



MID CITY ZERO-EMISSION

The Dutch passenger transport company Connexxion has placed an order for 62 VDL MidCity Electric buses and 40 VDL Citea LLE-120 Euro 6 buses. All the vehicles will be used in the 'Noord-Holland Noord' province. This concession will become operational by the end of July 2018. "With the introduction of MidCity Electric, the smaller buses in Noord-Holland Noord are now also zero emission",

said Eric van Eijndhoven, Public Transport Director at Connexxion.

"The goal is to have half of all buses run zero emissions in the Noord-Holland Noord concession area by 2025".

VDL Bus & Coach is currently developing the MidCity Electric model. This fully electric minibus with a length of 8 mt features a 87 kWh battery with a range of up to 220 km, as stated by the manufacturer. This new model will be introduced in 2018.

SKYLINER FOR BALTOUR

The renowned Neoplan double-decker is celebrating two milestones: 50 years and 5,000 units delivered. The owner of the milestone coach is Baltour Group which received the keys under the spotlight of Busworld Europe 2017 (Kortrijk, October 20-25). Elegant and sober, 64 Exclusive Plus seats with central armrests and leg rests, diesel Euro 6 engine (500 hp), numerous driving assistance systems, including EBA (Emergency Brake Assist) and MAN EfficientCruise based on topography detected by gps in conjunction with Ecoroll. Baltour Group connects 17 Italian regions and 23 European countries with over 500 destinations, carrying more than 4 million passengers a year. The fleet currently includes 93 vehicles, 66 of which are MAN and Neoplan branded.



VOLVO HYBRID BUSES IN SINGAPORE

The Land Transport Authority (LTA) of Singapore has placed an order for 50 Volvo 7900 Hybrid buses. The vehicles, which are powered by a diesel engine as well as battery power, will be rolled out gradually for service by the second half of 2018. The Swedish manufacturer pointed out: "The Volvo 7900 Hybrid bus uses 30 per cent less fuel and has a correspondingly lower climate impact than a diesel bus, and just half the nitrogen oxide and particle emissions".

To date, Volvo Buses has now sold more than 3,000 hybrids worldwide.

MORE OTOKAR BUSES FOR MALTA

The ALESA-ALSA transport company based in Malta trusted again in the Otokar brand. After the Vectio C bus model specially featured by the Turkish manufacturer for the narrow streets of the island, the Maltese company acquired further buses from the Otokar range. This time in a longer size with the Kent C version. 28 of these vehicles are in service since last summer on the busiest lines of the island and on the routes for the airport. The buses are fitted with luggage areas and USB sockets. The 6-cylinder engine (280 hp) are coupled with a Voith Diwa automatic transmission. Otokar then worked closely with the Maltese operator to set up a preventive service and a supply program for regular delivery of spare parts tailored to Malta's island situation.



50 YEARS OF HISTORY

On the 50th anniversary of the Neoplan Skyliner, MAN Truck & Bus offers memories and images of this model around the world. Like the 42 Neoplan Skyliners used as shuttle buses to Golden Nugget hotels' casinos in the 1980's. Twenty vehicles have run the transfer route from Los Angeles to Las Vegas since 1981, with 22 more starting shuttle services

between New York and Atlantic City from 1983 onwards. The gold-coated windows dimmed the intense sunlight and reduced heating levels in the interior. There was also an especially large air-conditioning system on board, which was not powered in the usual way by the vehicle engine but had its own motor. Another innovation was the use of Nirosta (stainless steel) on the body. The interior equipment was also impressive. A Swiss company produced a custom range of exclusive seat covers specially for these vehicles in golden colour. Detroit V8 engines and Allison automatic gearboxes provided the power.

ELECTRIC COACH UNDER DEVELOPMENT

The first 100% electric coach for the American market. Van Hool is working on it in collaboration with the American company Proterra specializing in battery technology. The model is the CX45E electric coach. Van Hool says: "It will have a range of about 300 km and will be used mainly for commuter transfers and / or for regular transportation of people for short distances. The vehicle will be designed at the headquarter of Koningshooikt, Belgium, where the first prototypes will be built. Like the CX35, the CX45 is currently being built in Skopje, Macedonia, so the CX45E will also be produced in the same location. " Van Hool has a long tradition on the North American market through its thirty-year partnership with the exclusive partner ABC Bus Companies Inc.





