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MAY/JUNE 2022

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Rankin Publishing, Inc.  
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**ON THE COVER:** Anaheim Transportation Network Executive Director Diana Kotler is shown with one of the transit system's BYD battery electric buses. Story begins on page 8.

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Arcola, IL 61910-0130, USA

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**JULY 2022**  
July 25-28  
**National School Transportation Association Annual Meeting & Convention**  
Niagara Falls, NY  
Info: 703-684-3200

July 31 - August 3  
**Association For Commuter Transportation (ACT) Annual International Conference**  
Chicago, IL  
Info: 202-792-5801

**AUGUST 2022**  
August 9-12  
**International Motorcoach Group (IMG) Strategic Alliance Meeting**  
Arlington, TX  
Info: www.imgcoach.com

**OCTOBER 2022**  
October 9-12  
**APTA's TRANSform Conference**  
Seattle, WA  
Info: 202-496-4800

**JANUARY 2023**  
January 11-14  
**United Motorcoach Association (UMA) Motorcoach Expo**  
Orlando, FL  
Info: 800-424-8262

**FEBRUARY 2023**  
February 2-8  
**American Bus Association (ABA) Marketplace 2023**  
Detroit, MI  
Info: 800-283-2877

February 4-6  
**Busworld North America**  
Detroit, MI  
Info:  
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**APRIL 2023**  
April 23-26  
**APTA Mobility Conference**  
Minneapolis, MN  
Info: 202-496-4800

**MAY 2023**  
May 21-25  
**Community Transportation Association of America (CTAA) Expo 2023**  
Oklahoma City, OK  
Info: 800-891-0590

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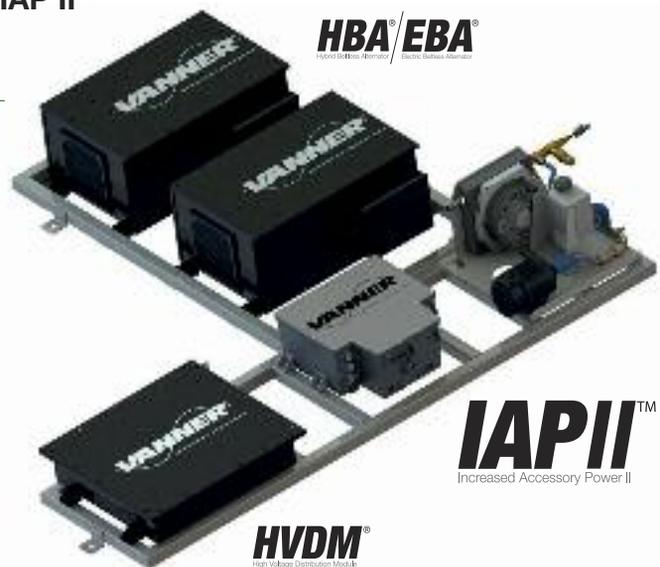
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# Helps Prime Tourist Destination Grow



## Service Defined By Inclusion, Sustainability, Equity

“I think if you have to bring inclusion, sustainability and equality up as a separate discussion, then you are not doing things right to begin with.

We are an organization that has, and always will be, very cognizant and committed to the issues of environmental justice, inclusion, sustainability and equity.”

— ATN Executive Director Diana Kotler

By Rick Mullen, *Busline Magazine* Associate Editor



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The construction of Disneyland began in the summer of 1954 in **Anaheim, CA**, and was opened to the public in July 1955. The baby boomer generation who watched the weekly, prime time Walt Disney television show, and the Mickey Mouse Club after school, were frequently shown film clips of the park when it was under construction.

the Los Angeles Angels Major League Baseball team plays. In addition, across the street from the stadium is the Honda Center, where fans can root for the Anaheim Ducks National Hockey League team. Just down the road in Buena Park is the world famous Knott's Berry Farm theme park.

**“There is an opportunity to work with (economic) developers to ensure transit is not an afterthought, but is considered as residential units, entertainment venues, park and recreational facilities are being built.”**

— ATN Executive Director Diana Kotler



Becoming one of the world's most visited tourist attractions, Disneyland launched an economic boom in Anaheim, and the city hasn't looked back.

