

24 June 2025

Keolis Downer announces appointment of CEO

David Franks has been appointed as Chief Executive Officer of Keolis Downer with effect from 1 September 2025.

David brings over 40 years of experience in the mobility sector and an exemplary international career, including as Chief Executive Officer of Keolis Downer for the period 2018-2023.

He began his career with British Rail, where he held several executive management positions. He then worked in England, Sweden and Ireland, before moving to Australia in 2018 to serve as CEO of Keolis Downer. In 2024, he took up the position of Managing Director at Keolis MHI in Dubai, where he managed the exceptional floods that affected the city of Dubai.

Laurence Broseta, Keolis Group International CEO, commented:

"I have great confidence in David as he takes on this role once again. He will draw on his extensive operational and commercial experience, his in-depth knowledge of the market, and the trust of Keolis Downer's local teams and partners, to successfully drive our operations' performance and development in Australia.

David will succeed Leila Frances, who has stepped in as interim CEO of Keolis Downer in Australia since 17 March. I extend my warmest thanks to Leila for her key role during this transition. Leila has ensured critical business continuity and advanced our interests in Australia over the past few months. Her deep connection with Australia is evident – spanning from the first Melbourne Train and Tram bids 15 years ago to her recent involvement in supporting key Keolis Downer projects."

About Keolis Downer

Keolis Downer is a leading operator and integrator of public transport in Australia. With over 3,500 employees and a presence in five states, Keolis Downer enables 100 million passenger journeys per year. We operate and maintain the light rail network on the Gold Coast (G:link), Adelaide Metro train services, the integrated transport network with light rail, bus and ferry in Newcastle and more than 1,300 buses in New South Wales, Western Australia, South Australia and Queensland.

www.keolisdowner.com.au

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