



Make way for Phileas

Environmentally friendly

The Phileas combines a modern design and a futuristic image with great comfort. There are two Phileas models: the 18-metre version has a capacity of 120 passengers whereas the 24-metre Phileas can transport up to 180 passengers. In addition, the Phileas is one of the most environmentally friendly means of transport of its kind. The LPG engine emits on average 90% less combustion gases than a regular bus, and the fuel consumption of the Phileas is also 20% lower. By using batteries, the Phileas can even travel a limited distance without producing any emissions at all. This is ideal when travelling through the town centre for example!



SRE Samenwerkingsverband
Regio Eindhoven

phileas

Initiators

Through advancements in the fields of knowledge and technology, the Eindhoven area plays a significant role both nationally and on a European scale. The Phileas project has a regional character and is made possible by cooperation between the local governments and private companies. The Samenwerkingsverband Regio Eindhoven (SRE - Eindhoven district joint venture) and the municipalities of Eindhoven and Veldhoven coordinate this project.

The Phileas is built by Berkhof / APTS, a consortium of mainly regional companies. The project is funded by the Dutch national government, the participating municipalities, Stimulus (European subsidies), the province of Noord-Brabant and local companies.

Information

More information about the Phileas in Eindhoven and Veldhoven can be obtained from the HQPT project desk of the Samenwerkingsverband Regio Eindhoven.
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*Phileas,
a new way of travelling*





A new perspective on public transport

Trends in urban development are determined, more than anything else, by the lack of available land for building. There is less room for infrastructures such as parking facilities, making it more and more difficult to reach city centres. To combat this, it is necessary to manage smoother traffic flow in the cities as well as encouraging more use of public transport.

To allow people to travel privately or for their work, a transport concept is required that meets all the demands set by today's and tomorrow's vision of urban development. The Phileas high-quality public transport concept (HQPT) fully meets these requirements. It blends in well with the limited available space, it can be integrated with the existing public transport network and it forms the axis within the dynamic Westcorridor development zone in the Eindhoven area.

Ten years ago, the Eindhoven council selected the Westcorridor, located to the North West of the city centre, as a zone for new activities. This corridor is an urban development zone located between Eindhoven Central Station and Eindhoven Airport. A high level of development activities are taking place in this zone at different speeds. The Phileas line running through the corridor, is an ideal way to manage smooth flow of the increasing traffic resulting from these developments. Due to the high number of travellers, virtually all urban functions (homes, offices and recreation facilities) will be joined by the Phileas route. The Phileas project is like a string running through the Westcorridor connecting many beads: station district - Emmasingel complex - Stadionkwartier - Strijp S - Evoluon - the Strijp residential area - Trade Forum - Meerhoven - Eindhoven Airport.

The Phileas high-quality public transport system comprises three parts: a free track with electronic guiding, the Phileas vehicle and measures to stimulate public transport. This policy of stimulation includes raising the parking fees in the town centre, good public transport facilities in Meerhoven, corporate transport management, the Transferium (linking the motorway to the Phileas route) and the building of bicycle parking facilities.

This transport concept forms a first and significant part of the high-quality public transport network set in the Eindhoven and Veldhoven area. The HQPT connection to Meerhoven and Veldhoven is the first element of a network of HQPT lines that should be created in the region.





Recognition will allow accessibility

The route followed by the Phileas consists of the so-called Central Connection Axis West. This axis runs from the central bus station via the Mathildelaan to the Noord-Brabantlaan. The route then branches off to the Meerhoven district and Eindhoven Airport on the one hand and Citycentrum in Veldhoven with the residential districts of Zonderwijk and 't Look on the other hand. The route crosses the motorway and links the three supra-regional means of transport that can be identified here: travel by train, car or airplane. The Phileas network will offer travellers better opportunities of changing to other means of transport.

In comparable urban areas this line of transport forms a perfect combination with other transport possibilities or is an alternative to light-rail and underground lines. In larger cities it can also act as a form of public transport to complement systems such as the underground for example.

From the start of the building plans for the Meerhoven residential estate the proper integration of the Phileas route in the urban development structure was taken into account. The uniform layout of the entire route is intended to improve recognition. Thus the bus track is lined by 'green' shoulders with typical trees, and high-quality materials are used – for example on the bus stops – to give public transport a prominent role, helping to structure the urban area. These effects are enhanced by the attractive design of the Phileas.

Along the entire route there will be raised platforms allowing passengers to get on and off without having to climb steps. The electronic guiding system allows the Phileas to approach the bus stop and come to a standstill very carefully. The bus stops have a modern and recognizable look and the bus stop information system tells the traveller in how many minutes the Phileas is arriving. A number of bus stops in Meerhoven have separate bicycle parking facilities.





Travelling for everyone

The Phileas makes travelling much more pleasant: it is on time, it has a high frequency (a Phileas passes every 10 minutes) and it is fast (less than 25 minutes from the Central Station to Eindhoven Airport). In addition, thanks to the dynamic travel information, travellers know exactly when the Phileas leaves and arrives at the required stop. And the Internet, mobile telephones and information systems in shops and theatres can be used as a dynamic way of informing travellers about timetables, exact times of departure and possible delays.

Thanks to the wide access doors and the level entrance, wheelchair and rollator users and people with pushchairs have no problems getting on the Phileas. The Phileas allows people with limited mobility to travel independently.

The national Public Transport cards can be used on the Phileas. And every Phileas will be fitted with a card-stamping machine. Travelling by Phileas costs the same as regular bus travel.

The user travels in great comfort thanks to the excellent shock absorption and air-conditioning facilities of the Phileas and there is extra space for luggage, pushcarts and wheelchairs. On board the Phileas passengers will be given information on the route, the upcoming stops and the expected time of arrival at the final destination.

Even when the Phileas is guided electronically, there is always a driver on board as a general safety precaution and to ensure that the Phileas follows its route safely. To further promote the general safety of travellers, the Phileas is fitted with cameras.

The Phileas makes use of free tracks with flyovers and has the right of way at other junctions. This will allow a high average speed and a smooth passage.

