

## PRESS RELEASE

### VDL Bus & Coach performs conversion of 256 MU buses

**VDL Bus & Coach, as subcontractor, is converting 256 MU (Mobile Unit) buses for the Dutch Police. VDL Bus Venlo, where the buses are being entirely converted according to the specific requirements of the MU, has already delivered a large number of special, custom-made vehicles commissioned by the police in recent years. For VDL Bus & Coach, this represents the biggest order in the history of vehicle conversions. The police chose white as the new exterior colour. These new white MU buses will replace the present dark blue vehicles. Two vehicles have been presented so far; the first batch is scheduled for delivery in the autumn of 2016, with the last buses being delivered in 2019. After 2019, it may be possible that the order will be increased by an additional 83 vehicles. The repair and maintenance contract for the next 10 years has also been placed with VDL Bus & Coach.**

Everything has been considered

Various units of the police force tested the buses thoroughly before the order was placed. An extensive list of requirements for the vehicles was drawn up. Mercedes-Benz Sprinter buses were used as the basis for performing the conversion. The compact dimensions of these MU buses make them highly agile and thus ideally suited for use in crowd management, with the Mobile Unit moving in small groups through masses of people. The order consists of group vehicles and command vehicles. The group vehicle offers space for 9 people: the driver and the commandant in the cab, a team of 6 and possibly 1 suspect behind, and is designed with features including extra-wide side doors on either side, special windows and a cell. The command vehicle has room for the driver and commandant in the cab and 2 operators in the rear of the vehicle. Also installed in the rear of the vehicle is a conference table and various technical gadgets such as the sound commander, which lets the police address people up to 1,000 metres away.

Dutch Police

The Dutch Police is made up of ten regional units, the National Unit and the Police Service Centre. The main structure of the police has three closely cooperating levels: national, regional and local. Police management, supported by the Police Management Executive, functions at national level. This also applies on an operational level for the National Unit, which amongst other things carries out cross-regional and specialist policing tasks, and the Police Service Centre, which brings together all management departments. The ten other units operate at regional level. Within these units, local districts consist of basic teams, a district intelligence unit and a flexible response team.

VDL Bus & Coach

The core activities of VDL Bus & Coach consist of the development, manufacturing, sales and after-sales of a wide range of buses, coaches and chassis modules, the conversion or extension of



mini & midi buses and the purchase and sales of second-hand buses. Manufacturing takes place in the Netherlands and Belgium. VDL Bus & Coach places high value on quality, safety, durability, the environment, low fuel consumption, comfort and low maintenance costs. Sales of VDL Bus & Coach products take place through a worldwide network consisting of corporate-owned sales offices, importers and agents in more than 30 countries. This makes it possible to offer custom-made transport solutions. For after-sales and maintenance, the client can count on rapid, hassle-free assistance from VDL Bus & Coach employees in any of the many service locations. An extensive distribution network ensures that spare parts and accessories are delivered to the requested destination as quickly as possible. VDL Bus & Coach is one of the largest bus producers in Europe.

#### VDL Groep

VDL Bus & Coach is part of VDL Groep. VDL Groep, with its head office in Eindhoven (The Netherlands), is an international industrial company focused on the development, production and sales of semi-finished products, buses & coaches and other finished products and the assembly of cars. Since the founding in 1953 this family-owned company has grown to include 87 operating companies, spread over 19 countries with more than 11,000 employees and a turnover of 2.7 billion euros. The strength of VDL Groep lies in the mutual cooperation between the companies.

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