

Innovation Program SNCB

En route.
Vers mieux.



3800

Trains
per day

68,9%

Average
passenger satisfaction
2022

90,5%

Average
punctuality
2022

555

stations

17000

employees

6 main objectives for SNCB



1

A strong, healthy working environment for all colleagues



2

Guaranty the safety of our travelers and employees



3

Attract new customers and expand the modal share of train



4

Continuous improvement of the customer experience of our Travelers



5

Achieve operational excellence with sound finances



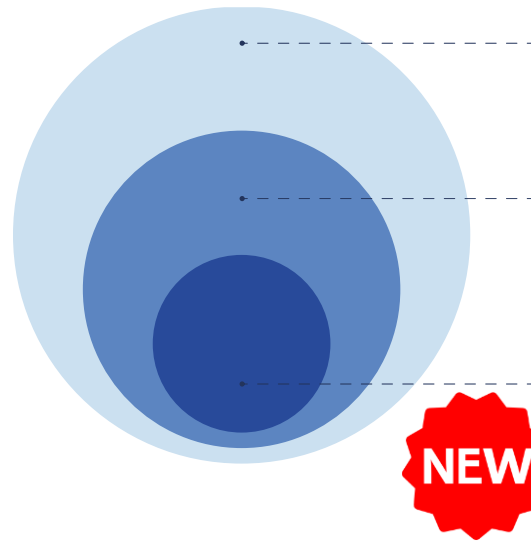
6

Concretizing our social responsibilities

**The Innovation Program supports
SNCB towards an innovative,
futureproof and sustainable mobility
provider.**

Our contribution as innovation team to the contract of public service of the SNCB.

Our 3 missions



Solve customer needs

- Innovate in close collaboration with the customer
- Focus on customer needs

Spread a culture of innovation

- Contribute to a more innovative mindset within the company
- In line with the PROS and in collaboration with HR

Generate efficiency through internal innovation projects

- Contribute to a more efficient traveler experience by internal innovation.

NEW

SNCB Innovation lab co-creates tomorrow's travelers' journey sustainably.

- We focus on the needs of the traveler.
- We translate the contract of public service into relevant innovation programs.
- We feed it into the 5 innovation pillars.
- To develop new mobility solutions of tomorrow.

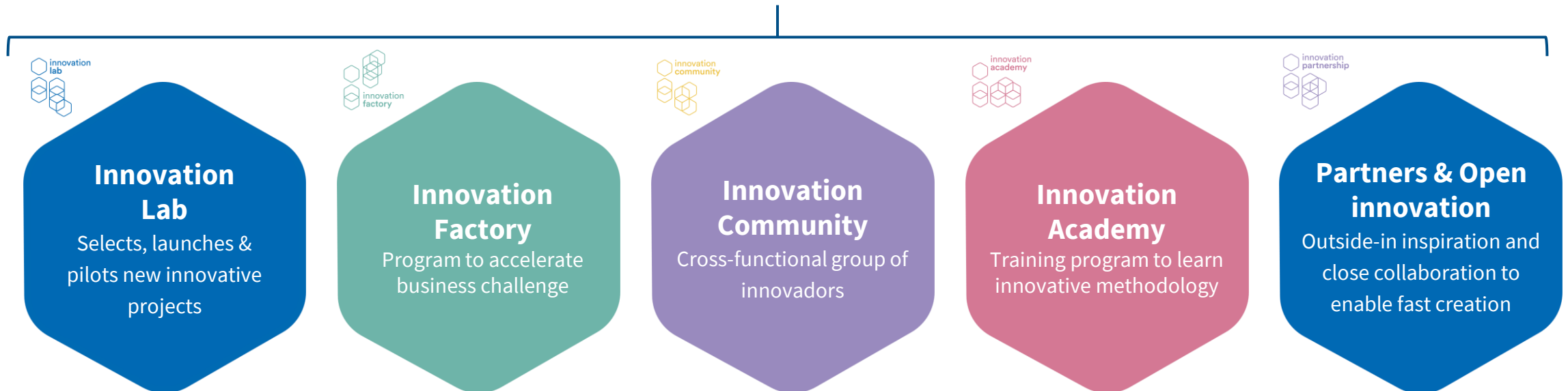
- We spread and cultivate innovation.
- We serve internal innovation to employees to realize efficiency.
- We feed the innovation mindset and digital transformation by training.

We don't create generic customer journeys. Instead, we co-create future travelers' journeys.



Innovation @SNCB

5 pillars



Innovation project flow



Portfolio Committee
Create a portfolio of running PoC's and view on all innovation initiatives

Is it an innovation project?

What's the level of complexity?

Which approach to use?

Innovation projects
GO FOR
Innovation
POC

- Ideas
- Challenges
- Opportunities
- Innovation team
- Outside in
- Innovation Board
- Strategic priorities

- Innovation Lab Project / POC
- IT (innovation) project / POC
- Innovation Factory
- Open Innovation
- Managed by the business
- Services : workshops / design sprint, ...