Today, visitors flock to the city and surrounding area to visit Disneyland, Disneyland Resort, shop in downtown Anaheim, take tours and watch sporting events at Angels Stadium where

Furthermore, Center City Anaheim includes the Anaheim Packing District, the Center Street Promenade and the Anaheim Civic Center. It's home to dozens of eclectic local retailers, eateries and bars, as well as services like salons, and a yoga studio. There's also a weekly farmers market.

Making sure people get to and from their destinations safely, conveniently and easily, be they tourists or local citizens who ride the bus, is the **Anaheim Transportation Network (ATN)**.

Under the umbrella of the ATN, are primarily two services, **Anaheim Regional Transportation (ART)** and **FRAN**, which stands for **Free Rides Around the Neighborhood**, said **ATN Executive Director Diana Kotler**, during a recent interview with *Busline Magazine*.

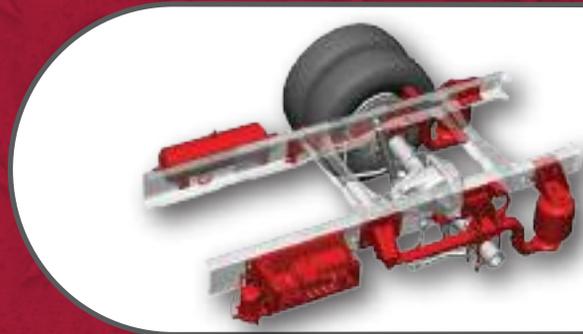
“We are a public transportation provider for the city of Anaheim, and surrounding cities of Garden Grove, Buena Park, Orange, and some other local communities,” Kotler said.

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Pre-COVID, ATN averaged 1.5 million miles per year, with an average ridership of 9.7 million people. The system includes 82 fixed-routed vehicles, involving 46 vehicles manufactured by BYD, operating on 20 fixed-routes. BYD, a China-based company, builds battery electric buses and motorcoaches at its 556,000-square-foot manufacturing facility in Lancaster, CA, located about a two-hour drive north of Anaheim.

“We still have about 25 CNG buses in our fleet, which we are working on transitioning to all-electric,” Kotler said. “We see our future as 100 percent electric. Our 10 FRAN buses are also all-electric. Everything we purchase moving forward will be on an electric battery platform. We are not looking at hybrid vehicles at this point.

“ATN’s relationship with BYD began in 2015 with the purchase of four demo buses, and continued to evolve with the order of an additional 42 buses in 2018.”

### FRAN MICRO-TRANSIT SERVICE

**F** FRAN provides on-demand service to the downtown corridor known as “CtrCity” in Anaheim. The service does not follow fixed-routes. Riders can choose to begin and end their trips at one of the predefined stops near popular downtown destinations.

In addition to regular service, FRAN is also operating as a complimentary food delivery service, connecting local vendors and patrons in the existing CtrCity service area, called a “Food Run Around the Neighborhood,” according to ATN.

**“Public transit is imperative to make the densely populated Anaheim, LA, Orange County area work. It is also critical to protect the neighborhoods. You have to protect the sense of normalcy, which is just outside the door of the mega-development complex.”**

“FRAN is our micro-transit service,” Kotler said. “It was started in 2019.”

Manufactured by a company in Anaheim, FRAN vehicles are small, uniquely-built buses, designed to have a “homemade look,” Kotler explained. FRAN vehicles hold five passengers, plus a driver, and are all-electric.

“The service is designed to connect the neighborhoods to key service destinations, and is also a key element in promoting economic development and parking mitigation,” Kotler said. “FRAN is a service that provides first- and last-mile connectivity for the neighborhoods that surround downtown to the center of the city.

“Rather than building new parking facilities in the core of

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the city, ATN decided to use existing parking locations. That allows businesses to develop, while using FRAN as a mechanism to connect parking to business establishments and other destinations.”

There are three to four FRAN buses on the street at any given time, Kotler said. Two vehicles are designed to accommodate ADA-certified passengers.

The FRAN program is poised to be an integral mobility element in economic developments proposed for the city.

“We are bullish about public transportation in the area, because Anaheim is becoming an economic development mecca,” Kotler said. “We have major developments proposed

by the Anaheim Angels, Anaheim Ducks and Disney. The developments will help us to build public transit at the grassroots level.

“There is an opportunity to work with developers to ensure transit is not an afterthought, but is considered as residential units, entertainment venues, park and recreational facilities are being built. A system of integrated mobility is possible, and we are extremely excited that there are opportunities in this conversation, which is in the infancy stages.”

