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BUSWORLD SHANGHAI HOSTS IRU CONFERENCE



The 5th annual Busworld Shanghai exhibition will be held from 15 to 17 March 2005 in the splendid facilities of the Shanghai New International Expo Centre at Pudong.

Busworld's partners, VNU Exhibitions Asia, China Civil Engineering Society and the Public Transport Society of China report strong demand from exhibitors for the 30,000sq m that will be available for them.

On 16 March, a prestigious international bus and coach Forum is being organised by Busworld in co-operation with the International Road Transport Union (IRU), the China Road Transport Association (CRTA) and the International Union of Public Transport (UITP).

The theme of the Forum will be "Profitable Bus and Coach Operations in or with China".

The Forum will be formally opened by the Mayor of Shanghai and the principal executives of the four joint organisers.

The day will be divided into four main panel sessions with a number of Chinese and international speakers. The first morning session will be on bus and coach operations in China and on ensuring mobility. The second will discuss the manufacture of buses and coaches in China, including the experience of domestic

manufacturers, and one of the joint ventures with a Western European bus builder.

The first session in the afternoon will be devoted to tourism and the opportunities for bus and coach operators. There is growing demand for coach travel by inbound international tourists, not just at the gateway cities, but at all of China's many famous tourist attractions.

Furthermore, there are many Chinese people now earning higher incomes. They want to travel in comfort in their own country. Demand is likely to keep rising, reaching peaks with the Olympic Games in Beijing in 2008 and the World Expo in Shanghai in 2010.

The final session will be about setting up and running a profitable bus company in China. Speakers will include government representatives, operators, and the Chairman of ALSA, the major Spanish operator that has been running buses in China for several years.

The IRU Forum is expected to bring more than 250 European delegates to Shanghai. Luc Glorieux, Director of Busworld, said "We are delighted and honoured to be associated with such a distinguished Forum. It will be an excellent opportunity for delegates to meet some of the most influential people in the Chinese operating and manufacturing industries and for the Chinese delegates to be able to talk to many of the leading people in the bus and coach business in other parts of the world.

"As the Forum is being held on the middle day of Busworld Shanghai, it will also give delegates an opportunity to visit the exhibition and see the latest products from the Chinese industry. In the five years



ROYAL WITNESS

HRH Prince Philippe, heir to the Throne of Belgium, was recently in Shanghai and witnessed the signature of a definitive agreement between Busworld and its local partners in the Busworld Shanghai exhibition.

The partners announced the formation of the BAAV Busworld China Elite Club. Membership is open to all Chinese bus builders who are interested in international trade, who attend Busworld Shanghai, and further to introduce them to world markets, especially those in Africa, through Busworld's extensive range of contacts.





of Busworld Shanghai, I and many other people have been quite amazed at the rapid advances made by the Chinese industry."

"We are used to the Western European industry where developments are largely evolutionary. In China, the progress is revolutionary. There is strong competition between manufacturers and suppliers of components and services. We have seen dramatic improvements in style, design, quality and comfort."

There will also be an opportunity for delegates to visit the factory of Zhengzhou Yutong Coach Manufacturing Co, one of the largest bus plants in the world. A full programme has also been organised for delegates' partners.

For further details on the IRU Forum please refer to the IRU website, www.iru.org/events/.



SPACE IN DEMAND AT BUSWORLD KORTRIJK

Demand by exhibitors for space at the 18th biennial Busworld Europe, to be held in Kortrijk from 21 to 25 October 2005, is already very strong and stand spaces are filling up fast.

Mieke Glorieux says that bookings are "going like a fair!" A new hall is currently being built at the rear of the Kortrijk exhibition centre, replacing the old and small hall 4 with its rather low roof.