Decision best approach

G
A
T
E
1

Supporting
Committee

G
A
T
E
2

Project
preparation

G
A
T
E
3

Project
Committee

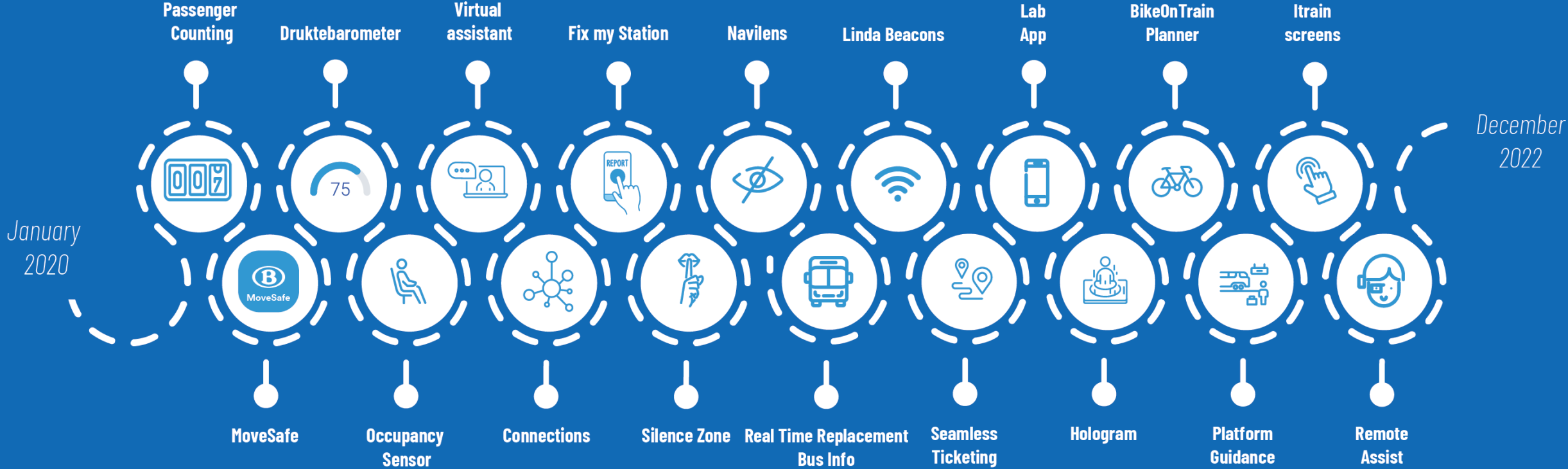
G
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E
4

Industrialization

Ideas come from

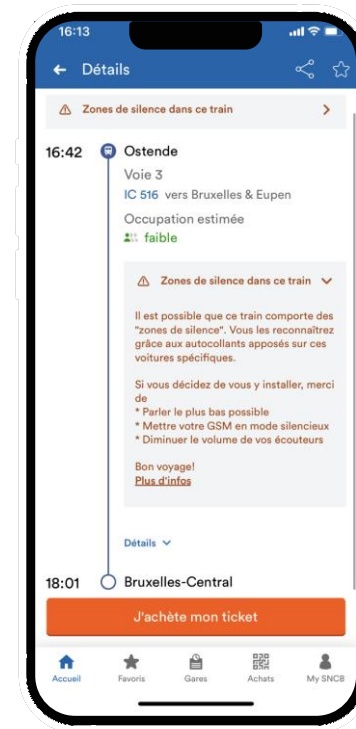
Draft proposal, open for discussion

Main proof-of-concepts



Silence zones

- POC Phase 2 - Q1 & Q2 2023
- End to end test of a few months with travelers in a real-life setting
 - 18 carriages
 - 89% satisfaction rate
- Positive feedback
- To be industrialized (lead marketing)



Zones de silence dans ce train

Il est possible que ce train comporte des "zones de silence". Vous les reconnaîtrez grâce aux autocollants apposés sur ces voitures spécifiques.

Si vous décidez de vous y installer, merci de

- * Parler le plus bas possible
- * Mettre votre GSM en mode silencieux
- * Diminuer le volume de vos écouteurs

Bon voyage!
[Plus d'infos](#)



