

Karsan's Autonomous e-ATAK Tested and Approved on High-Traffic Routes in Paris!

Karsan Has Proven That Autonomous Technology Is Feasible on High-Traffic Bus Routes!

Karsan, the world's technology-focused mobility brand in next-generation public transportation, has successfully completed a six-month comprehensive project with the RATP Group, one of the leading public transportation operators in Paris, France. As part of the project, the vehicle completed approximately 3,000 kilometers of autonomous driving under real-world urban conditions including open traffic and the presence of pedestrians with an average of five hours of daily operation. As part of the project, the Autonomous e-ATAK successfully passed comprehensive technical validation processes conducted at the test track of UTAC, one of France's leading automotive testing and certification organizations. Based on the results obtained, the vehicle received nationwide testing approval from the DGEC, the body responsible for autonomous mobility testing and approval processes under the French Ministry of Transport, thereby gaining the authorization to conduct autonomous operations in open traffic in France. Noting that the project was carried out on one of Paris's busy and critical routes, Karsan CEO Okan Bař stated, "Our vehicle demonstrated its operational capabilities by successfully testing advanced driving scenarios such as navigation in mixed traffic conditions, precise parking at stops, and real-time interaction with traffic lights and intersections. "During the six-month testing period, the vehicle achieved a 98% success rate in autonomous driving without driver intervention. This rate serves as concrete proof of the high reliability and operational maturity of our autonomous solution," he said.

With its vision of "Staying One Step Ahead in the Future of Mobility," Karsan, a pioneer in the global transformation of public transportation, continues to reshape the industry's dynamics through its autonomous initiatives. In this context, Karsan which has successfully passed tests conducted by leading global authorities, was actively tested in autonomous driving mode on Paris's busy and critical Route 393.

Karsan's Autonomous e-ATAK Earns Global Recognition with a Test Approval from the French Ministry of Transport!

Autonomous e-ATAK, developed by Karsan in collaboration with its technology partner ADASTEC, has successfully completed a six-month long-term project with the RATP Group (Régie Autonome des Transports Parisiens), one of the leading public transportation operators based in Paris, France. As part of the project, the vehicle completed approximately 3,000 kilometers of autonomous driving in real-world urban conditions including open traffic and environments with both vehicles and pedestrians with an average of 5 hours of active operation per day. The achieved 98% autonomous driving rate demonstrated the solution's high reliability and operational maturity in the field. Testing activities under the project were conducted by RATP at UTAC's test track. Following comprehensive evaluations conducted under the supervision of French regulatory authorities, the project received nationwide testing approval from the DGEC, the agency within the French Ministry of Transport responsible for autonomous mobility approval processes. With this approval, the Autonomous e-ATAK achieved "Operational Approval" status to conduct autonomous operations in open traffic. In this regard, the project has positioned itself as one of the pioneering and benchmark autonomous public transportation applications in Europe to have received regulatory approval under real-world traffic conditions.

As part of the project, autonomous driving operations and system validation tests were conducted on the approximately 8.5-kilometer central route of Bus Route 393 (Sucy – Bonneuil RER / Thiais – Carrefour de la Résistance), one of Paris's busiest and most critical routes. In this context, the vehicle successfully demonstrated its operational capabilities by being tested in advanced driving scenarios, including navigation in mixed traffic conditions, precise stopping at bus stops, and real-time interaction with traffic lights and intersections.

Karsan CEO Okan Baş, noting that Karsan continues to modernize public transportation worldwide from Europe to the U.S. with next-generation technologies, stated, "In a market like France, where regulations are extremely rigorous and selective, the operational approval we have obtained for the Autonomous e-ATAK is not merely a project success; it is a strong affirmation of Karsan's technological expertise and global vision in the field of autonomous mobility. The high performance we achieved under real-world traffic conditions clearly demonstrates that Level-4 autonomous driving technologies are no longer a solution for the future, but for today. With this success, Karsan remains committed to playing a leading role in the global adoption of autonomous public transportation and guiding the mobility transformation of cities."