Indeed, according to news reports, the owners of the Anaheim Ducks submitted new plans for a \$3 billion mixed-use project that is expected to transform the Honda Center and the surrounding area into a live, work, and play entertainment destination.

The current proposed project is called “ocV!BE,” which will feature a new 6,000-seat concert hall, a commercial retail area with shops, 30 restaurants, a food hall, brand new office buildings, two hotels, a parking structure, and 10 acres of park space.

In addition, the city of Anaheim’s “Big A: 2050” project was approved by the city council, according to the city. The proposal calls for the sale of Angel Stadium of Anaheim and 151 acres of land, and outlines development of the area with homes, offices, hotels, shopping, dining and entertainment. The agreement also commits the Angels to playing in Anaheim through 2050 and beyond.

Angels owner Arte Moreno and his development company bought Angel Stadium for \$150 million in September 2020.

Another project, called “Disneyland Forward,” includes the possibility of Disney developing a new “Disney destination” at the Toy Story parking lot at the Anaheim Convention Center.

Furthermore, in 2028, the summer Olympic Games will be held in Los Angeles from July 21 to August 6.

“As an Olympic venue, we know the world will be watching,” Kotler said. “We are excited about making our services available when the Olympics come to LA and Orange County.”

While public transit is an important cog in making compacted economic development projects work, neighborhoods adjacent to the developments must not be forgotten.

“Public transit is imperative to make the densely populated Anaheim, LA, Orange



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County area work. It is also critical to protect the neighborhoods,” Kotler said. “You have to protect the sense of normality, which is just outside the door of the mega-development complex. You protect the neighborhoods by providing services and the mobility of public transit so people can feel connected to the rest of the world, yet shielded from the impact that large developments might have.”

As major development projects move forward, FRAN, with its ability to navigate tightly packed areas with its small, highly maneuverable buses, as well as fixed-route public transit that connects those areas with surrounding neighborhoods, will become more and more important to keep things running smoothly, Kotler said.

ATN’s marketing efforts are designed to keep ART and FRAN on the general public’s radar and to educate about how to effectively use the two systems.

“We market ART and FRAN on numerous levels. We work with our constituency, and that could be anything from mom and pop hotels to the city of Anaheim and everything in-between,” Kotler said. “We work closely with agencies such as Visit Anaheim, Visit Buena Park, Visit Costa Mesa and others. People learn about our services on what we call a pre-arrival basis.

“In addition, we work with what we call the ‘wholesalers’ — the Expedia’s of the world. We also market our services through them. People who come to enjoy Anaheim are aware of the services we provide. From residents’ and our employees’ perspective, we work closely with the city of Anaheim. We are in their publications, and are in constant contact with neighborhood groups to make sure the word of mouth spreads throughout our communities. We work very diligently to make sure that happens.”

ATN’s marketing and customer service also extend to its senior citizen riders. A program called Senior Wheels Transportation program is for Anaheim residents 60 years of age and older.

The service is available to take customers to visit friends, shop at local merchants, and visit the Anaheim Downtown Community Center, libraries and medical facilities, within a 10-mile radius of a resident’s home.

“Senior Wheels is under contract with the city of Anaheim to provide the services,” Kotler said. “We have found, in the core downtown areas, there is a large community of senior citizens with disabilities.

“We are very much in tune with senior citizen services to make sure everyone in our community is aware of them. There

**“We are here to be a ‘pure’ service. When we say we are here to serve, we are actually saying our purpose is to be sure we value our riders and the community as a whole.”**

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was some concern that seniors were apprehensive about using cell phones and mobile technology, but we just haven't found that at all. We find they are very much aware, and prefer to use, mobility services."

ATN contracts ADA paratransit services with the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA). Kotler said ATN has taken a regional approach to paratransit.

"We felt like being part of the regional solution created less confusion and more cohesion between transit agencies by providing one program for everybody who lives in our area," Kotler said.

ATN's philosophy is one of service. In fact, Kotler said, "We are here to be a 'pure' service. When we say we are here to serve, we are actually saying our purpose is to be sure we value our riders and the community as a whole."

Kotler said ATN's service is bound by the principles of inclusion, sustainability and equality. These principles are ingrained in the transit system's day-to-day life.

"I think if you have to bring inclusion, sustainability and equality up as a separate discussion, then you are not doing things right to begin with," Kotler said. "We are an organization that has, and always will be, very cognizant and committed to the issues of environmental justice, inclusion, sustainability and equity."