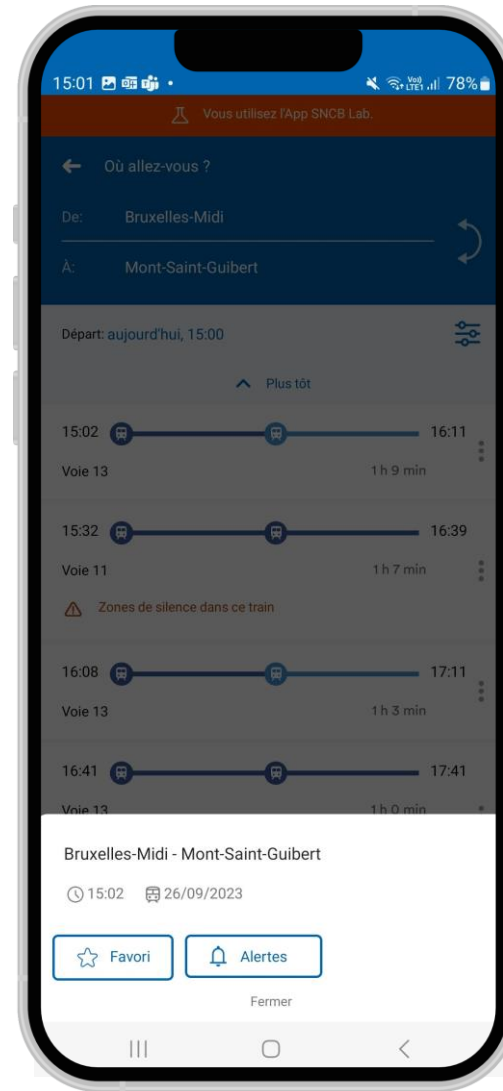
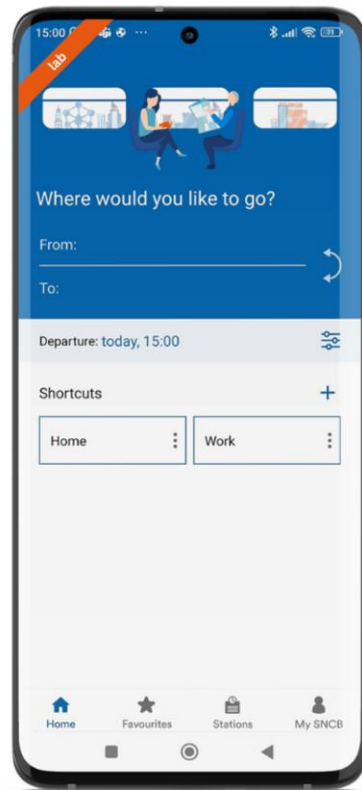
i-trains