ADASTEC CEO Dr. Ali Peker commented on the matter, stating, “Together with RATP and Karsan, we have demonstrated that Level-4 automated driving is a proven and scalable technology for public transport. Successfully operating in one of the most complex metropolitan environments in the world, including high-capacity BRT lines, highlights our capability to deploy and scale automated mobility across diverse real-world conditions,” he said.

Our goal for 2026 is to completely remove the safety driver from the system!

Highlighting that this project has once again demonstrated Karsan’s technological prowess to the world, Okan Bař continued: “Through this project, Karsan has demonstrated not only its technological expertise but also its ability to quickly adapt to diverse urban dynamics, high-density transportation scenarios, and advanced infrastructure integrations. This success achieved in a city like Paris, which is recognized as a global benchmark, has been a strategic step that strengthens our brand’s position in the international market while paving the way for new partnerships. This project, carried out with RATP, not only demonstrated the proven performance of the Karsan Autonomous e-ATAK under real-world operational conditions but also showcased the on-site success of a fully integrated Level-4 mobility solution where advanced autonomous driving software and vehicle integration work in tandem.

This project, which tangibly supports Karsan’s vision of leading the autonomous mobility transformation in Europe, has become a significant milestone that sets a strong benchmark for future urban autonomous transportation projects. The operational experience and technical validations we gained from this project have also laid a solid foundation for the next step in our brand’s autonomous mobility roadmap. “As Karsan, we aim to launch a new project in Stavanger, Norway, by 2026, utilizing a fully autonomous operational model where the safety driver is completely removed from the system.”



KARSAN

ONE STEP AHEAD
IN THE FUTURE OF MOBILITY

About Karsan:

Leaving 60 years behind in the Turkish automotive industry, Karsan has been producing for the world's leading brands in the commercial vehicle segment, including its own brand, in its modern facilities since the day it was founded. Producing commercial vehicles since 1981, Karsan's factory in Hasanağa, Bursa, has the capacity to produce ~20 thousand vehicles in a single shift per year. Designed with the flexibility to produce all kinds of vehicles from passenger cars to heavy trucks, from minivans to buses, Hasanağa Factory is 30 km away from Bursa city center and is located on a total area of 203 thousand square meters, 99 thousand square meters of which is closed.

As the only independent multi-brand vehicle manufacturer in the Turkish automotive industry, Karsan aims to take part in all segments of passenger transportation by developing derivatives of new and existing products together with its business partners and licensors in line with its vision of being one step ahead in the future of mobility. Continuing its activities to develop and market "innovative products and services" in the public transportation sector "from idea to market", Karsan aims to strengthen its Main Manufacturer/OEM business line in particular.

Continuing its activities of developing and launching "innovative products and services" in the public transportation sector, from "intellectual development to market", Karsan aims to strengthen its main manufacturer/OEM business line in particular. Karsan manages the entire automotive value chain, from R&D to production, from marketing to sales and after-sales activities. Karsan manufactures Jest and Atak models under its own brand. Karsan developed the e-JEST in 2018, followed by the e-ATAK in 2019. In 2021, the company launched the 10 m, 12 m and 18 m models of its born-electric e-ATA family, becoming the first and only brand in Europe to offer a fully electric product range from 6 meters to 18 meters. In the same year, in collaboration with the domestic technology company ADASTEC, Karsan introduced the Level 4 driverless Autonomous e-ATAK, followed by the Autonomous e-JEST in 2025. Karsan also unveiled the e-ATA HYDROGEN in 2022. As of 2022, the company has been manufacturing Megane Sedan passenger cars for the Renault brand. By the end of 2023, Karsan became the first European bus manufacturer to enter the Japanese market with its right-hand-drive e-JEST, and in November 2024, it entered the UK market with the same right-hand-drive e-JEST model.