Indeed, Anaheim is in the greater Los Angeles metro area, which is comprised of many different ethnic groups and cultures, and is visited by people from all over the world — also representing a diverse demographic.

"We are not only invested in Anaheim, but also welcome millions of guests every year who come from different areas and countries," Kotler said.

One effective way the transit agency has found to communicate with non-English-speaking people, is to use signage with international symbols, Kotler said.

"While we have the ability to translate Spanish and other languages that are prevalent in our area, we have found the use of basic international symbols is also advantageous," Kotler said. "In addition, we can call upon Visit Anaheim to help with translating languages that are unique to the area."

With all that is going on in the Anaheim area that involves public transportation, having the support of local and state governments is very important, as ATN works to meet its goals and commitments.

"We have the support of the Anaheim city council and the neighborhoods, mainly because we provide very neighborhood-centric services," Kotler said. "We speak to our neighbors, and they know who we are. People in our area have a high regard for the services we offer."

"Furthermore, we have a very progressive governor, and the state has dedicated funding for public transportation. So, from the standpoint of state funding, I do not see it going away or being reduced."

Competition for government funding can be

fierce, therefore getting the attention of policy makers is crucial. Furthermore, Kotler pointed out, with the recent passing of the bipartisan infrastructure bill, there is funding available for public transit.

"Our job is to make sure our ideas resonate with decision makers who are making funding decisions," Kotler said. "There is a lot of money flowing. I think many transit agencies are thinking of the same thing — 'How do I present my projects, my programs, my vision, to make sure they resonate with lawmakers who are making funding decisions?'"

## STAFFING ISSUES CHALLENGING

One of the issues COVID-19 exacerbated was an already stretched thin national labor pool. The pandemic caused many workers to stay home due to such issues as the fear of contracting

COVID, and generous federal unemployment benefits.

"Our biggest challenge, and we are not alone, is the ability to hire and retain quality people," Kotler said. "We work with a contractor for operators (Parking Company of America). At full capacity, they will have about 150 employees, including operators and management. We are currently about 75 percent staffed. ATN provides all of its own maintenance, supervision, administration, etc."



*Pictured Above: Operations & Compliance Manager Ken Jarocki, (left), and Director of Operations Jim Appleby*



*Fleet Maintenance Supervisor Joshua Payes*

**“We decided to start a ground-up training program to ensure we offer a career path to anyone who wants to get a commercial drivers license. We recently graduated our first class of six, and we currently have a class of nine slated for graduation.”**

To mitigate the competition to find and retain quality bus operators, ATN launched its own training program.

“Pre-pandemic we were a little bit more selective, and we wanted potential operators to come to the table with commercial driving experience,” Kotler said. “During the pandemic, we have found it is very difficult competing with other agencies that are looking for the same type of personnel.

“As a result, we decided to start a ground-up training program to ensure we offer a career path to anyone who wants to get a commercial drivers license.

“We recently graduated our first class of six, and we currently have a class of nine slated for graduation. When they graduate, the new operators join the Teamsters union, and then transition to become Parking Company of America employees.”

To ease new operators into driving fixed-route buses, they begin to hone their skills by operating the smaller FRAN buses.

“While driving FRAN vehicles, new operators can gain experience in customer service techniques and practice our philosophy of ‘we are here to serve,’ as they gradually transition to operating larger fixed-route buses,” Kotler said.

Meanwhile, ATN still gladly considers drivers who have their CDLs and some experience operating larger vehicles.

“If somebody with a commercial drivers license answers our ad and knocks on the door, we will gladly consider him/her,” Kotler said.

Furthermore, finding, hiring and retaining quality mechanics is no picnic,

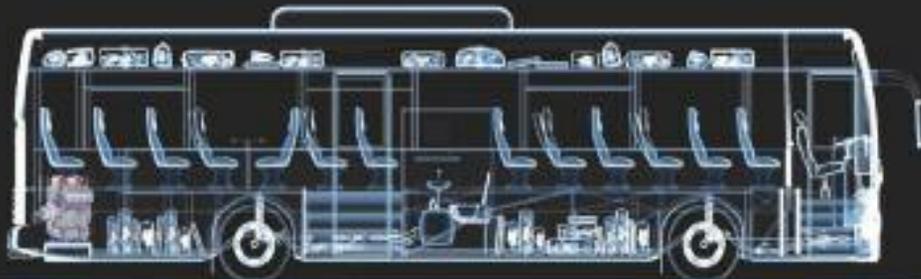
either. To help, ATN has established an apprenticeship program.

