

end trip from different operators. If we can reach a consensus wherein it is decided that every operator is ready to charge a common fare for a particular route, then I believe, there will be a proper base of understanding among fleet operators, based on principles of mutual growth in this industry. Passengers will have a better option to choose their preferred service based on their convenience and choice. I support the constitution of BOCI (Bus Operators Confederation Of India) and trust that BOCI has given us a much-needed common platform to discuss the challenges and issues faced by the bus fleet operators pan-India, which will enable us to arrive at effective solutions based on consensus which can be implemented with ease and convenience. I hope that the major problems faced by the industry like taxation and common fare implementation will be taken into account on priority by BOCI by talking to the government and putting solutions into effect as early as possible, for the overall betterment of the industry."

Mr. Sanish concluded on an optimistic note, stating: "At Kerala Lines, we have a prompt strategy to expand our fleet operations from our base in Kerala and our headquarters in



Karnataka to other neighbouring States in the coming years. As a long-term strategy, we want to connect Hyderabad and Telangana too. But as I have told before, that the expansion projects can be fully implemented once we deal with challenges facing the bus fleet operator business as a whole. We have always remained committed to providing better means of travel and transport means to general public and adhere to our blue print of sustainable transport through our fleet services".

Busworld Awards at Busworld Europe attracts record number of entries

For its final edition in Kortrijk, Busworld Europe can count on a record number of participating vehicles for its Busworld



busworld.

The Jury, existing out of nine specialised jury groups, is in full preparation and eager to start.

Awards competition: no less than twenty-one in total.

All twenty-one vehicles will be tested both on the premises of Kortrijk Xpo as well as on the surrounding public roads in Kortrijk on October 14, 2017.

In the category 'Coach' nine manufacturers are participating with twelve vehicles: Anadolu Isuzu with Turquoise, Daimler Buses with Mercedes-Benz Turismo, Integralia with IN-vip and One, MAN Truck & Bus with Lion's Coach, Otokar with a new undisclosed vehicle, Temsa with LD13 and Maraton 12, Van Hool with EX16, VDL Bus & Coach with Futura and Yutong with T12 and ICe 12, the last one being an electric coach.

In the category 'Bus' eight manufacturers are participating with nine vehicles: Alstom with Aptis, Anadolu Isuzu with Citiport and Visigo, BMC with Neocity, Daimler Buses with Mercedes-Benz Citaro, Ebusco with High Voltage 2.1, Iveco Bus with Crealis, VDL Bus & Coach with Citea Electric and Yutong with E12.

The different groups are

called Driving Test Coach, Driving Test Bus, Driver Comfort, Passenger Comfort, Guide Comfort (for coach only), Ecology and Maintenance, Emissions, Safety and last but not least Design. Each group consists of one president and one or more members, depending on the need of that specific specialism. In total thirty jury members will work an entire day to evaluate all the vehicles, giving their evaluation on 180 different aspects and features.

The Busworld Awards consist of two overall prizes for the vehicles: the Grand Award Coach and the Grand Award Bus. On top of these Grand Awards, vehicles can also earn a Label when they excel at one of the following fields: Ecology, Safety, Comfort or Design.

The winners of 2017 will be announced during the newly installed Awards Night on the evening of October 19, 2017 in Kortrijk Xpo.