



## KARSAN IN ITALY AND EUROPE

**THE** Turkish manufacturer Karsan debuted in Europe through the Karsan Italy SRL, a company established on 12 December 2014 for the sale and service of Karsan vehicles in Western Europe. The headquarters

is in Turin. In the initial phase, Karsan Italy will sell Jest, Atak and Star models offering assistance. Jest is a 6-metres low-floor minibus for urban transport, also provided with wheelchair platform and ramp. Atak is a 8-metres bus with a capacity of 60 passengers while Star is a high-floor vehicle with 29 seats for short range intercity transport, shuttle services or tourism on a regional basis. "Our products are noted for their low floor on compact size and easy accessibility especially for people with disabilities. We believe that the Karsan range is the right answer to the demands of the European markets for urban and suburban transport because they have been designed for the European markets", said David Siviero, general director of Karsan Italy. The "Karsan Otomotiv Sanayii ve Ticaret A.Ş." is one of the most important automotive manufacturers in Turkey, specializing in the design, production and sale of buses for urban and suburban transport.

## GERMAN DESIGN AWARD



**THE** Setra TopClass 500 and the ComfortClass 500 received the "German Design Award" "Special Mention 2015" in the "Excellent Product Design - Transportation and Public Design" product category.

The "Rat der Formgebung" (Design Council), a brand and design entity founded in 1953 on the initiative of the German Bundestag was unanimous in its reasons: "A systematically aerodynamic design for the outer shell with an innovative aero tail end shapes the overall impression of this touring coach family. Elements such as the progressive side line lend the 500 model series an elegant, luxurious appearance. A unity of comfort, value appeal, form and colour results from the interplay of the equipment items. It goes without saying that there is an ergonomic design for the driver's area. The LED lighting ensures both safety and a homely atmosphere."

## 142 OTOKAR VECTIO C FOR MALTA



**O**tokar Europe, the subsidiary of the Turkish company which is part of Koç Group, received a large order for 142 Vectio C buses in the right-hand drive version. The vehicles have been commissioned in Malta from Spanish city buses operator CUNISA. Deliveries are scheduled before the end of 2015. This is the largest right hand drive order for a Turkish bus manufacturer. The Vectio C is a 9.6 m. medium-size low entry bus for

public transport. It has a low entry structure, two doors, wheelchair ramp, Euro VI engine, independent front suspension and automatic transmission.

## BOZANKAYA AT THE EURASIA RAIL

**THE** Turkish manufacturer of rail systems and commercial vehicles Bozankaya, will highlight their domestic tramcar and trambus projects at the Eurasia Rail Fair to be held in Istanbul on March 5-7. Bozankaya will also present their first electrically-driven bus in Turkey (11.Hall - Stand.11D21). "As Bozankaya, we are manufacturing 100% low-base tramcar vehicle in a length of 33 meters which consists of 5 modules, following our long-term R&D studies", said Aytunç Günay, General Director of Bozankaya Group. "Complying with international standards as a domestically manufactured vehicle, this tramcar features to have a higher quality and is a more advantageous transportation vehicle in financial terms in comparison with the vehicles imported from Europe".



## VDL CITEA BUSES IN BERLIN



**I**n early February entered service in Berlin, Germany, the first 40 VDL Citea LLE buses of the 236 ordered by BVG (Berliner Verkehrsbetriebe) in the summer of 2014. The Citea LLE has a net weight of approximately 9 tonnes, and according to BVG's own tests, it consumes 20% less diesel fuel than comparable products with a reduction of around 18 tonnes of harmful substance emissions per year, per vehicle.

The combination VDL Citea LLE Euro VI and a consumption reduction of 20% also cuts NOx emissions by 95%. This represents a major step for BVG towards achieving their corporate objective of reducing CO2 emissions by 20% in the period from 2010 to 2020. The company also supports the plans of the city government of Berlin to make the city climate-neutral by 2050.

