



AUTONOMOUS SHUTTLE TRIAL STARTS **AT THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE**

23 May 2019 – A fully autonomous shuttle is going on trial at the National University of Singapore's (NUS) Kent Ridge campus, as part of a year-long study aimed at gauging the commercial viability of such a service.

To be operated by ComfortDelGro's wholly-owned subsidiary, ComfortDelGro Bus Pte Ltd, the EasyMile EZ10 autonomous bus shuttle, known as NUSmart Shuttle, will first embark on a 1.5 month-long road test at NUS' Kent Ridge Campus before commencing the trial proper. This trial is in line with NUS' ongoing efforts to build a smart, safe and sustainable campus.

The road test, which will begin on 25 May 2019, will see the NUSmart Shuttle plying a 1.6 km route between Heng Mui Keng Terrace and Business Link within the NUS campus. The key purpose of the road test is to "map" the route through the collection of data for the vehicle's navigation systems. To ensure the mapping is done accurately, the shuttle will be travelling at between 5km/h and 16km/h during this period.

Upon completion of the mapping process, the NUSmart Shuttle will run a validation test for three hours daily over a four-week period. During this time, the shuttle will not be taking passengers.

Following the road test, the NUSmart Shuttle is expected to commence the passenger service trial in the third quarter of the year. Funded and imported by Inchcape Singapore, it will be the first autonomous shuttle bus that is being run by a land transport operator in real mixed traffic conditions, alongside regular buses, cars and motorcycles. Inchcape Singapore, a strong supporter towards the adoption of technologies, also provides technical expertise on vehicle type approval.



Based on EasyMile’s robust autonomous technology, the NUSmart Shuttle is fully electric and can carry up to 12 people. The driverless shuttle follows a predefined route and is equipped with a full range of sensors to detect and avoid potential obstacles. It relies on its own internal array of software and hardware technologies for its navigation on the roads, without any assistance of external infrastructure. Benefitting from the latest developments in robotics and Artificial Intelligence, it is today the most deployed autonomous shuttle in the world with over 230 sites in more than 26 countries.

The NUSmart Shuttle is a driverless vehicle although it will have a Safety Operator on board for safety reasons. The Safety Operator will be on hand to provide information to passengers and ensure safe operation of the vehicle.

Besides the NUS trial, the ComfortDelGro Group, through its subsidiary, SBS Transit Ltd, is currently participating in two ongoing trials – in Sentosa and Jurong Island – where it is assisting in data collection, operations modelling and development.

Background



ComfortDelGro Corporation

ComfortDelGro is one of the world's largest land transport companies with a total fleet size of about 43,000 buses, taxis and rental vehicles. Headquartered in Singapore, the Group also has operations in China, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Australia, Vietnam and Malaysia.



EasyMile

EasyMile is a pioneer in driverless technology and smart mobility solutions.

The fast-growing start-up develops software to automate transportation, revolutionising passenger and goods transportation. It has already deployed over 230 driverless projects with more than 320,000 people transported over 600,000 km. Clients include the world's largest transport operators, city authorities, airports, corporations, business parks, and universities.

EasyMile has a global presence with headquarters in Toulouse (France) and regional offices in Denver (USA), Berlin (Germany), Adelaide (Australia) and Singapore. The Company employs over 150 highly-skilled and passionate employees.



Inchcape plc

Inchcape plc is the global distribution and retail leader in the premium and luxury automotive sectors. We are present in 32 national markets and operate as a key strategic partner to the world's foremost premium and luxury car brands. Inchcape Singapore is the sole distributor for Toyota, Lexus, Hino and Suzuki in Singapore.



National University of Singapore

The National University of Singapore (NUS) is Singapore's flagship university, which offers a global approach to education, research and entrepreneurship, with a focus on Asian perspectives and expertise. We have 17 faculties across three campuses in Singapore, as well as 12 NUS Overseas Colleges across the world. Close to 40,000 students from 100 countries enrich our vibrant and diverse campus community.

Our multidisciplinary and real-world approach to education, research and entrepreneurship enables us to work closely with industry, governments and academia to address crucial and complex issues relevant to Asia and the world. Researchers in our faculties, 29 university-level research institutes, research centres of excellence and corporate labs focus on themes that include energy, environmental and urban sustainability; treatment and prevention of diseases common among Asians; active ageing; advanced materials; as well as risk management and resilience of financial systems. Our latest research focus is on the use of data science, operations research and cybersecurity to support Singapore's Smart Nation initiative.

For more information on NUS, please visit www.nus.edu.sg.