

Alstom Foundation and Jô Clemente Institute (IJC) launch Virtual Reality Powered Program to help people with disabilities navigate urban areas

- **Project seeks to overcome challenges of urban mobility and discrimination faced by people with disabilities including Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)**
- **Use of Virtual Reality allows individuals to practice navigating public spaces and accessing public transit**
- **Training includes visual instructions and communication tools to facilitate interactions**

August 8, 2024 - The Alstom Foundation, in partnership with the Jô Clemente Institute (IJC), announces the inauguration of the space dedicated to the “Virtual Reality for Inclusion” project. This initiative uses virtual reality to simulate real environments and offer practical training for people with Intellectual Disabilities and Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The project aims to help participants develop essential skills so they can navigate their communities and use public transport with confidence and autonomy.

Developed with the technical support of the Interdisciplinary Center for Interactive Technologies of the University of São Paulo (LSI-TEC-USP), the new training space is at the headquarters of the Jô Clemente Institute (IJC), located in Vila Clementino, in São Paulo. The space will be used to complement the classes and activities already being provided by the Institute.

“The opening of this space is an important milestone in our mission to promote inclusion and mobility. We are proud to be part of this initiative which, in addition to fulfilling this purpose, is also aligned with Alstom’s values,” highlights Ana Caiasso, Alstom’s Director of Communications and Corporate Social Responsibility for Latin America.

Participants will have the opportunity to practice and gain more confidence in using public transport through various simulations. This includes everything from familiarizing themselves with the different train routes to practicing boarding and alighting the vehicle. To complement the mobility training, the project offers visual instructions which, combined with visual and auditory communication tools, make it easier for participants to interact and understand the content.

“We are very pleased with the opening of this space. It represents a significant step towards our goal of training the people we serve through the Professional Inclusion service. This will prepare 900 people to move around the city safely and comfortably,” says Daniela Mendes, General Superintendent of the Jô Clemente Institute (IJC).

According to estimates by the World Health Organization (WHO), there are 70 million people with autism in the world and, in Brazil, it is believed that 2 million people have some degree of autism. Furthermore, the Ministry of Health indicates that approximately 13 million Brazilians live with rare diseases. More than 2.6 million Brazilians – around 1.4% of the country’s population – declared to have

some type of Intellectual Disability. These conditions have a significant social impact, highlighting the importance of initiatives that aim to include and support these people in society.

About Alstom Foundation

Established in 2007, Alstom Foundation supports and funds projects proposed by Alstom employees who partner with local partner NGOs and non-profit organizations to carry out initiatives aimed at improving living conditions in located communities near Group facilities and project sites around the world. The Foundation's projects focus on four areas: mobility, environmental protection, energy and water, and socio-economic development.

About Alstom

Alstom is committed to contributing to a low-carbon future by developing and promoting innovative and sustainable transport solutions that provide a pleasant experience for users. From high-speed trains, metros, monorails and LRVs to complete systems, services, infrastructure, signaling and digital mobility, Alstom offers its diverse group of customers the broadest portfolio in the industry. Present in 64 countries with a team of more than 84,700 people from 184 nationalities, the company focuses its skills in design, innovation and project management in the areas where mobility solutions are most needed. Listed in France, Alstom generated revenues of €17.6 billion in the fiscal year ending March 31, 2024. For more information, please visit www.alstom.com.

Contacts

Latin America

Vinicius RIQUETO
+55 11 99865-1563
vinicius.riqueto@alstomgroup.com

Daniel Fabra
+55 11 9.8826.8672
daniel.fabra@ideal.pr