“Currently, we have two people in the apprenticeship program for maintenance,” Kotler said. “It can be very difficult to train staff and then see them depart. We need to make sure the work environment and the culture is such to retain everybody we have brought on board and trained.”

**“While we have the ability to translate Spanish and other languages that are prevalent in our area, we have found the use of basic international symbols is also advantageous.”**

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## MAKING ADJUSTMENTS FOR COVID

It is no secret the transportation industry took a big hit as COVID-19 raged in the spring of 2020. Ridership plunged and public transit agencies scrambled to stay afloat, while keeping their employees and customers safe.

Safety and health protocols were put in place, services were adjusted or eliminated, and, in the case of ATN, its typical mission was altered for a time.

“Early on during the pandemic, we changed our operation, from that of typical transportation service, to delivering food,” Kotler said. “We reached out to neighborhood services that offer food delivery to support restaurants and small businesses in the area.

“In addition, we began to provide services for schools and essential workers. We expanded services to rail stations that support Metrolink and other commuter rail operations. We completely revamped to deliver supplies — anything from toilet paper to water that was needed in the neighborhoods.

“Furthermore, we had to reduce our regular transportation service by close to 95 percent.”

As the country opened and people began to move around more, ATN’s normal operation began a gradual, but steady, rebound to pre-pandemic levels, Kotler said.

Meanwhile, the transit agency instituted safety and health guidelines, including wearing masks, practicing social distancing, and others.

**“We are very much in tune with senior citizen services to make sure everyone in our community is aware of them. There was some concern that seniors were apprehensive about using cell phones and mobile technology, but we just haven’t found that at all. We find they are very much aware, and prefer to use, mobility services.”**

“We put in place all the typical protocols. However, we did not block some seats on our vehicles. While we encouraged social distancing, we felt we were not in the position to tell families to sit apart — we could only encourage groups to sit apart,”

Kotler said. “As soon as the vaccine was available, we worked with our labor representatives to make sure vaccinations were available to all our operators.”

In April, a federal judge in Florida struck down the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) mask mandate for

Continued On Page 46

# ELECTRIFYING

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Experts Share Advice For Motorcoach Operators On

# ALL THINGS TIRES

By Harrell Kerkhoff  
*Busline Magazine Editor*

Addressing the topic during a recent United Motorcoach Association (UMA) panel session were **Bill Kaiser**, president of Motorcoach Tires Sales, Columbus, GA; and **C.J. Messmer**, director of sales operations for mobility solutions at Bridgestone Americas, Nashville, TN. The moderator for the event was **Matt Dance**, director of safety & risk management, Champion Coach, Greenville, SC.

# RETHINK YOUR TIRE PROGRAM



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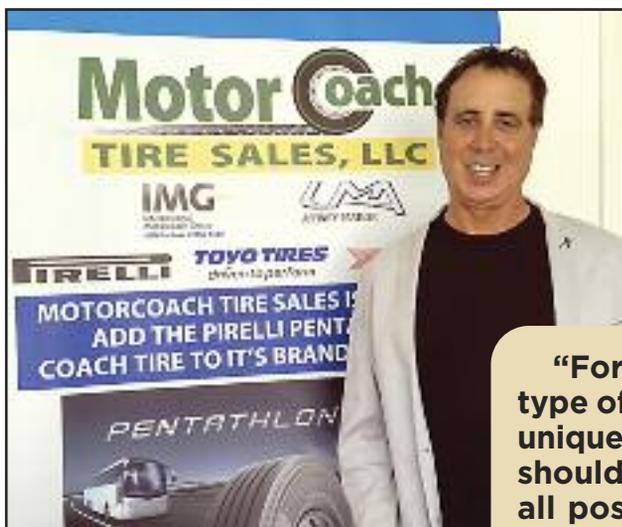


**T**ire management plays a key role in helping operators provide a safe and comfortable bus/motorcoach trip, yet the importance of tire economy for the operator is also critical. These issues have magnified, over the past two-plus years, due to supply chain challenges and higher prices.

### LEASING VERSUS PURCHASING

There are several options to consider when acquiring tires in bulk. Some operators prefer a leasing agreement, while others seek to purchase tires outright. Kaiser and Messmer agreed there is no standard right or wrong answer when it comes to lease versus purchase.

