Sopra Group and CTS are breaking new ground and launching the first smartphone ticketing app in Strasbourg

Paris, 25 June 2013 – Sopra Group, leader in consulting, IT services and software development in Europe has helped the Strasbourg-based transport company “Compagnie des Transports Strasbourgeois” or CTS launch the U’GO app, an innovative contactless ticketing solution aimed at urban transport users.

From the end of June, Strasbourg transport users will be able to access public transport ticketing services, from wherever they are, and store the information on their smartphones (http://www.cts-strasbourg.eu/). Payment via a mobile phone can be made by bank card or directly via the user’s phone bill. To validate the pre-purchased ticket, you simply swipe your smartphone over the TAG already installed on validating devices in tram stations and on buses.

U’GO is free and available on Android. Discussions are under way for the Windows Phone 8 to be equipped with the app. It will be made available to Orange, SFR, Bouygues Télécom and NRJ Mobile customers.

Sopra Group has provided CTS with a “turn-key” technical platform which includes an information system, a website, a mobile app to manage NFC (Near Field Communication) tags, and a mobile app for transport users based on NFC technology. The website, which is multilingual and based on an adaptive design, allows transport tickets to be purchased via a user-friendly and intuitive interface adapted to the new terminals. It also offers editorial content, which is managed by CTS contributors.

Jean-Philippe Lally, Chief Executive Officer of CTS, says: “Used with urban transport, new technologies are simplifying and facilitating the lives of users. CTS is familiar with the ‘contactless’ concept as it already provides its customers with tagged season-tickets, and since the beginning of 2012 it offers them real-time public transport information (waiting time in stations, availability of the Velhop bike hire scheme, etc.) by means of the Strasplus app. This latest initiative reinforces Strasbourg’s position as the nation’s leader with its contactless mobile solution that is quality-certified by the State. During the course of the project, Sopra Group demonstrated its understanding of the transport ticketing business and its expert knowledge of mobile platforms, successfully delivering a complex information system working to a high standard of quality and a tight schedule."

Alain Cantat, Executive Director at Sopra Group, comments: “The success of this project aimed at serving the general public is the fruit of the close and successful partnership formed between CTS and Sopra Group, as well as a whole range of stakeholders such as telecommunications operators, design firms, hosts, ticket printers, TAG manufacturers, banks, etc. We are proud to be among the first to launch such an offer in France.”
About CTS

CTS (Compagnie des Transports Strasbourgeois) is a mobility service provider that operates in the city and suburbs of Strasbourg. With some thirty bus routes and six tram lines, CTS runs the largest loop network in France. Structured around its main business lines, it offers its customers:
- A self-service bike hire scheme (Vélhop).
- A car-sharing service, through its partnership with Autotrement.
- Coach transport within the department through its subsidiary CTBR.
That means almost 240 journeys per year per inhabitant made in 2012 within the city and its suburbs.

About Sopra Group

Sopra Group, a major European consulting, technological services and software publishing company, helps its customers to successfully transform their businesses and information systems. Combining added value and innovation in the solutions it offers and industrial quality and performance in the services it provides, Sopra Group is the preferred partner of major companies and organisations seeking to improve the use they make of digital technology to ensure their growth and competitiveness. Its subsidiary, Sopra Banking Software, is a leading publisher, specialising in software application solutions for the financial market. The Group employs more than 15,000 staff and achieved a turnover of €1.217 billion in 2012.
Sopra Group (SOP) is listed on the NYSE Euronext Paris (Compartment B) – ISIN Code: FR00000508D9.
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