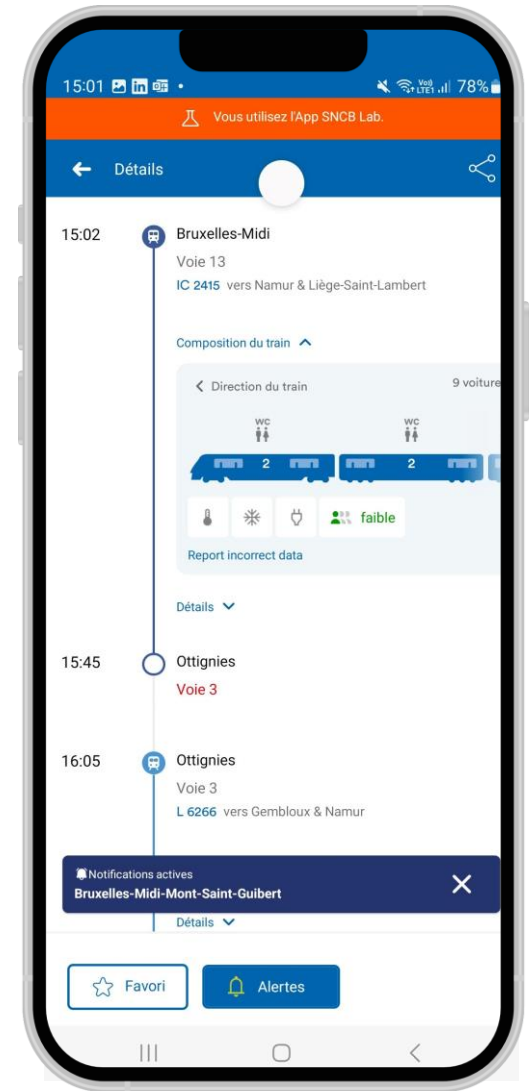
SNCB Lab App



Let the user tell you how good your feature is



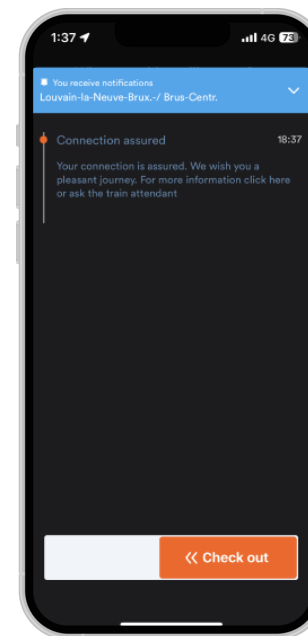
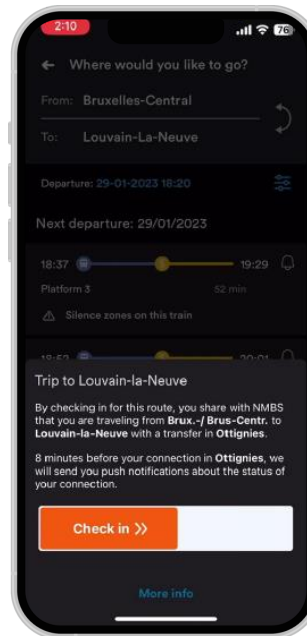
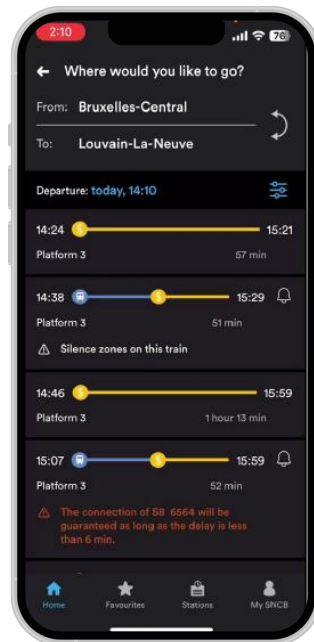
Don't miss my stop



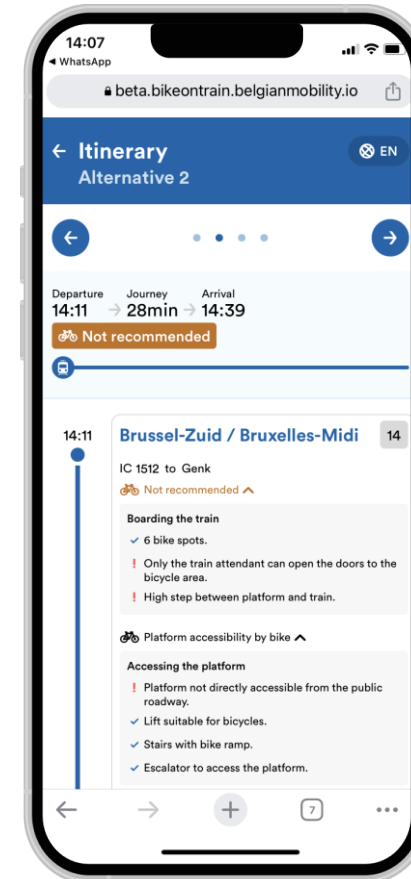
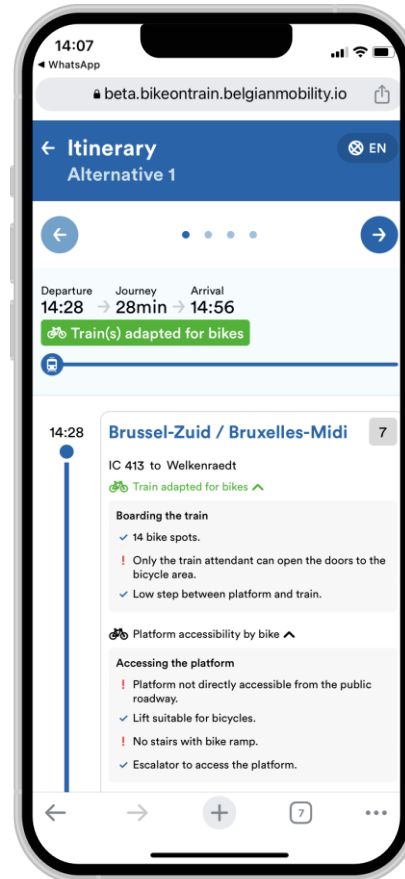
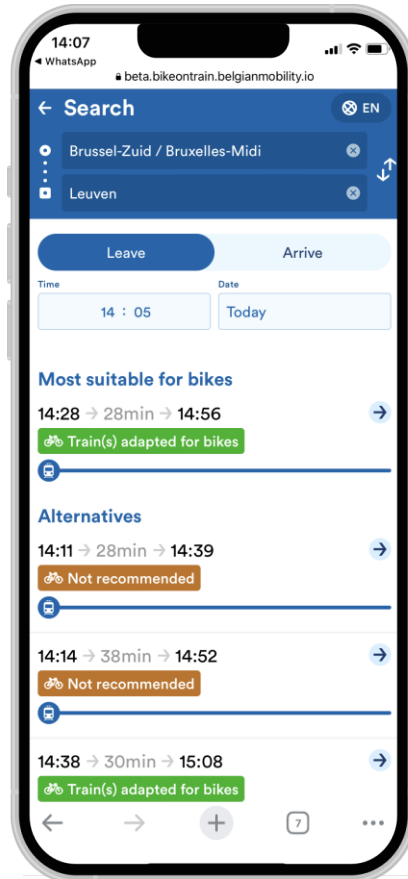
Train composition