With a lease, operators often pay for tires based on a



monthly mileage count, as opposed to an up-front purchase. During the height of the COVID pandemic, many buses/motorcoaches sat idle, and therefore operators did not have to make as many tire payments on those leases, due to a lack of mileage. A tire lease also allows operators to spread payments over time.

On the flip side, operators who prefer to purchase their own tires do not have to commit to one supplier over the term of a lease. They can also avoid filling out paperwork related to mileage reporting.

“Operators who lease can benefit by having tires shipped directly to their locations, as well as getting help from the lessor’s team in the field — when it comes to added support, expertise and tire disposal,” Messmer said. “That can add value to an operator’s tire program.”

Kaiser added both purchasing and leasing have their advantages, with many operators convinced the type of tire program they are using is the best.

“I know operators who would never think about purchasing tires, and I know operators who purchase tires who

would never think about leasing,” Kaiser said. “I believe there is more flexibility if you purchase tires, as an operator can quickly pivot to different brands as needed. They are not tied to a long-term leasing contract. Leasing, however, also has its advantages. It’s a very viable method of tire acquisition. Each operator should do what he/she feels the most comfortable with at his/her company.”

### THE ART OF TIRE SELECTION

Selecting the right type of tire for specific applications is another important consideration. For example, tire needs of a company that focuses on close-to-home shuttle services may be different from line-run and/or charter companies traveling hundreds of miles per day. Weather, which affects driving conditions, is another factor to consider.

Kaiser said many fleet owners have been focusing on tires that feature higher tread depths, especially helpful in northern climates during winter conditions. Traction is the key.

There is now more focus on the type of tire to use for specific wheel positions.

“For years, operators pretty much used the same type of tires for all positions. However, each position is unique and has different requirements,” Kaiser said.

**“For years, operators pretty much used the same type of tires for all positions. However, each position is unique and has different requirements. I feel operators should be open-minded and look at the tire needs for all positions. It’s important to focus on how to best extend the wear-life of every tire, as well as seek extra traction during winter months.”**

— Bill Kaiser, president of Motorcoach Tires Sales

“I feel operators should be open-minded and look at the tire needs for all positions. It’s important to focus on how to best extend the wear-life of every tire, as well as seek extra traction during winter months. The latter point could be the difference between a vehicle getting stuck or not.”

He added developing a good relationship with a tire supplier can go a long way in addressing all types of issues.

Messmer agreed, adding Bridgestone is in the process of creating specific tires for specific applications. That includes tires specifically designed for electric buses.

One of the advancements over the past 10-plus years has been the emergence of low rolling resistance tires, designed to reduce energy loss as a tire rolls. This type of tire can improve fuel efficiency, according to Kaiser. He added many commercial tires sold today are SmartWay® verified. Those are tires that meet, or exceed, EPA standards for lower rolling resistance.



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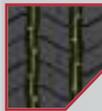
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## TIRE MAINTENANCE IS CRITICAL

Keeping a vehicle's tires properly inflated to recommended pressures is a critical element of tire maintenance. Tires that contain the specified amount of air pressure last longer and contribute to vehicle safety. Since tire pressure is so important, how does a company make sure every tire, on every vehicle within a fleet of vehicles, is properly inflated?

"Checking tire pressure seems like such an easy task, but it can be a challenge to have the necessary resources to physically check the air pressure on every tire, then make those adjustments if tires are not properly inflated," Messmer said. "Leveraging today's technology can help reduce such operational inefficiencies.

"A company can check tire pressure every month, but what happens if a tire starts to deflate two days after being checked. It would be another month before that tire is scheduled to be checked again."

Messmer explained Tire Pressure Monitoring System

(TPMS) technology can help, either in real time as vehicles are being driven or monitored while they are parked in the yard. TPMS technology often uses sensors to monitor a tire's air pressure.

"The best thing about sensor technology is that it does not call in sick or find another job. Its goal is to show the operator a tire pressure reading, taking an operational burden off the operator," Messmer said.

**"The best thing about sensor technology is that it does not call in sick or find another job. Its goal is to show the operator a tire pressure reading, taking an operational burden off the operator."**

*— C.J. Messmer, director of sales operations for mobility solutions at Bridgestone Americas*



He added TPMS technology continues to advance to improve ease-of-use and reliability. As an example, Bridgestone has developed a tire pressure monitoring system supported by software and components. Through a series of tire and yard sensors

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and receivers, fleet operators can use the system to monitor inflation pressure, temperature and tread depth for every tire on every vehicle in a fleet.

