport. The project pursues the approach of making mobility available for all citizens, like schoolchildren, professionals and senior citizens benefit from the flexible supplement.

"The recent development of new forms of mobility: free-floating bicycles and scooters, short-distance carpooling, etc. shows that it is possible to offer innovations in the field of daily mobility directly to the general public working alongside with local authorities. VanO offers a new mobility service, a demand responsive van, accessible to all, intended for medium-sized towns," says **Hugues Hansen, CEO** and founder of VanO.

"Our innovative technology, which we are offering on the French market for the first time, ensures environmentally friendly, inclusive and safe mobility. In this way, we significantly improve people's quality of life," says **Benjamin Pfeifer, Chief Commercial Officer** and member of the management board at ioki, responsible for ioki's services in Europe. "The project shows how demand responsive transport can fill specific mobility gaps. The inclusive character of this project matches our vision of connecting people and shaping the future of public transport."

More service and comfort for passengers

ioki provides the operating system for the digital mobility solution – passengers can book the shuttle in real time or in advance via a mobile application. The intelligent algorithm of the platform powered by ioki forms carpools between passengers with similar origins and destinations. This ensures efficient utilization of vehicle capacity and thus helps protect the climate and reduce urban congestion.

For this purpose, virtual stops were created in the city and are less than a minutes' walk away. The shuttle facilitates the daily commute by connecting new areas and increasing the frequency during offpeak hours. VanO's service closes the gap between the existing bus infrastructure and strengthens individual mobility without a car in the city of Les Mureaux. The on-demand shuttle is provided by VanO's partner Toyota France and offers space for up to eight people.

ioki continues growth path

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With the new service, ioki is continuing on a successful growth course in European countries outside the DACH region. The company's holistic and solution-oriented approach pursues a specific goal: to enhance more mobility by creating less traffic. ioki has been one of the pioneers of a new, digital and customer-centric mobility. This is also reflected in the user figures - more than one million passengers have already been transported on the platform. ioki is known as tech and mobility enabler across the DACH region and was able to launch several new services in Germany, Switzerland and Spain in the past twelve months despite the pandemic situation. The company is part of Deutsche Bahn, which has already realised around 330 on-demand services within the past three years, transporting seven million passengers.

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About ioki

The DB subsidiary ioki is the leading platform provider for driver-based and autonomous on-demand solutions in Europe with about 65 on-demand transports and more than 50 mobility analyses in six European countries. Since 2017, companies, cities and municipalities have relied on ioki's expertise to optimise and digitalise transport according to their individual needs. As a technology partner, ioki develops systems that are fully integrated into the existing public transport system, detailed mobility analyses for a data-based and demand-oriented offer as well as user-friendly platforms. More than 115 employees from over 23 nations work from the headquarters in Frankfurt to connect people and help to shape the future of public transport.

About VanO

The mission of VanO is to facilitate daily mobility for all. Our offer allows to promote living together, to break isolation and, to facilitate mobility for going to work or to a training course, while being respectful of the planet by proposing only shared trips to reduce pollution.

One French person out of four has refused a job or a training because of a lack of means to get there. Private cars account for 19% of total carbon emissions and, unlike the others, this type of emission has not yet started to decrease yet. <u>https://vano.mobi/</u>

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