



## PRESS RELEASE

### First city in Poland getting hydrogen bus!

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**MZK in Konin will be the first public transport operator in Poland to add a hydrogen bus to its fleet. Secured by Solaris Bus & Coach, the contract stipulates the four-year lease of a Urbino 12 hydrogen bus propelled with energy derived from hydrogen. The vehicle will be delivered to Konin in 2022.**

The Solaris Urbino 12 hydrogen has found its first user in Poland. The city pioneering the step towards hydrogen energy in public transport is none other than Konin. The contract signed on 7 July assumes the lease of the unit in question for four years. Solaris will supply the hydrogen-powered vehicle to Konin in 2022. It is there, in Konin, that the first generally accessible hydrogen refilling station in Poland will be set up, by the end of 2021.

"We are witnessing an extraordinary moment. It is not that long ago that our company launched the first electric buses on the Polish market; and now we are signing the first contract for the supply of hydrogen-fuelled buses to Konin. We have declared on many occasions that we are pioneers of the transformation in public transport in Poland, and today's event is a testament to that declaration. Hydrogen has a strong chance of becoming a backbone of the transformation of public transport transformation in Poland and across Europe," asserted Javier Calleja, CEO of Solaris Bus & Coach.

"The modernisation of the bus fleet of operator Miejski Zakład Komunikacji in Konin is one of my policy priorities. What I had in mind when I announced the fleet modernisation were mostly hybrid and electric buses. The fact that we are signing a deal for the lease of a hydrogen bus of Solaris is, to me, a great source of pride and joy. Thus Konin will be welcoming the world-wide latest solutions in public transport. I believe that this marks only the beginning of things to come," remarked Konin Mayor Piotr Korytkowski.

The main advantages of a hydrogen bus include in particular the short refilling time, the wide driving range as well as the zero-emission, noise-free and city resident-friendly operation of the vehicle. Hydrogen is an absolutely clean energy source. The sole by-products of the chemical reaction taking place in the hydrogen fuel cell are heat and steam. The hydrogen will be stored in gaseous form, in roof-stacked tanks. The commissioned bus will also feature an additional electric energy storage device – a Solaris High Power battery.

The Solaris 12 hydrogen bus had its première in 2019 and quite naturally complemented the emission-free offer of the producer. Electric buses, including the Urbino 15 LE electric designed for intercity carriage, trolleybuses and hydrogen buses together make up an offer that can be easily adapted to individual needs of carriers across all of Europe.

It may be worth recalling that, at the end of January 2021, several Polish cities hosted a series of official presentations of the hydrogen bus made by Solaris. Back then the vehicle made its way, among others, to Konin, where the representatives of city authorities and public transport operators invited to the event were able to make up their mind about the advantages of this extremely technologically advanced vehicle. Interest in the hydrogen bus was also expressed by representatives of city transport operators in Jaworzno, Cracow and Poznań.

Once the unit is delivered to Konin, Poland will join the elite group of states that take advantage of the hydrogen offer of Solaris. These include: Austria, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Sweden, which have commissioned over 80 Solaris Urbino 12 hydrogen buses in total so far.

In the photo (from the left): PhD. Eng. Dariusz Michalak (Board Member of Solaris Bus & Coach), Piotr Korytkowski (Mayor of Konin), Magdalena Przybyła (CEO of MZK Konin).

#### **Additional information**

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##### **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.