“We are seeing tire manufacturers invest in that type of technology as mobility solutions become more important to fleets and operators,” Messmer said. “At the end of the day, technology is intended to keep people and buses safer, while driving up operational efficiencies within fleets to save time and money.”

Future technology may include a sensor imbedded in the actual tire, he added, as opposed to being connected to a tire’s valve stem or mounted internally, either around the rim or glued to the inside of the tire, depending on the manufacturer.

Making sure tires are properly rotated is also important, as well as not forgetting about spare tire care.

“People can easily forget to check the condition of the spare tire until it’s too late,” Kaiser said. “It’s important to pull out spare tires from time to time and check them.”

To find the age of a tire, look at the tire’s DOT (Department of Transportation) number on its sidewall, indicating when that tire was manufactured.

Kaiser and Messmer also discussed the practice of

regrooving and retreading tires. regrooving is the act of re-cutting a tire’s grooves to restore tread depth. It’s a practice Kaiser said he does not recommend.

**“People can easily forget to check the condition of the spare tire until it’s too late. It’s important to pull out spare tires from time to time and check them.”**

— Bill Kaiser, president of Motorcoach Tires Sales

“If that tire blows when your vehicle is in operation, you are just asking for an attorney to knock on your door. I would recommend people reconsider regrooving tires and not open themselves to liability,” Kaiser said. “Regrooving is also inefficient and will probably ruin the casing value of a tire.

“Retreading tires is a much more viable option, especially in trucking. With buses, however, it’s a little different. Once again, there may be liability issues.”

Messmer said tire retreading technology has advanced over the years, and is one option for operators to consider in light of today’s tight market for acquiring new tires. Messmer added it’s important to work with tire retreaders who are properly certified.

The advertisement features a large background image of two buses: a yellow and white one in the foreground and a blue and black one behind it. The text 'SUTRAK' is prominently displayed in orange, with 'A/E' in a blue and green logo to its right. Below the bus images, there are three smaller images of AC components: a scroll compressor, a condenser coil, and a fan unit. The text 'Discover electricity' is written in a large, orange, sans-serif font across the middle of the advertisement. At the bottom, there is a list of technical specifications and contact information.

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## WHAT TO DO WITH OLD CASINGS?

**F**or operators who are not on a tire leasing program, tire casing management tends to fall at the bottom of the “to do list.” That is why many operators simply stack old casings “in the back” until forced to do something with them. The layer beneath the tread of a tire is the casing, serving as the foundation for the tread.

The good news is, market demand for used casings has increased. That is due to a shortage of casings since the start of the pandemic, which reduced travel and the need for tire replacement.

“I have found the value of casings to be regionally-based, but a good price point is around \$50 to \$70 per casing,” Kaiser said. “I would recommend storing casings inside. Also, there is very little to no value for tire casings that have gone through the retreading or regrooving process.

“I look at casings as cash, because that is what they are for operators. They can be worth money.”

Messmer added that 315 tire casings, in particular, are in high demand.

## PRICES, SUPPLY ISSUES CONTINUE TO CHALLENGE

**A**lso discussed during the panel session was updates regarding today’s tight global market for new tires as well as increased pricing.

“Obviously, the tire industry is no different from many other industries when it comes to today’s supply chain challenges,” Messmer said. “Bridgestone spends a lot of time forecasting demand and supply issues, in an effort to do our best in meeting the needs of customers.”

Kaiser added there are several factors in play with today’s shortages. One is that tariffs placed on commercial tires produced in China have greatly reduced that country’s tire exports to the United States. Tire manufacturers from other parts of the world have not been able to completely fill that void.

COVID has also played a key roll in higher tire prices and tight supply. As an example, Kaiser said he heard that one tire manufacturer’s Brazilian production plant was shut down for six months due to the pandemic.

“Another factor is higher oil prices. Oil is everything in transportation. It takes up to 22 gallons of oil to manufacture one commercial tire. Steel and rubber costs are also increasing,” Kaiser said. “All of those factors increase the price of tires and tighten supply.

“As owner (of Motorcoach Tire Sales), one of the best things I have done, over the past couple of years, has been to add to our company’s list of tire suppliers. That has greatly helped, in the wake of today’s global supply chain issues.”

