



Collaboration agreement between two world leaders in the accessibility arena

## The ONCE Foundation and Moovit team up to make public transport more accessible and inclusive

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Moovit, the leading Mobility as a Service (MaaS) company and the maker of the world's most popular urban mobility app, with service in 2800 cities across 91 countries, and the ONCE Foundation have reached a collaboration agreement with the goal of making public transportation usage by blind and visually impaired people easier and safer than ever.

The ONCE Foundation accredited the optimizations Moovit has implemented to its VoiceOver and TalkBack capabilities, available in iOS and Android devices. Among the most significant improvements, Moovit has implemented an audio notification system that ensures that users with visual impairment have enough time to get off the bus at their destination stop, significantly increasing their level of confidence while riding transit.

During the collaboration agreement signature event in Madrid with the Foundations's CTI Director, Guillermo Hermida, Moovit Chief Growth & Marketing Officer, Yovav Meydad said: "Making Moovit more accessible to blind and visually impaired users makes a significant impact on their lives as it opens opportunities for them to travel more freely and independently. In the past years, we have taken many steps to ensure the Moovit app is accessible for everyone, and we are delighted to work with a leading organization such as the ONCE Foundation to continue and create a seamless experience for these riders and fulfill that important mission."

Guillermo Hermida, the Director of CTI of the ONCE Foundation said "It is very important for the blind and visually impaired community that a leading company such as Moovit demonstrates in actions that accessibility is possible and, especially, in this case, for a service as important for blind people as mobility. We are happy to

collaborate with Moovit and assist in the research and development of new improvements for users who need complementary assistance."

## **ABOUT MOOVIT**

Moovit is a leading Mobility as a Service (MaaS) company and the maker of the world's #1 urban mobility app.

The Moovit free app guides people get around cities effectively & conveniently, using any mode of transport. Introduced in 2011 it now serves over 430M users in more than 2,800 cities across 90 countries. By combining information from public transit operators and authorities with live information from the user community, Moovit offers travelers a real-time picture, including the best route for the journey. Named Best Local App by Google in 2016 and 2018, and one of Apple's Best Apps of 2017.

Moovit amasses up to five billion anonymous data points a day to add to the world's largest repository of transit & urban mobility data. The data gathering is aided by Moovit's network of more than 550,000 local editors called "Mooviters." These passionate users help map and maintain local transit information in cities that would otherwise be unserved. Mooviters account for 70 percent of the hundreds of cities Moovit opens every year and make Moovit the Wikipedia of Transit.

For governments, cities and transit agencies, Moovit offers Al-powered MaaS solutions covering operations and analytics, with proven value in reducing congestion, growing ridership, and increasing efficiency and asset utilization.

Moovit's advanced technology platform runs the world's largest repository of transit & mobility data. Hundreds of cities, transit agencies, and mega-events repeatedly choose Moovit to address their mobility challenges and increase their level of service to citizens and visitors.

They were recently joined by Industry leaders such as Microsoft and Uber who have partnered with Moovit to use our world-leading transit APIs in their apps and services.

Moovit is available for free on iOS, Android and the Web and can be used in 45 languages. More than 100 cities and global events, including Rio de Janeiro for the 2016 Olympics, have made Moovit their official transit app.

Visit Moovit at: www.moovit.com

Media Contacts

Moovit's Communication: press@moovit.com

## ABOUT ONCE

A large dose of energy, what we call illusion, is what fuelled the start-up in 1938 of what the world now knows as the ONCE. In its 80 years of existence it has built up a system of social benefits for the blind and visually impaired that has no equivalent anywhere else in the world.

That same source of energy, illusion, was behind the birth in 1988 of a great project: the ONCE Foundation for Cooperation and the Social Inclusion of the Disabled which, in 2013, also celebrates an anniversary, its 25th. During this time the ONCE Foundation has generated more than 80,000 jobs for the disabled.

Today, the two institutions, combined in their main purpose, that of the social and labour-market inclusion of the disabled, are known as the ONCE and its Foundation.

The ONCE Foundation in Support of the Blind in Latin America (FOAL), born in 1998 is currently developing training and employment projects in 19 Latin American countries and other depressed areas. Another example, set up in 2007, is the ONCE Foundation for the Care of the Deaf-Blind (FOAPS).

Meanwhile, within the European Union, the ONCE and its Foundation are strengthening links to ensure that disability has its place on the agenda of community policies. Together with other organizations from the world of disability, it has notched up achievements of great importance, such as the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (protocol adopted by the UN General Assembly on 13 December 2006 in New York), and the widespread acceptance of its theses in debates such as the EU accessibility regulations or employment for the disabled.