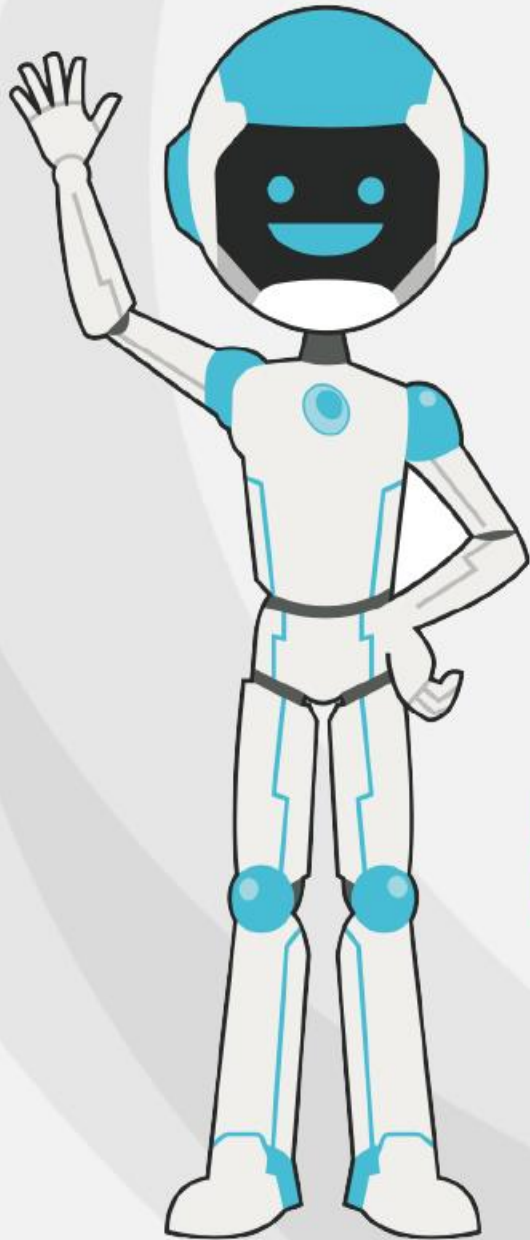
Conclusion correspondance

- Digital takes over the concept
- All the knowledge and learnings has been shared
- RIV & B-TO4 validated the value of the concept and are ready to collaborate
- Innovation Lab will act as consultant for specific question



BikeOnTrain v2





Orion Intelligence

The Artificial Intelligence that
powers customer service.

Automatic handling of customer complaints in order to:

- Increase efficiency
- Decrease backlog
- Accelerate response time

Go live: 16/10/23

Platform Guidance v2

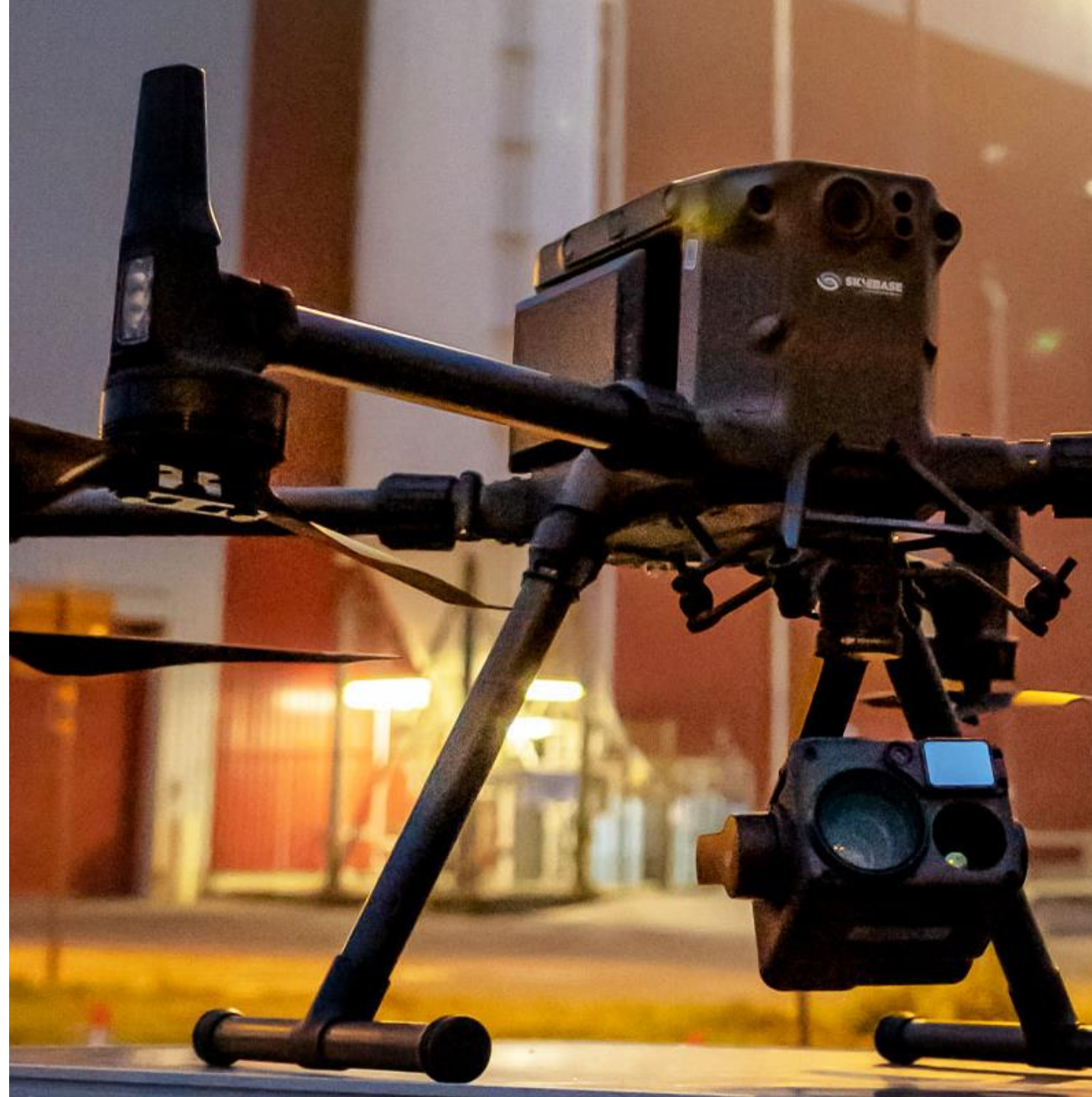
- Let's help customers find the best place on platforms where to wait for their favorite carriage
- 3 subproject tracks
 - Customer journey: analyze the customer problem
 - Data track : create data about reference points on platforms
 - MVP: use the LabApp or BikeOnTrain with platform guidance info for selected lines and stations



