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Daimler Buses raises the bar in economy, safety and comfort

Daimler Buses let off a veritable firework of debuts with its brands at Busworld Europe in Kortrijk. Mercedes-Benz and Setra unveiled several new bus lines, while unique new safety systems celebrated their debut along with customer-oriented services from the Omniplus service brand.

The Citaro hybrid celebrated its world debut at the show. With it, Mercedes-Benz is breaking new ground: the hybrid powertrain is optionally available for a large number of model variants of the best-selling urban bus, even for the gas-engined Citaro NGT. Together with the new electro-hydraulic steering, the hybrid further reduces fuel consumption of the Citaro, already famed for its efficiency, by up to 8.5 per cent. The benefits of the additional hybrid drive: it takes up little space; the outer contours, like the passenger compartment, remain unchanged; and the extra weight is low. Transport operators profit from rapid amortisation, while society and the environment benefit from even lower fuel consumption and emissions.

The arrival of the Citaro hybrid sees Mercedes-Benz open a new chapter in the evolution of city bus drive systems. This marks the first time anywhere in the world that the hybrid technology has been offered as optional equipment for an



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much as 8.5 per cent by comparison, depending on the route it operates on and the model version.

Tourismo RHD high-decker touring coach

Another debut from Mercedes-Benz at the trade fair is the all-new Tourismo RHD high-decker touring coach, which replaces Europe's top-selling high-decker. A significantly extended range of appointment variants and engines means that the Tourismo RHD lends itself to an extraordinarily wide spectrum of uses. Its field of application includes long-distance regular-service routes and touring through to shuttle services, excursions and occasional service on inter-city routes. Hence, it emerges as a new star in the business segment of touring coaches.

Thanks to its excellent aerodynamics in combination with the latest generation of engines, the vehicle's fuel consumption is reduced by up to seven per cent. Together with low maintenance and service costs, it already ranks as a new miracle of economy among touring coaches.



extremely wide range of city buses with both diesel and gas engines, rather than in the form of stand-alone models. In this way, a large number of models can benefit from its advantages: depending on the operating profile and vehicle version, the Citaro hybrid combines with the electrohydraulic steering, another new feature, to lower fuel consumption of the famously efficient Citaro by as much as 8.5 per cent again.

Thanks to the intelligent combination of the existing components from the Daimler Group, the Citaro hybrid is able to offer a wealth of benefits: it is highly efficient, light, inexpensive to purchase and unproblematic for drivers and workshops alike. The new Citaro hybrid is not an interim technology on the road to the all-electric drive system, rather it is being used by Mercedes-Benz in a unique way to hone the internal combustion engine for maximum efficiency.

The key strength of the new Citaro hybrid is its remarkable economy that enables it to clearly stand out from the competition – the Citaro hybrid pays for itself. This is all rooted in a clearly defined development goal: to make minimal modifications to the basic vehicle while maximising fuel efficiency.

The Citaro, with combustion engine, is already acknowledged to be very efficient, yet the intelligent combination of various components lowers fuel consumption of the Citaro hybrid by as

Another new addition is the left hand-drive variant of the Sprinter City 45 minibus, which, thanks to its longer overhang, offers 13 seats in the rear. Added to this is standing room for up to nine passengers in the low-floor area between the axles as well as room for a wheelchair or baby carriage and folding seats.

New Setra TopClass S 531 DT

Maximum efficiency and variability, supreme comfort and the ultimate in safety: the new Setra S 531 DT double-decker bus of the TopClass 500 sets new standards in its class. With superlative aerodynamics, this impressive touring coach will soon set new fuel efficiency records in its segment. Fuel consumption drops by around seven to ten per cent compared to the previous model, depending on the type of use. With its versatile lower deck, it covers the entire spectrum of uses: holiday travel, regular long-distance routes, classy bistro buses and inter-city services. With completely redesigned stairs and a handicapped-accessible lavatory, the interior impresses with its comfort. Finally, the use of Active Brake Assist 4 and Sideguard Assist on the new double-decker bus marks the world debut for these assistance systems in the bus and coach segment. These systems further enhance the already high standard of safety. All of this is cloaked in a fascinating design with its own distinct stamp.