2018 WAS A POSITIVE YEAR FOR SOLARIS

The Polish manufacturer maintained its leadership on the domestic market and was confirmed among the main producers of electric buses in Europe.

2018, Solaris Bus & Coach delivered 1,226 vehicles between buses and trolleybuses to Europe. Alternative driveline buses constituted 36% of these vehicles, in particular hybrid or electric ones. In the electric bus segment, Solaris ranked second in Europe after BYD/ADL with a market share of 17%.

«The rising importance of electric buses in the sales structure of Solaris» underlined the manufacturer, «is consistent with the long-term development strategy of the company, as well as of the CAF group, which is owner of 100% of Solaris shares». Of the 1,226 Solaris buses delivered last year, 824 went to European customers, mainly in Lithuania (162), Germany (153), Czech Republic (141) and Italy (113).

On the domestic market (402 units sold), the Polish manufacturer maintained firmly its position at the top of the ranking and for the sixteenth time in a row turned the absolute leader on the market of low-floor city buses with a market share of 33%. As for 2019, Solaris will launch two new products. The first will be the Urbino 12 hydrogen, a 12-meter vehicle with an electric driveline and a hydrogen fuel cell as a range extender. The manufacturer has applied the latest technological achievements on the market regarding hydrogen storage and power generation components (composite tanks to store type IV hydrogen and a new generation hydrogen fuel cell). The launch of the Urbino 12 hydrogen is scheduled for June 2019 during the UITP Summit in Stockholm.

The second debut, scheduled in October at the Busworld in Brussels, is the Trollino 24 trolleybus. It is a bi-articulated vehicle with two drive axles and an oversize length of 24 meters. It is the first vehicle of this type manufactured by Solaris. This model, according to the manufacturer of Boleschowo, will constitute a construction platform for trolleybuses, as well as battery and hybrid buses.

«We are entering 2019 with ambitious goals and a large number of secured orders for the current year» said Javier Calleja, CEO of Solaris Bus & Coach. «A significant part of these vehicles features alternative drivelines of which Solaris is now an European expert. We also attach great importance to the after-sales services offered to our customers and focus on the development of this segment. Every year we face new challenges arising from market expectations regarding innovative solutions. However, Solaris is an organization perfectly prepared for this task and it is able to both respond to the needs of its customers, and create new market trends, in particular with regard to e-mobility».

REVENUE OF SOLARIS (millions of PLN)

SALES OF ELECTRIC BUSES IN EUROPE IN 2018 (total 630 units)