



PRESS RELEASE

Electric Solaris buses have debut in Baltic States

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The Baltic town of Jūrmala in Latvia has just purchased two electric Solaris buses. The zero-emission Urbino 8.9 LE electric will hit the roads of the resort town in the third quarter of 2019. These will be the first electric buses of Solaris not only in Latvia, but also in all of the Baltic States.

The council of the seaside resort Jūrmala just west of Riga has decided to take its first step towards electromobility. Two Urbino 8.9 LE electric buses of Solaris will supplement the fleet of the popular Latvian resort town in the third quarter of 2019. It is a first time for the electric buses of Solaris in a Baltic State.

The commissioned electric buses are low-entry vehicles of 8.9 metres. They will be equipped with Solaris High Energy batteries with a capacity of 160 kWh that will be easily rechargeable using a plug-in device placed on the right side of the bus, behind the rear axle. The recharge status and mileage that can still be covered by the vehicle will be displayed on the driver's panel. The driveline in the electric Urbino will consist of a traction motor.

The buses will feature standard solutions raising the comfort and safety of drivers and passengers, namely air conditioning, alcolocks, heated mirrors, cameras monitoring the passenger compartment and the bus surroundings, as well as an emergency button in the driver's cabin that will allow the driver to record any incidents inside the vehicle, should the need arise, and to send an emergency signal. The Solarises will be fitted with a passenger information system. For the passengers' convenience the buses will have three USB charging ports installed on board.

The floor of the Urbino 8.9 LE electric will be covered with a lining resembling wood, which will further underscore the ecological nature of the bus. The upholstery fabric used on the comfortable seats will correspond with the interior and will also have the new logo of Jūrmala embroidered, representing the completely revamped visual identity of the city.

Solaris had the opportunity to showcase its latest solutions with regard to electric public transport in Jūrmala back in summer 2017, when the city decided to go through with tests of the 12-metre electric Urbino. This experience allowed the customer to identify requirements and to determine specific equipment.

Baltic states constitute a significant export market for Solaris. At the moment the company is carrying out a framework agreement for the delivery of 175 buses to Riga. Recently the manufacturer also contracted an increase of the order volume by another 53 articulated Urbinos for city transport operator Rīgas Satiksme. What is more, a contract for the supply of 150 buses to Vilnius is about to be completed, and in the meantime the city has also bought 41 trolleybuses. The Lithuanian city of Kaunas has also made up its mind in favour of trolleybuses – 85 vehicles drawing power from overhead wires will be delivered in 2019. Though not large in volume, the agreement with Jūrmala is important because it will mark the launch of Solaris battery buses in Baltic states; it is also worth noting that the vehicles fuelled with alternative energy sources are constituting an increasingly important part of the output of the Bolechowo-based factory.

Additional information

Mateusz Figaszewski

Institutional Partnerships and External Relations Director

Tel.: +48 61 66 72 347

Mobile: +48 601 652 179

Fax: 48 61 66 72 345

email: mateusz.figaszewski@solarisbus.com

About our company

Solaris Bus & Coach sp. z o.o. is a leading producer of city and intercity buses in Europe. It focuses on the development of low-emission and zero-emission vehicles, i. e. electric and hydrogen buses as well as trolleybuses. Over 25,000 Solaris vehicles have been delivered so far and they ply the streets in 850 towns and cities across 33 countries located throughout Europe as well as beyond it. Solaris is part of the Spanish CAF Group (Construcciones y Auxiliar de Ferrocarriles) S.A. From conception, to the design and manufacturing phases, all Solaris buses are produced in Poland. All activities undertaken by the company are in line with its mission, which is reflected in the brand's promise: to change the image of public transport. Solaris also actively partners with public transport operators and provides them with comprehensive support in their transition to zero-emission mobility. Solaris products have been repeatedly awarded for quality and innovation. The Urbino 18 hydrogen bus has won the prestigious 'Bus of the Year 2025' title.