

GROWING TREND IN THE EU

The demand of new buses in Europe increased by 2.8% from January to October 2018. This is revealed by the European Automobile Manufacturers' Association

The European bus sector has experienced ten months of growth. This is revealed by the ACEA (European Automobile Manufacturers' Association) in the periodic economic survey on the number of commercial vehicles registrations. We are facing a general growth that affects all market segments: vans (+3.7%), commercial vehicles (+3.9%), commercial vehicles up to 3.5 tonnes (+5%), 'heavy' vehicles over 16 tonnes (+5.1%).

The performance recorded in the bus segment was more moderate (+2.8%). However, the trend is positive with 34,662 vehicles over 3.5 tonnes registered between January and October 2018 compared to 33,708 registered in the same period in 2017.

Italy and France stand out. The first continues to increase its growth outstandingly (+38.7%), the latter much more moderately (+8.2%).

The results of Spain, the United Kingdom and Germany are instead negative. The German market was affected less (-0.4%) compared to the loss recorded within the British borders (-9.6%). The United Kingdom failed to disentangle from the bearish trend, unlike the neighbouring Ireland where the registrations increased by 40%. The loss of Spain, on the other hand, was limited to -2.4%.

Among the other markets, Eastern Europe recovers with the positive performance of the Czech Republic (+57.1%), Croatia (+16.7%), Hungary (+8.2%) and Romania (+3.1%). Counter-trend for Slovakia (-26.4%) and Slovenia (-16.7%).

Good performance for Greece (+29.2%) and Poland (+28.7%). In Northern Europe, instead, a negative trend prevailed (Sweden -38.9%, Denmark -34.6%, the Netherlands -19.8%, Finland -0.7%). Only Belgium is safe, with an increase of 11.1%.

Demand decreased also in the Baltic area (Estonia -36.7%, Latvia -35.7%), with the sole exception of Lithuania (+61.9%), and also in the EFTA area (Iceland -31.5%, Norway -6.3%, Switzerland -3.7%). ●

Bus & Coach registrations in the EU - Trend 2018