Utilization of drones

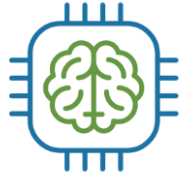
2 potential use cases:

- Gent Sint Pieters
 - Inspection of roof (e.g detection leaks)
- Antwerpen Centraal
 - Inspection of damaged rods in the rail hall



Results by end 2023/early 2024

1. Investigating new technologies



POC Generative AI

Is generative AI mature enough to rebuild our chatbot engine with this technology?



POC Mobi + ChatGPT

Can ChatGPT already today help our existing chatbot to perform better for complex and long queries?



POC Microsoft CLU

Is Microsoft's Language Model better than the Google one we use today?



POC Chatbot on phone

Has voice technology evolved to a point we can start building a bot for our contact center?

2. Preparing for expansion and new channels



Chatbot on website and app

Build a native butler bot for our website and app users.

Real-time bus information



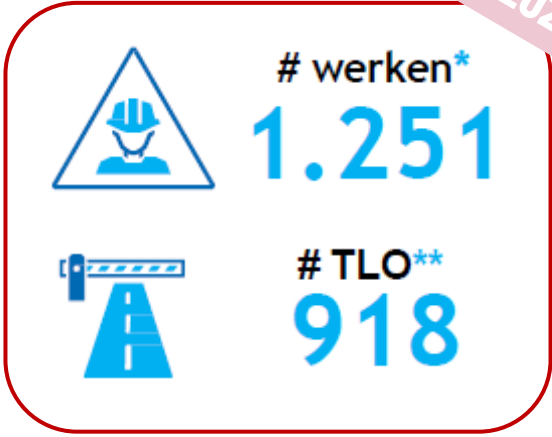
Replacement busses – When ?



Realtime disturbances



Works



* Werven met impact op het reizigersverkeer
** Werven met een Totale LijnOnderbreking

Replacement busses - How ?



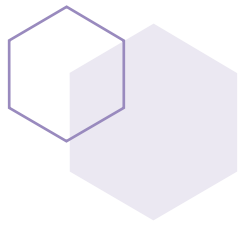
In practise...



