IET Enterprise Partnerships

Partner Spotlight

Introducing Go Ahead Ireland...

Why did you choose to Partner with the IET?

The IET, with 158,000 members and presence in the Engineering community globally offer a great opportunity for GAI to raise the profile of Engineering in Ireland. This will also support GAI, in developing a greater footprint of in the Engineering community. Whilst also building career development programmes for Engineers to assist GAI with retention and recruitment.

What benefits will the Partnership bring and how did you find the process of becoming a Partner?

The partnership will assist GAI in building awareness of the Engineering community in public transport. The programme has been smooth from introduction with the account manager, to onboarding of Engineers and supporting the gap analysis of skill sets to begin the professional registration process.

What are your companies plans for 2022 and beyond?

Having received ISO 9001, 14001, 45001 and 50001 in 2021 GAI are a company who demonstrate best practice to international standards. Our plans for 2022 are to protect and grow the core, continue to deliver best in class public transport services and support the NTA is rolling out the bus connects programme.

How important is the professional development and recognition of your staff?

GAI sees professional development as a key tool in the retention of personal, by supporting their development as individuals and from a technical perspective. It is also important to us to support our staff members' career development and career progress, whilst aligning training to their current position and professional standards. This will ensure the next generation of Engineers from apprentices to managers are able to grow and develop within the business. Our Engineering Director and Engineering Managers started as industry apprentices, and we are keen to continue this trend.

Are there any exciting ideas or projects your company is currently working on?

We have recently developed a net zero climate change strategy which involves decarbonising the business. This includes transitioning vehicles from diesel to electric in advance of 2035. We have recently gained planning permission for the Ballymount depot.

We recently installed a remote monitoring system across our current fleet. This is to report real time vehicle data back to the workshops to enable vehicles to be exchanged in the event of critical faults occurring. By capturing vehicle data in real time, we can build big data sets. This will enable us to move away from the traditional method of reactive maintenance to a predictive model, to enable greater vehicle uptime, smoother parts management and greater fleet utilisation, to ensure we provide the best customer service possible.

Go-Ahead Ireland (GAI) is part of the Go-Ahead Group, a global transport provider of bus and rail services, with over 30 years of expertise in public transport. GAI has been operating bus services under contract for the National Transport Authority (NTA) since September 2018. Today, we operate 25 routes in the outer Dublin metropolitan area. Our five Dublin commuter routes service a number of communities in Kildare and Offaly, and we are working closely with the NTA on the roll out of the BusConnects programme, which will see a total overhaul of the Dublin bus network.
Our 200 strong fleet of single and double deck buses and coaches operate from two depots, one in Ballymount industrial estate in the West of Dublin and the other in Naas, Co. Kildare. We are incredibly proud of our 600 dedicated and enthusiastic colleagues, who work together every day to ensure we connect people to places in a friendly and professional manner.