

**Press Release**  
**03.08.09**

**ONLINE SALE OF TICKETS FOR DOOR-TO-DOOR JOURNEYS IS EUROPEAN FIRST**

Britain has become the first country in Europe to offer an online 'one-stop-shop' for the purchase of tickets for complete door-to-door journeys by public transport.

Throughout August leading online rail ticket retailer thetrainline.com is rolling out the sale of *PLUSBUS* tickets alongside train tickets when a rail journey starts or finishes at any of the 265 towns and cities across Britain that are covered by the integrated ticketing scheme.

Ben Pearson, Commercial Director of thetrainline.com says: "Many National Rail journeys start or finish with a bus journey to or from the train station, it therefore makes perfect sense for our customers to be able to purchase their bus travel at the same time as their train ticket. Offering *PLUSBUS* tickets alongside train tickets enables our customers to arrange their complete door-to-door journey in one quick and easy transaction. Our customers have always had access to cheap train tickets, so we're pleased we're now able to enhance our offering with *PLUSBUS*."

The start of online retailing of *PLUSBUS* is just one recommendation made in a detailed report published by the Association of Train Operating Companies (ATOC), the Confederation of Passenger Transport (CPT) and Britain's five largest bus and train operating groups<sup>1</sup>. The report entitled, 'Door-to-door by public transport' was launched at a conference in London attended by Lord Adonis (Secretary of State for Transport) in June 2009.

The 'Improving door-to-door journeys by public transport' report looks to address the concern that continued growth in rail patronage might start to stall because passengers either have difficulty, or thought it was too difficult to get to and from the station at the beginning or end of their rail journey. It makes a number of recommendations designed to further improve travel by public transport which is kick started by the launch of online purchase of *PLUSBUS* tickets.

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<sup>1</sup> Arriva, First, Go-Ahead, National Express and Stagecoach.

Jonathan Radley, Commercial Director of Journey Solutions (the bus and rail industry partnership behind *PLUSBUS*) added: "We're delighted that following a successful trial on [qjump.co.uk](http://qjump.co.uk) Britain's leading online retailer of rail tickets, [thetrainline.com](http://thetrainline.com) is now rolling out *PLUSBUS* to its customers too. Over the next few months many of the largest Train Company websites will also start selling *PLUSBUS* online alongside rail tickets."

### Ends

#### Note to Editor

For further information please contact Rebecca Salter PR manager at [thetrainline.com](http://thetrainline.com) on 0203 128 2234 / 0753 879 1174 or contact Jonathan Radley, commercial director at Journey Solutions & *PLUSBUS* on 020 7240 1819 or visit [www.plusbus.info](http://www.plusbus.info)  
The report '**Door-to-door by public transport**' is available to download from:  
[www.cpt-uk.org](http://www.cpt-uk.org)

#### About [thetrainline.com](http://thetrainline.com)

[thetrainline.com](http://thetrainline.com) is the leading UK rail ticket retailer and rail ticket information provider, offering fast and easy access to timetables, fares, reservations and tickets through its Internet site and contact centre operations in the UK train travel sector. In addition to its own website, [www.thetrainline.com](http://www.thetrainline.com), it operates retail websites for 15 Train Operating Companies who sell rail tickets online, as well as providing a rail business travel service direct to a number of blue chip corporations and travel agents.

#### About *PLUSBUS*:

*PLUSBUS* is a nation-wide integrated train to bus ticketing scheme, that has been introduced by a partnership of Britain's biggest transport operators (Arriva, First, Go-Ahead, National Express, Stagecoach, Transdev) and the trade associations (ATOC and CPT). It is available to over 265 towns and cities across Britain and offers train travellers unlimited bus travel on participating operator's services around the whole urban area of their origin and or destination town. Prices start from just £1.50 a day and are nearly always cheaper than the cost of a day ticket purchased from the main bus operator. Railcard holders also get one-third off the adult *PLUSBUS* day ticket price.