Already, more than 28,000sq m of nett space has been committed by exhibitors. There are a number of companies who will display their products at Kortrijk for the first time, recognising that Busworld Europe is the world's leading specialised event for the bus and

SHANGHAI BOOKINGS

Busworld's partners in China report lots of demand from exhibitors for space at Busworld Shanghai, to be held from 15 to 17 March 2005. All the floor area in the first of the two large halls at the New International Expo Centre at Pudong has been fully sold out, but there is plenty of room available in the second hall.

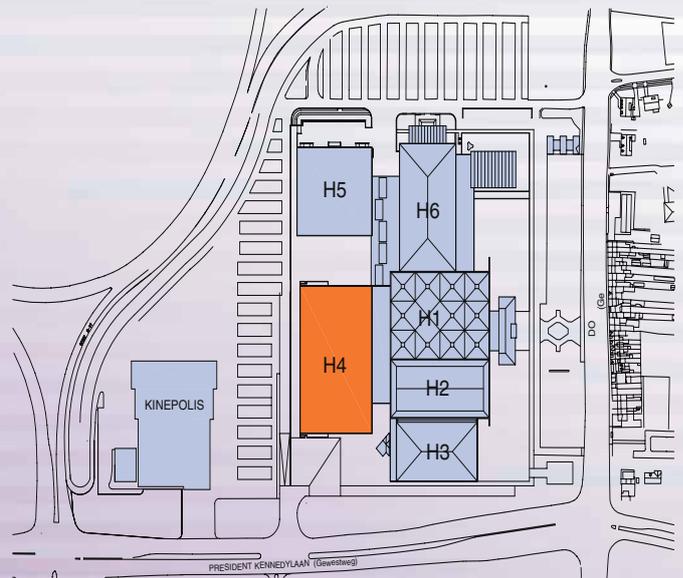
The Chinese industry is gearing up for an anticipated increase in demand for city buses and tourist coaches ahead of the Olympic Games in Beijing in 2008 and the World Expo in Shanghai in 2010.

In the recent history of the Olympic Games, they have not been held in a city where the vast majority of the population is dependent upon public transport. Although car ownership is rising in China, it has reached nothing like the cars per capita levels in many other parts of the world.

Beijing has two metro lines, with further routes planned. Shanghai is in the course of expanding its metro network to a planned system of nearly 200km, to be operational by the end of this decade.

Those metro systems can only cope with a small part of the daily demand for public transport. Most people will continue to rely on buses. In Beijing and Shanghai, the trend is likely to be towards 12 metre buses with lower interior floor heights and easier access for passengers.

Shanghai has benefited from a booming economy over the last 12-13 years. It is the most modernised city in China, even in the world, and there are many new and spectacular buildings. Thousands of hectares of old housing have been flattened and replaced by modern offices and multi-story housing. The International Airport is linked to the Pudong area by magnetic levitation trains that cover 30km in just eight minutes. One of the stations is within easy walking distance of the International Expo Centre.



coach industry. Last year, visitors came from more than 100 countries.

Euro 4 emission standards will come into force for new models of buses and coaches first registered on or after 1 October 2005 and will apply to existing models one year later. Several manufacturers are expected

to show their Euro 4 models, helping to create high demand for floor space.

Additional requirements for exhibition space will be provided by large temporary pavilions, and these are likely to be a different arrangement from Busworld Kortrijk in 2003.

SPANISH COMPLIMENT

Marta Peraza, the Director of the FIAA Bus & Coach Show in Madrid, was interviewed recently by Miguel Sáez, Editor of "Autobuses & Autocares".

He asked her what was the position of the FIAA Show in relation to other specialist bus and coach industry exhibitions in Europe. Marta Peraza said "In terms of the exhibitions that are exactly the same as FIAA the only one is that held in Kortrijk, Belgium, which is also partly devoted to tourism. It, (FIAA), cannot be compared with the rest because they either have a major tourism section, the event is shared with trucks, or they are open for several days to a non-professional public."

She told Miguel Sáez: "If we look at the specific figures for buses and coaches at those shows that combine several sectors, the FIAA Show is in second position in Europe, which is excellent. Nevertheless, we need to continue to work to cut the distance between us and the leader, even though Kortrijk has been exhibiting buses and coaches for 27 years now."