## SOLARIS TRAMINO IN CRACOW

**THE** low-floor Solaris Tramino is under test in Cracow, Poland, on behalf of the Cracow City Transport (MPK). For the next three months, the 32 metres Solaris tram will run on line 1 from Nowa Huta to the city centre. The fully low-floor, multiarticulated vehicle consists of five body sections. The step-free interior is featured with air conditioning system and LED lighting. Energy recovered during braking can be stored in supercapacitors. During acceleration, energy is sourced from the supercapacitors to reduce consumption from the overhead network. In this way, energy use can be reduced by between 20% and 30% when compared to other trams on market. It is the first vehicle in Poland with this technology. The low-floor Solaris city buses Urbino are instead well known to the passengers of public transport in Cracow.



## OPTARE SOLO SR IN ENGLAND

**THE** British manufacturer Optare supplied five Solo SR buses to Gateshead Central Taxis, a taxi company based in Gateshead, a large town in the Northeast of England. The Optare Solo buses for Gateshead Central Taxis are 9 m long and seat up to 31 passengers. The low entry floor combined with the front axle forward of the door allows for easy access to a fully flat lower saloon area, making these buses

easily accessible for all. Featured with Euro 5 engine, the vehicles will serve multiple routes around Gateshead on behalf of Nexus operator. Gateshead Central Taxis have over 200 vehicles, including a 24 hour taxi fleet and the largest range of specialist wheelchair accessible vehicles in the Northeast of England. ●



## EXQUI.CITY EL FOR AMBURGO

**THE** very first Van Hool Exqui.City 100% electric buses have been ordered in Hamburg, Germany. The four-door, articulated buses are 18.61 m long and 2.55 m wide with a height of 3.5 m. They can transport up to 109 passengers (46 people sitting). The vehicles will be charged overnight in the depot. Throughout the day, 40 minute charging sessions at either end of the bus line are foreseen. Furthermore the buses will produce part of the energy they need themselves: whenever the vehicle brakes it creates electrical power that can be stored in the battery and re-used on the vehicle's return journey. The buses' batteries are charged using charging points on the roof of the bus. The two articulated buses will be delivered early 2016 and will be in operation on the busiest bus route in Hamburg: the M3 line. ●



## DAIMLER BUSES CHASSIS FROM INDIA

**D**aimler Buses has started to export bus chassis from India. The first delivery has been celebrated in the Egyptian capital of Cairo with a nine-ton bus chassis to the company's long-time business partner MCV which will equip the chassis with bodies in Cairo and sell the finished vehicles as Mercedes-Benz-brand buses through its nationwide sales network. The OF 9t bus chassis with front-mounted engines are manu-

factured at the Daimler India Commercial Vehicles (DICV) plant in Chennai. The construction of the DICV bus plant is continuing at a rapid pace. Daimler is investing around €50 million in the project launched in March 2014. The company expects to begin producing Mercedes-Benz and BharatBenz buses at the plant at the end of the second quarter. Spread across an area of 113,000 square meters, the plant will have an installed capacity of 1,500 vehicles per year in the initial phase, and can be expanded to 4,000 units subsequently. Once construction is completed, the facility in Chennai will be the first Daimler plant worldwide to produce trucks, buses, and engines for a total of three brands. ●



## 16 FUTURA FOR SKI CHAMPIONSHIPS

**V**DL Bus & Coach supplied 16 Futura coaches for the FIS Nordic World Ski Championships held in Falun, Sweden, from February 18 to March 1, 2015. The vehicles range in length from the 2-axle 12.2-metre model to the 3-axle 13.9-metre model. All the Futuras feature special lettering. Sambus, an association of Swedish passenger transport companies, has been appointed as the official transport partner of the FIS

(International Ski Federation) and has coordinated the transportation with Futuras. In total 8 coach operators from Sweden and Finland, including several Sambus members, make their Futuras available for transporting visitors to and from various airports, cities and hotels. After the event the 16 Futuras will join the fleets of the various coach operators. ●



