

PRESS RELEASE

21 VDL Futuras for French long distance bus lines

The liberalization of French long distance transport offers new opportunities for VDL Bus & Coach. At the end of 2015 10 Futuras were delivered to French passenger transport companies that provide service on the Starshipper long distance lines. In the first four months of 2016 VDL Bus & Coach is delivering an additional 11 Futuras for use on the Starshipper lines. Passengers can enjoy luxurious travel at attractive prices between many cities in the west, east and south of France. All the coaches are branded in the Starshipper house style colours.

Deployment VDL Futuras FHD2-129/440

The 21 VDL coaches currently or soon to be in service for Starshipper are of the type Futura FHD2-129/440. At the end of 2015 VDL Bus & Coach delivered 3 Futuras to Le Groupe ASTT (Aquitaine Service Transport Tourism), 2 to Autocars Jollivet and 5 more for companies Cars de l'Élorn, Autocars Le Meur, Autocars Le Roux, L'Été Évasion and Autocars Jézéquel. These 10 Futuras with a length of 12.9 metres have a 48+1+1 seating plan and are luxuriously appointed with features that include very comfortable seats, Wi-Fi, 220 volt socket at all seats, a defibrillator and/or a wheelchair lift. By the end of April 2016 11 more deluxe Futuras will have been shipped to various customers, including 2 for Autocars Nombalais, 1 for Autocars Jollivet and 1 for Hervé. VDL also welcomes 6 new customers, which will receive 1 Futura each. These 6 vehicles are going to Autocars Rouillard, Farouault, Bellier, Robert, Bihan and Cars des Abers. The 21st Futura will be delivered to Pullman D'Aquitaine in April.

Starshipper

Starshipper is one of the five players involved in the opening-up of the market for long-distance coaches. The marque is operated by independent SMEs active in passenger transport in France. All the buses in service for Starshipper are branded with the company's recognizable blue/white house style colours. Starshipper operates a very extensive network of long-distance lines, mainly in the west, east and south of France, and new lines will be starting up in the near future. The company provides service with luxury coaches in order to guarantee a high level of service and offers tickets at very affordable prices.

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 approximately 10,500 employees and a turnover of 2.5 billion euros. The strength of VDL Groep lies in the mutual cooperation between the companies.

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