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ABELLIO AND SERCO APPOINTS NEW MANAGING DIRECTOR FOR MERSEYRAIL



Jan Chaudhry has been appointed the new Managing Director for Merseyrail by joint venture shareholders, Abellio UK and Serco. Currently the Deputy MD at Abellio UK, Jan will take up the new post in July 2015.

Jan said: "I am delighted that Abellio and Serco have given me the opportunity to lead Merseyrail and take the organisation to the next level. I am inheriting a great team, and am confident that together we will build on our contribution to the regional economy and communities within the Liverpool city region. Having been a member of the Merseyrail board for the last three years, I am well aware of what the business has already accomplished and look forward to achieving even more for our customers in future."

Commented David Brown, chief executive of Merseytravel, which lets and manages the Merseyrail concession: "Merseyrail is a high performing network and has the accolades to show for it. We look forward to working with Jan on building on this success, growing passenger numbers and further enhancing the customer experience. The growth and development of the Merseyrail network is a key element of our long term rail strategy to support the growth of the Liverpool city region economy. As a Merseyrail board member, he already shares in this vision and ambition."

Dominic Booth, Abellio UK MD, added: "Jan has held several positions at Abellio UK and is a trusted colleague. From the outset, we were clear that Merseyrail needed a high calibre MD, and his skills and experience bear this out. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Alan Chaplin for holding the fort since the beginning of the year."

David Stretch, Managing Director of Serco Transport, concluded: "Jan's appointment is great news for Merseyrail, which over the past few years, has frequently been rated one of the best performing rail operators in the country. This is a fantastic achievement, although we are not in any way complacent, and our challenge is to make sure that the service we provide for our customers continues to improve."

Jan brings with him 25 years of rail industry experience, having held a number of directorships within several train operating companies. Most recently for Abellio UK, he led on fleet and operations and played a senior role in Abellio's successful bid for the ScotRail franchise. He represents Abellio UK on the rail industry's National Task Force and Planning Oversight Group. He also takes the lead on rail policy for track access, alliancing, periodic review and other regulatory matters. As a current board member of Merseyrail, Jan will have a head start when he begins in a few months.

Alan Chaplin, who has been the interim Managing Director since January 2015, will return to his permanent position of Service Delivery Director and Deputy MD at Northern Rail this summer.

*** ENDS ***

Abellio Group

Abellio is the international passenger transport subsidiary of the Dutch national railway company, Nederlandse Spoorwegen. Everyday our people provide rail, bus and tram services to 1.7m customers across the UK, Germany and in the Netherlands. In the UK we operate buses through Abellio London & Surrey, as well as ScotRail and Abellio Greater Anglia train services, and Northern Rail and Merseyrail in joint ventures with Serco. In Germany we operate Abellio



Deutschland, serving communities in North Rhine Westfalia, Saxony, Lower Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt, Hesse and Thuringia. And in the Netherlands we operate with Qbuzz, bus services in Fryslan, Groningen, Drenthe, Utrecht and through our minority share position in HTM, tram and bus services in and around the municipality of The Hague.

Our role in transport extends beyond the journey from a-to-b. With our international heritage and our policy of sharing best practice, not just amongst ourselves, but across the wider transport industry, we provide thought leadership and truly innovative ideas which make a positive contribution to the communities we serve.

About Serco

Serco is an international service company, which combines commercial know-how with a deep public service ethos.

Around the world, we improve essential services by managing people, processes, technology and assets more effectively. We advise policy makers, design innovative solutions, integrate systems and - most of all - deliver to the public.

Serco supports governments, agencies and companies who seek a trusted partner with a solid track record of providing assured service excellence. Our people offer operational, management and consulting expertise in the aviation, BPO, defense, education, environmental services, facilities management, health, home affairs, information and communications technology, knowledge services, local government, science and nuclear, transport, welfare to work and the commercial sectors.

About Merseyrail

Merseyrail is a self-contained urban network on Merseyside in north west England, operating a fleet of 59 507 and 508 electric multiple units (750 V DC, third rail). 800 trains run daily, carrying over 100,000 passengers on an average week day. There are two lines, the Wirral line and the Northern line. The system has 66 stations, five of which are underground, and covers 120 kilometres of track. Trains run every 15 minutes and every few minutes in the city centre.

CONTACT

For further enquiries please contact:

Merseyrail
Alice Owen
Email: aowen@merseyrail.org
Tel: +44 (0) 151 955 2131

Abellio UK
Michael Connelly
Email: Michael.connelly@abellio.com
Tel: +44 (0) 7773 547 881

Serco
Charles Carr
Email: Charles.carr@serco.com
Tel: ++44 (0) 7718194381