Busworld congratulates Marta Peraza on her great organisation

BUSWORLD INDIA 2005

Busworld's partners in India, Inter Ads Limited, say that they are



CONTROLLING BUSES IN INDIA

India has a well-developed Information Technology industry. In 2003, a government department, the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers and the Automotive Component Manufacturers Association formed a group, known as the Core-Group on Automotive Research (CAR) to study the use and application of telematics in the Indian automotive industry.

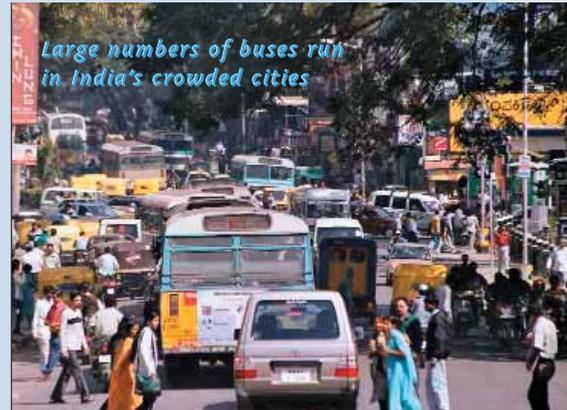
One of the first projects has been the development of a Ground Traffic Control system at the Koyambedu Bus Terminal in Chennai. More than 2,000 buses and 200,000 passengers use the terminal daily. The GTC uses GPS and geographical information systems to locate buses and communicate with their drivers.

at FIAA. Luc Glorieux, Director of Busworld, said: "We welcome the challenge from Spain. It makes us even more determined to work hard and to ensure that Busworld Kortrijk continues to be the leading European exhibition for the bus and coach industry."

making good progress in signing up exhibitors for the exhibition that will be held on 7 to 9 March 2005 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. More than 6,800sq m of stand space has already been booked.

Rajan Sharma, Managing Director of Interads Limited, said: "The event is expected to be the largest and most important exhibition for the Indian bus industry and will provide a unique opportunity to meet other people in the industry and get up to date with the latest developments. Busworld India will give exhibitors a chance to interact with key specifiers and developers who shape the Indian bus industry."

We plan to carry much more information on Busworld India in the next newsletter, to be published next month.



It helps them to find the best route to the terminal and their parking position in the terminal. The system can also give information to passengers on arrival and departure times, and can be extended to include vehicle diagnostics.

If the project is successful, it is likely to be introduced in other large Indian cities.

BUSWORLD LAGOS

The annual Busworld Lagos Exhibition was held at a new venue, a stadium in the middle of Lagos, from 1 to 3 December. Mark D'Eigens, representing Busworld, said that the exhibition is becoming increasingly international. The Chinese manufacturer, LIFAN, has sold nearly 140 small buses in Nigeria and expects to become firmly established in Africa's largest market.

Although the Lagos event is on a smaller scale than other Busworld exhibitions, Mark said that there are encouraging signs. Owners who came to previous exhibitions and saw new types of vehicles have subsequently bought them. The provisional dates for Busworld Lagos next year are also 1-3 December, with the last day being Saturday.

An organising committee has already been established and will be looking at ways of attracting more exhibitors and visitors, based on the position of Lagos as an international hub in the West African region.

EURO 4 BATTLE LOOMING

Most of the major manufacturers have already declared how they intend that their engines will comply with Euro 4 emission limits. A fascinating battle for business is just starting to develop and is likely to be in full flow by the time of Busworld Kortrijk in October 2005. New designs of buses and coaches, first registered on or after 1 October 2005, will have to comply with Euro 4 limits. For existing models, the effective date is one year later.

