



## PRESS RELEASE

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### VIA launches its VIA DRIVE driver app

VIA, SNCF Group's rail motorway operator, just launched its mobile driver app, VIA DRIVE. This new tool, which can be downloaded free of charge, is the first of its kind in intermodal transport. It offers drivers and customers new features and improves the on-site experience.

#### Making the driver's journey easier

Initially introduced in Le Boulou for rail motorway customers, VIA Drive was developed to make life easier for the drivers who transit daily through the VIA terminals, also known as VIA Connect. In 2019, 34,000 semi-trailers transited Le Boulou. Christian Morin, the terminal's site manager, explains: *"We needed to design a tool that would provide practical support for drivers and help smooth out the flow of traffic on the platform. With VIA Drive, the drivers optimise their time at the terminal. The VIA teams have all the information they need about the semi-trailers concerned and can provide each driver with the appropriate assistance."*

Available in ten languages, the app saves time during inspections at the terminal entrance and provides real-time information about the availability of semi-trailers.

#### App features

Using a drop-off and/or pick-up code, the user can generate a preregistration QR code to be presented at the entrance that gives them access to the platform, and allows them to locate, pick up or drop off the semi-trailer quickly.

Furthermore, a geolocation tool as well as the history of drop-offs and pick-ups are also available to provide a high-quality customer experience. Thierry Le Guilloux, Chairman of VIA says, *"In developing VIA DRIVE, the VIA teams sought to address drivers' principal needs by providing them with a comprehensive yet easy-to-use tool. This app reflects the importance of innovation for VIA's business and rail motorways."*

#### A tool acclaimed by customers

VIA customers readily adopted the tool and encouraged drivers to use it. With VIA DRIVE, they enjoy a clearer drop-off and pick-up process. They can also access all the information relating to their semi-trailers. Mustafa Chatt, a truck driver at Contri Cargo says: *"The VIA DRIVE application makes my daily life as a driver easier. It allows me to check the status of my trailers, and to drop them off and pick them up more easily. This keeps me up to date, more efficient and more relaxed."*

#### About VIA

Within the SNCF group, VIA develops rail motorways in France and Europe. In 2019, 109,726 units were transported and 87,500 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> were saved.

There are eight rail motorway lines in service.

Aiton (Chambéry)–Orbassano, open since 2003, covers 175 km between France and Italy in 3 hours, with 4 round trips per day.

The Bettembourg (Luxembourg)–Le Boulou line, in service since 2007, makes three round trips per day across a distance of 1,045 km in 15 hours.

Calais–Le Boulou, in service since March 2016, operates up to 2 round trips per day across a distance of 1,470 km in 23 hours.

Calais–Orbassano (Turin), opened in November 2018, covers 1,150 km in 18 hours with 5 round trips per week.

Barcelona–Bettembourg (Luxembourg), the first rail motorway departing from Spain, opened on 19 February 2019. It covers 1,219 km in 22 hours with 5 round trips per week.

The Mâcon–Calais and Mâcon–Le Boulou lines were opened on 19 March 2019. They are the first stop on a rail motorway line with 5 round trips per week, across a distance of more than 500 km in approximately 14 hours per line.

Finally, the Sète–Bettembourg line connects the port of Sète to Luxembourg, with one round trip per week across a distance of 830 km in 18 hours.

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