



## PRESS RELEASE

### **Solaris Electric Bus Reliable in Passenger Service**

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**The Solaris Urbino electric bus has successfully completed its first period of regular, daily passenger service. For three weeks during the Euro 2012 football championship, it ran in the host city of Poznań, accumulating 3,000 kilometres without any failures. Solaris and its partner Vossloh Kiepe, the supplier of the electric drive-train technology, today offer operators electric buses that are fully homologated and ready for the challenges of everyday operation.**

To match the theme of the Euro 2012 football championship, the outside of the Solaris Urbino electric was covered in artificial turf, turning heads as it silently ran through town. For 22 days, the Solaris Urbino electric worked scheduled passenger services between Poznań's airport and the city centre, giving football supporters and other guests a taste of the spirit of innovation of Solaris. The daily mileage of 150 kilometres offered a lot of room for future intensification of operation thanks to rapid charging between the peak hours.

With its successful operation in Poznań, the Solaris Urbino electric has proven its ability to perform in daily use. The fully-homologated vehicle is ready for passenger service.

The bus used in Poznań already is the second of its kind. Like the first demonstration vehicle presented in autumn 2011, it is based on the Solaris Alpino LE midibus. The electric equipment is supplied by German specialist Vossloh Kiepe. Traction power remains unchanged at 120 kW and battery capacity at 120 kWh, but a new feature is a rapid charging solution for the batteries. At 100 kW charging power, it takes as little as one hour and a half to refill fully depleted batteries.

With further development ongoing, there is more to come. While the first two demonstrators will continue to be tested in various cities across Europe in the coming months, the next vehicle is already being built. It will take the Solaris Urbino electric into the standard city bus length of 12 metres. Plans for an articulated version have also been finalised, allowing Solaris to offer forward-thinking operators a full range of battery buses.

This flexibility in meeting operational requirements is made possible by the modular design of the electric system. Vossloh Kiepe's technology is easily scaled. The system also is prepared for automated fast charging systems such as inductive power supply. This allows the batteries to be topped up along the route or at the terminus, putting paid to problems of limited operational range.

The innovative features of the Solaris Urbino electric have already been recognised and honoured by the industry. Readers of German trade magazine "Busplaner" made the electric bus their "Innovation of the Year 2012" in the Public Transport category. At Transexpo exhibition in autumn 2011, the Solaris Urbino electric was awarded the Gold Medal for the best product.

Like all Solaris buses, the Solaris Urbino electric is built exclusively in Solaris' own factories in Środa Wielkopolska (bodyframes) and Bolechowo-Osiedle (final assembly) in the Greater Poznań region. Besides Vossloh Kiepe's electric power train, other key components also are sourced from leading western European suppliers and will be familiar to operators from their existing fleets.

For Solaris, electric mobility has been a key field of expertise for more than a decade. As Europe's

leading supplier of trolleybuses and offering the largest range of diesel-electric hybrid buses, the company is able to build on significant experience in using electric powertrains for urban buses.

#### **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.