ALEXANDER DENNIS IN NEW ZEALAND

Rotorua, New Zealand. At the annual conference of Bus & Coach Association (October 4-6), the British manufacturer AlexanderDennis (ADL) put on show the Elite executive touring coach. The vehicle is one of the eight units ordered by Ritchies Transport Holdings, New Zealand's largest coach operator. The 13.5m Elite coaches are built on Scania K440 chassis and have a capacity for up to 53 passengers. The vehicles delivered to New Zealand have been tailored to the customer's specific requirements. Of the eight vehicles ordered, two specification variants exist: one with a near side centre exit door plus centre toilet and a second variant featuring a rear saloon floor mounted toilet to facilitate passenger access and maximise luggage capacity. A brand new HVAC climate control system and single glazing conform to New Zealand's weight regulations.

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TRAMINO ON THE PODIUM

The Solaris Tramino Leipzig tram has been awarded a prestigious engineer Ernest Malinowski Award at the TRAKO International Railway Industry trade show in Gdańsk, Poland, where the vehicle was displayed last September. The Solaris Tramino Leipzig is 37.63 meter long and it consists of four modules. The tram presented at the Gdańsk's trade show is one of the 23 that the Leipziger Verkehrsbetriebe (LVB) has ordered since 2015. The frame agreement includes the delivery of up to 41 trams until 2020. The 2.3-meter wide tram is equipped with 4 classic driving bogies and one non-powered Jacobs type bogie. The tram track width amounts to 1458 mm, specific for the LVB network. On board there's a room for 75 seats and 220 passengers.



WITH PANTOGRAPH CHARGE

An order for five additional VDL Citea SLF-120 Electric buses has been placed by Stadtwerke Münster. The vehicles with a total passenger capacity of 80 people will be fitted with a pantograph system. Unlike the first five units, the pantograph is now positioned on the front axle. This change is a response from VDL Bus & Coach to recommendations from the VDV and the ISO standards. In accordance with the requirements in Münster, the vehicles will be fitted with a 180 kWh

battery pack thereby further increasing the operating range and ensuring greater flexibility. The new vehicles will be equipped with a Siemens central motor, which further reduces the vehicle maintenance costs. To date, electric vehicles from VDL Bus & Coach have clocked up more than 4,500,000 real operating kilometres on the road.

DAILY SCHOOLBUSES IN LITHUANIA

Delivered to Vilnius, Lithuania, 51 school buses awarded to Iveco Bus by the Lithuanian Ministry of Education. The Iveco Daily school bus is designed for primary and secondary school students, with particular attention to children with reduced mobility, for which special equipment is provided. The total ground mass is up to 5 tons and the engine is Iveco Euro 6C (150 hp) with a 350 Nm torque. On board there are 19 seats. The Iveco Daily school bus complies with the European Union's safety and quality requirements and at the same time have been modified to adapt to road conditions in Lithuania. It's fitted with lower steps and a special light warning system that informs the driver when the kids get off the bus. They are also equipped with the Alcock device



METHANE POWERED INTERCITY BUSES

Madrid-based transport company ALSA has recently acquired eight Magnús.E CNG buses bodied by Castrosua. The vehicles are built on Scania chassis with Class II equipment. They will be used for services provided to the Madrid Consortium of Transportation. Long 15 meters with two doors, they offer 63 seats and space for 40 standing passengers in addition to a seat for people with reduced mobility. Onboard features include air conditioning, anti-fog, convactor heating, Led indoor lighting, USB sockets, fire extinguishing system. The driver area has a dedicated door, sliding window, pneumatic seat with armrest, radio with USB socket.

RESTAURANT ON WHEELS

Discovering the Malaysian metropolis while tasting a dish in a moving restaurant. The city tour with gastronomic experience included is offered by the Duck & Hippo bus operator on a MAN double-decker bus developed with the local Soon Chow manufacturer. The top floor houses a 32-seat dining room, the kitchen is located on the lower floor. Local specialties are served at noon, Indochinese dishes in the evening. The structural base of the Gourmet bus is a two-axle MAN A69 chassis with a Euro 5 engine of 250 hp (184 kW). The vehicle is fitted with EBS, ABS, ECAS, wireless microphones for sound announcements, audio system and WiFi access. The MAN Gourmet is not the only bus in Singapore with the Lion emblem. Tourists can also discover the city on board the many hop-on / hop-off buses and two historic MAN bus trolleys.