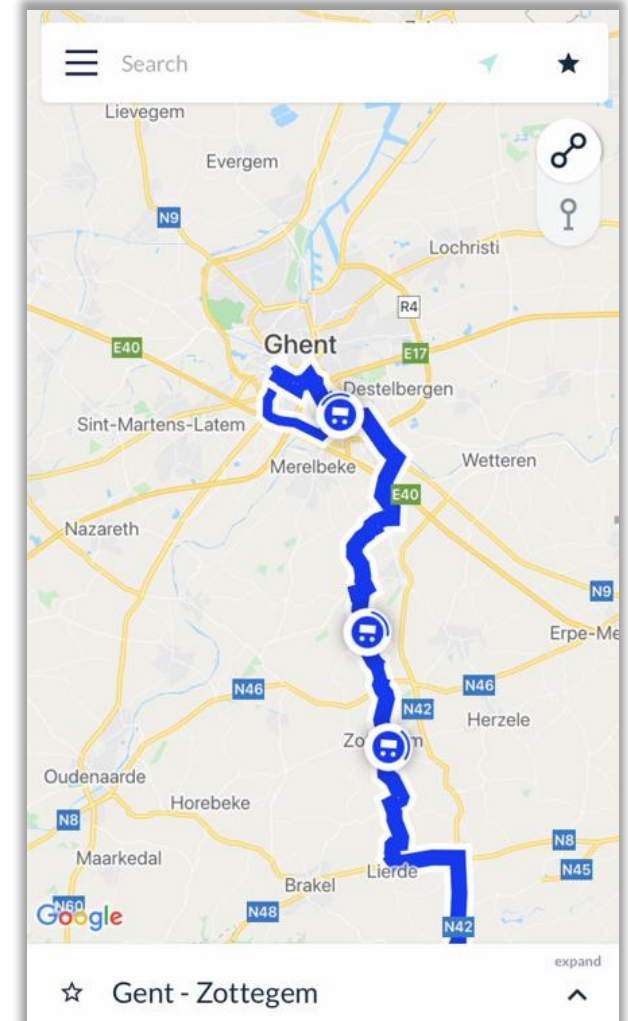
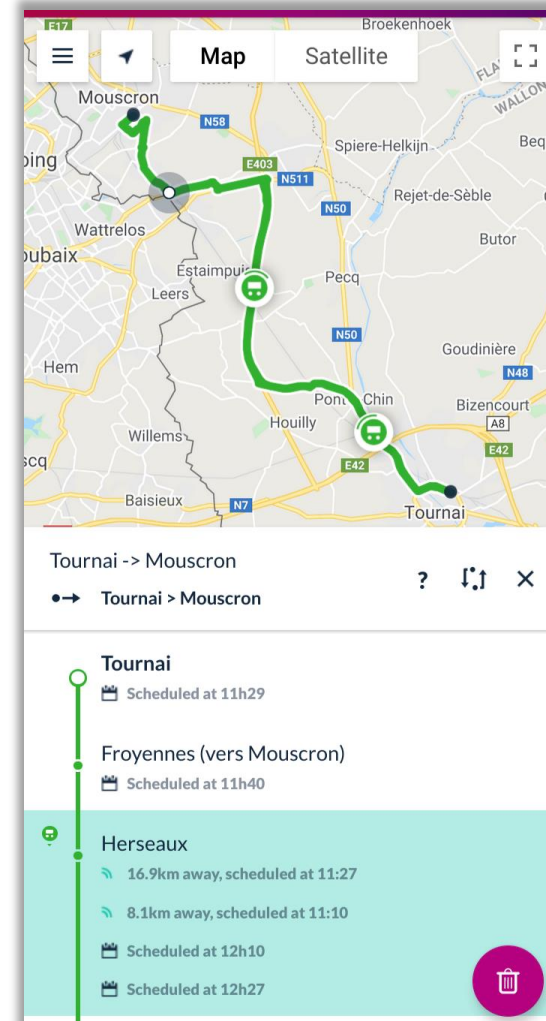
Hello, we are waiting for more than 20 minutes for the replacement bus on the line between Ottignies and Brussels that was planned at 17:22. We don't have any information about when the bus will arrive, or if it is driving or not



