

PRESS RELEASE

First VDL Citeas LLE-99 Electric for Luxembourg

On 8 February 2018, the first 7 Citeas Electric for Luxembourg were put into service by Voyages Emile Weber. This is VDL's first order for e-buses including charging infrastructure in Luxembourg. These Citeas LLE-99 Electric are to be deployed in the municipality of Bettembourg, making this the largest electric fleet currently operating in Luxembourg. These e-buses will cover a distance of some 1,400 km a day.

9.9 metres in length, the buses' capacity is well suited to the specific demands that this area imposes. Daytime opportunity charging (fast charging) is used to enable the buses to be deployed optimally during the day. The buses are slow-charged at night and supplied with energy again via a pantograph on the roof or a plug. As the system supplier, VDL is responsible for delivering both the electric buses and the charging stations, including installation, and for implementing the project.

Ard Romers, director of VDL Bus & Coach Nederland, says: "The Netherlands now has 9 E-Mobility implementation projects, making it a proven transition partner for efficient zero emission public transport systems. In addition, our clean and efficient electric vehicles are in day-to-day operation in several German cities. With this experience, we are a good match for Luxembourg's ambition to make public transport sustainable."

VDL Citea LLE-99 Electric

The VDL Citea LLE-99 Electric has been specially developed for less busy urban and regional bus lines so that these areas can also take advantage of zero emission public transport. Usually electric buses are much heavier than conventional diesel buses. A higher weight means fewer passengers and higher consumption. However, the VDL Citea LLE is known as the lightweight champion and VDL Bus & Coach has succeeded in keeping the weight very low for the electric variant too, achieving a reduction of up to more than 1,000 kg compared with a conventional 12-metre diesel bus.

Voyages Emile Weber

Voyages Emile Weber was founded in 1875 as a family-run business and since 2000 has been in the hands of the fifth generation. The first generation began more than 140 years ago, operating a coach twice a week on three routes. Nowadays Voyages Emile Weber, with almost 1,000 employees and an extensive network of travel agencies and tour operators, is one of Luxembourg's largest passenger transport and tourism companies. The fleet comprises more than 450 vehicles, consisting of taxis, minibuses, public transport buses and luxury coaches. The Citeas LLE-99 Electric are to be deployed for the company's public transport arm and will operate under the name Autocars Pletschette.

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 94 operating companies, spread over 20 countries with more than 16,000 employees and an annual turnover of 3.2 billion euros in 2016. The strength of VDL Groep lies in the mutual cooperation between the companies.

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