For their bus and coach engines, MAN and Scania, two of the most respected builders in the industry, have elected for Exhaust Gas Recirculation. Scania and MAN jointly hold the "Coach of the Year 2004" title and MAN is the current holder of the "Bus of the Year 2005" trophy.

In Scania's case, some of the engine exhaust gases are cooled and fed back into the engine. This lowers combustion temperature and reduces the quantity of nitrous oxides formed in the combustion chamber. The MAN solution is similar, but with the addition of a self-cleaning particulate filter. On the other side are equally formidable engine builders, including DAF, Iveco, Mercedes-Benz and Volvo. They have all opted for Selective Catalytic Reduction.



A typical tank for urea or carbamide, mounted on a chassis

An ammonia-based liquid, variously called urea or carbamide, is injected into the engine exhaust gases, causing a chemical reaction that results in nitrogen and water. The supporters of SCR say that the technology can be developed to meet even more stringent Euro emission limits, expected in the future.

Urea will need to be carried on board vehicles in a separate tank. The rate of consumption is expected to be about 2% of that of diesel, but tests have demonstrated that diesel consumption can be expected to fall by around 6%.

There are very few outlets in Europe for urea at the present time, therefore chemical companies will need to establish facilities wherever trucks and coaches are likely to refill with diesel. They will be able to offer stand-alone bunkers for bus and coach depots. These can be located alongside diesel pumps. As the bus or coach company increases the number of vehicles using SCR technology, chemical companies will be able to supply larger bunkers.

The EGR camp say that their system is lighter in weight and free from the problems of packaging an urea tank on vehicles like low floor city buses and luxury coaches, where space is already at a premium.

By the time of Busworld Kortrijk, some operators will have had experience of the new technology, but many will be facing it for the first time. It will be an important factor in their purchasing decisions for 2006. There will certainly be many claims and counter claims for the two technologies on various stands at Europe's premier bus and coach exhibition.

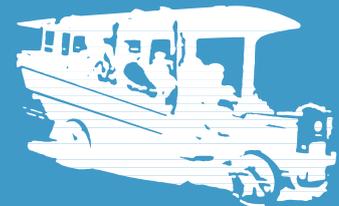
LEO NUYENS

It is with great sadness that we report the sudden death of Leo Nuyens on 16 December at the age of 55.

Leo started his career in the commercial vehicle industry as founder, and was Editor-in-Chief, of Transporama, the principal trade journal in Belgium. From an early stage, he realised how his chosen industry was becoming increasingly international. He travelled widely, made many friends, and his opinions were always respected.

Leo was founder of the Association of Commercial Vehicle editors and a pivotal person, and jury member, in the Truck, Van, Bus and Coach of the Year awards that are keenly contested by the commercial vehicle industry. He was co-founder of the European Bus and Coach Week and a highly valued advisor to Busworld from our earliest times.

Many people will miss Leo and we offer our deepest sympathies to his family.



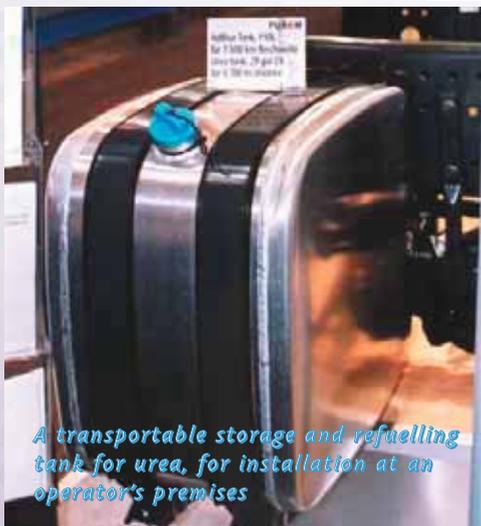
SEASON'S GREETINGS

The Busworld team wishes all readers of the Newsletter a Prosperous New Year

N E X T

BUSWORLD INDIA

(07.03.05 > 09.03.05)



A transportable storage and refuelling tank for urea, for installation at an operator's premises