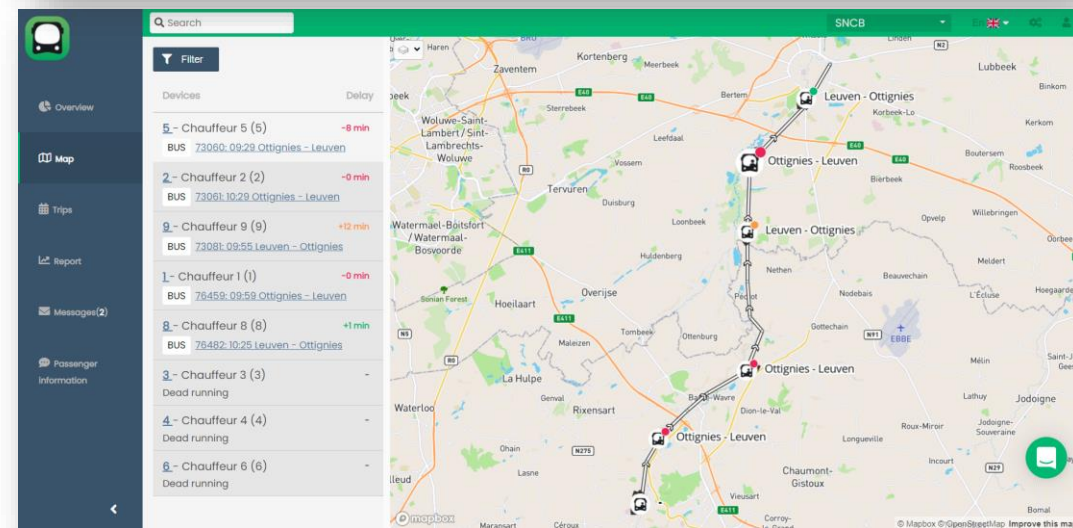
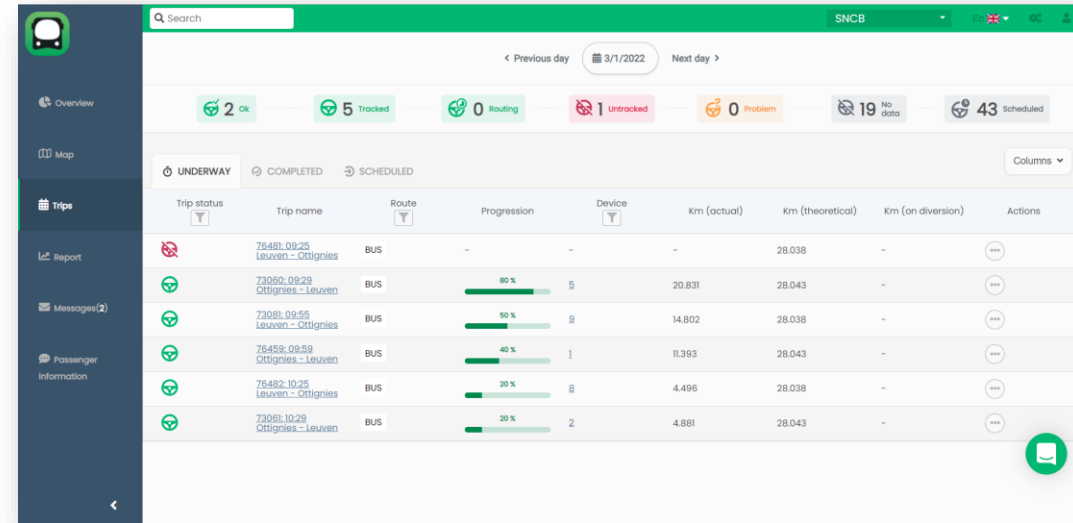
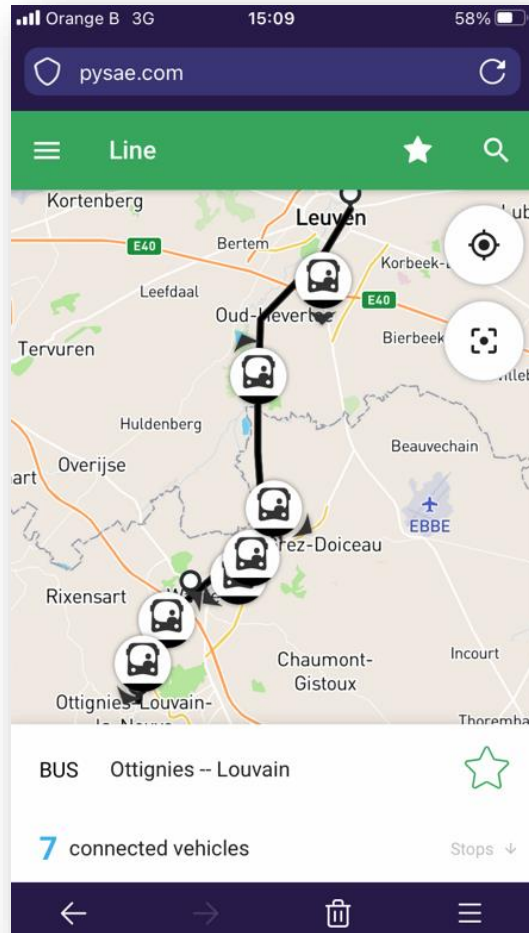
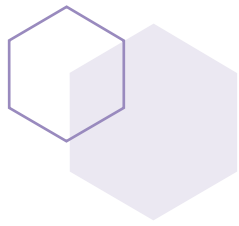
What has been done?



- ◇ Zenbus functional test on **Tournai - Mouscron** (nov '21)
- ◇ Zenbus normal test on **Zottegem - Gent** (smartphones + boxes) (feb + mar '22)
- ◇ Pysae functional test on **Zottegem - Gent** (feb '22)
- ◇ Pysae normal test on **Ottignies - Leuven** (mar '22)
- ◇ Zenbus normal test (boxes) **Antwerpen - Melsele** (mar '22)
- ◇ Pysae normal test **Braine-l'Alleud - Bruxelles-Midi** (apr '22)
- ◇ Zenbus normal test (boxes) **Kortrijk - Bissegem** (April '22)
- ◇ Pysae normal test **Gent - Brugge** (apr - may '22)
- ◇ Pysae **Oostende - Brugge** (oct - nov '22)



What does it look like during testing?



**THANK
YOU**



Our team

 innovation@sncb.be