## THE SPANISH HIFE CHOOSES MOBI URBAN

**T**HE Spanish transport company Hispano de Fuente en Segures (HIFE) trusted again in the Indcar brand choosing another model from the Iberian coach builder based in Arbúcies, Girona. This is the Urban Mobi, a reliable and robust vehicle designed for urban / interurban application. It is fitted with 17 seats, one reduced mobility platform for passengers in wheelchair and a rear ramp. Passengers on board are up to 31. HIFE celebrates this year the 100th anniversary. Founded in 1915 in Benasal, Castellón, the transport company has adapted to market needs diversifying its supply business, being actually present in a sector ranging from tourism, with its own travel agency, to the comprehensive maintenance of vehicles among others. ●



## SOLARIS URBINO IN ROMANIA

**A**nother significant order in Romania for Solaris Bus & Coach. At the end of 2014, the Polish manufacturer signed a contract for the supply of 70 Solaris low-floor Urbino 12 to SC Publitrans 2000 SA transport company based in Pitesti, a city near Bucharest. The vehicles will be fitted with air-conditioning, LED daytime running lights, an advanced passenger information system as well as a CCTV monitoring system. The engine is a Euro VI Cummins ISB6.7 280B (204 kW). Delivery will be completed by May 2015. Solaris has been present on the Romanian market for a couple of years. Ten Urbino 12 are running in the city of Oradea, twenty vehicles of the same model along with eight Trollino 12 were delivered to Baia Mare in the north of the country. Last year an order for forty articulated Urbino 18 buses was placed in Cluj-Napoca, capital of Transylvania and in Craiova, a city in the north of the country, Solaris signed a contract for delivery of seventeen Urbino 12. ●



## DOUBLE-DECKERS IN SOUTH KOREA



**T**HE three-axle Enviro500 double deck bus manufactured in Britain by Alexander Dennis Limited (ADL) was tested last December in Gyeonggi-do, the most populous province in South Korea. The three weeks of trials took an overwhelmingly positive response from passengers, drivers and operating companies. "The double deck trial was borne out of a search for buses with a higher seating capacity to meet the needs of the daily commuters", said Paul Davies, Director and General Manager of ADL's Asia Pacific operations. "What we've proven is that the Enviro500 not only fulfils this basic requirement, it also brings with it many other benefits, most notably the improved access for wheelchair users, excellent fuel efficiency, outstanding manoeuvrability and the fact that it can carry twice as many seated passengers as the current single deck buses". ●

## SETRA MULTICLASS IN AUSTRIA

**S**tern & Hafferl Verkehrs-gesellschaft m.b.H. is a private transport company based in Gmunden, a town in Upper Austria (the smallest city in the world to have an urban tramway network). The Austrian company recently expanded the fleet with 21 new Setra MultiClass 400 rural-service buses.

The supply includes 14 S 415 UL business rural-service buses and seven S 417 UL business buses. The S 415 UL vehicles have 45 seats and 36 standing places while the S 417 UL buses provide seats for 59 passengers and standing places for 15. All of the 21 buses will be deployed on regular service routes in the Steyr/Kremstal region. ●



## TEMSA HD VIP FOR METRO TOURISM

**T**HE first Temsa HD Vip coach has been delivered to Metro Tourism, one of the largest tourism and transport organizations in Turkey. The luxury touring vehicle is part of an order for 75 Temsa HD VIP coaches with 41+1 seats and 2+1 seating. With the Temsa HD Vip the fleet of Metro Tourism has nearly reached 700 vehicles. Temsa Global manufactures and distributes buses and coaches with its own brand in Turkey and international markets. The annual production capacity amounts to 11,500 vehicles (4,000 buses and coaches plus 7,500 light trucks) at its Adana production plant in South Turkey. ●

