

## PRESS RELEASE



STAND 802

Albi, October 2017

### THE MOST INNOVATIVE BUS EXHIBITED AT BUSWORLD EUROPE SHOW



© photo SaFra– Rencontres Nationales du Transport Public - Marseille 2017

**After the *Rencontres Nationales du Transport Public* exhibition in Marseille, SaFra will be among the 350 exhibitors at the major European Busworld event in Courtrai (Belgium) from October 20-25, for Europe's largest bus and coach exhibition. On stand 802, SaFra will exhibit the Midibus version of Businova in 10,50m long.**

More than 35,000 visitors are expected. Along with this event, this year the Busworld show will be hosting the UITP conference on October 23 and 24, with themes covering the latest technology in the bus market, as well as innovations, concepts and emerging practices in this sector.

A rechargeable hybrid electric bus, the Businova is manufactured in France by the company SaFra. This bus is particularly innovative in the bus market, offering impressively high levels of technical, economic and ecological performance. The vehicle exhibited at the show is the rechargeable hybrid electric version. It is also available as a 100% electric version and as a midibus (10.50m), with a hybrid version currently being considered.

What makes the Businova so special is SaFra's technological lead in terms of the upgradability and flexibility offered by this innovative product. Thanks to SaFra's extensive know-how in the renovation of public transport equipment and the valuable experience it has acquired when developing its product range and through the trials performed in recent months, the firm can now propose a completely tailored bus solution. With its dual-chassis architecture and its energy pack, in addition to the layout of the side compartments, the Businova can accommodate different types of motor

systems, from pure electric to the H2 fuel cell, with no major technical constraints. This flexibility also enables the Businova to adapt to new recharging systems (slow recharge or pantograph) according to the needs of the urban area in question, which is a key advantage when the infrastructure is already installed. Finally, this flexibility certainly doesn't stop there, as the Businova can also be upgraded to take account of new technologies coming on stream during its operational lifetime. The vehicle's operational agility and upgradability make the Businova significantly more advanced than its competitors. Thanks to its extremely novel design, the Businova is successfully retaining its position as the most innovative bus in the marketplace.

The latest news for Businova includes several trials currently underway on the Gaillac, Albi and Toulouse transport networks. Where production is concerned, the company Safra currently manufactures the two vehicles purchased by the Grand Périgueux urban community for delivery in late 2017 and is preparing to produce three other vehicles for the Castres-Mazamet urban community, which placed an order this summer via the CATP. The production outlook for 2018 has resulted in an extension of the production site with new jobs being created and the addition of an office area to welcome a team currently numbering 40 people.

Concerning renovation, Safra is currently involved in a major bogie renovation project for the Marseille Metro, and is waiting to hear how it did in numerous tenders underway toward the end of this year, a year which has been very buoyant in business terms. Among these, we should mention the contract for the renovation of the Charleroi tram system and the trolley buses in Limoges, and finally the contract for the renovation of the Rennes bus fleet. All of these tenders have stringent technical requirements, an area where Safra is well-placed thanks to its experience in renovating a wide range of equipment (buses, metro systems, tram systems, railway equipment, etc.).

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