## PLANNING FOR THE BLOWOUT

**T**ire breakdowns will happen while on the road. It’s simply a part of life for companies that provide transportation services. The good news is, steps can be taken to expedite tire replacement and shorten delays.

“Many tire manufacturers offer emergency roadside service programs, helping operators quickly connect with a nearby tire dealer,” Messmer said.

Kaiser said it’s always a good idea for operators to have a game plan in advance for when a vehicle malfunctions, covering who to call and what to do in case of an emergency.

“One advantage to working with a national supplier of commercial tires is that we know the industry, and have connections throughout the country. That may not be the case with a ‘local tire guy.’ He may not have any idea how to help an operator with a tire malfunction — if it takes place in another part of the country,” Kaiser said. “Preparedness that includes building a network of people who can help during an emergency is always important.”

## FINAL ADVICE

**B**oth Messmer and Kaiser offered final words of advice for operators as they prepare for future tire needs.

“In the short term, when looking at our industry from a supply standpoint, I would recommend operators order the number of tires they actually need as opposed to overstocking tires,” Messmer said. “I feel that is true whether they participate in a lease program or purchase their own tires. I don’t think going through the extra expense of stockpiling tires is the answer.

**“In the short term, when looking at our industry from a supply standpoint, I would recommend operators order the number of tires they actually need as opposed to overstocking tires. I feel that is true whether they participate in a lease program or purchase their own tires.”**

*— C.J. Messmer, director of sales operations for mobility solutions at Bridgestone Americas*

“I would also look at newer technologies becoming available to help support your operations. For example, tire pressure monitoring systems have come a long way and are getting easier to use.”

Kaiser added: “Times are different. For operators purchasing tires, I suggest they remain open minded about using different brands, at least on a temporary basis.” ■

# Coach Atlantic Maritime Bus Signs Multi-Year Contract For 50 Prevost Coaches

“Prevost customer Coach Atlantic Maritime Bus, a provider of passenger transportation in eastern Canada, has signed a contract for 50 Prevost H3-45 coaches over the next five years. The commitment signifies a strengthened partnership between the two companies, and the much-anticipated restart of the motorcoach industry in Canada following significant impact due to the pandemic,” according to a Prevost release.



In preparation for the first delivery, the vehicles are in production at the Prevost manufacturing plant in Ste-Claire.



“Prevost employees always take great pride in the quality of their work,” said Serge Gonthier, Prevost regional sales manager. “But when they have the opportunity to work on a local order like this one, there is a little something added to their pride.”

Those in the Maritimes can expect to start seeing the Coach Atlantic Maritime Bus-branded Prevost coaches on the road as early as June 2022.

For more information, visit [prevostcar.com](http://prevostcar.com).

Coach Atlantic Maritime Bus, started in 2005 with 30 employees and 20 pieces of equipment, has expanded over the last 17 years to 515 employees and 275 pieces of equipment.

“Both of our companies are truly committed to the bus industry,” said Mike Cassidy, owner of Coach Atlantic Maritime Bus. “We believe in 2022 and the future. COVID slowed us, but did not stop us. This shows good business and strong relationships prevail.”

“With three locations on the East Coast, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Moncton, New Brunswick and Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Coach Atlantic Maritime Bus is the second-largest family owned and operated motorcoach transportation company in Canada. The group boasts, ‘the most diverse fleet in the Maritimes,’ and offers transportation to meet its customers’ unique needs. Coach Atlantic Maritime Bus provides services to the following markets: intercity line run services, group charters, multi-day tours, cruise ship shore excursions, municipal transit, and school bus routes.”

“Prevost has a strong team of professionals supporting a quality-built product,” said Matthew Cassidy, president of Coach Atlantic Maritime Bus. “This allows operators like us to provide safe, reliable, comfortable service to our customers.

“Over the next five years, the 50 new Prevost H3-45s will be integrated into Coach Atlantic Maritime Bus’s premium fleet, primarily used for multi-day tours and long-distance trips. The coaches will be equipped with the new Cloud One seating, which is exclusive to Prevost, as well as the standard safety options and expansive support network Prevost is known for.”

“We are excited for the future and grateful for the Coach Atlantic Maritime Bus team’s confidence in Prevost,” said Francois Tremblay, president of Prevost. “We’re looking forward to continued growth and seeing these new H3-45s with the Coach Atlantic Maritime Bus brand on them.”

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## Allen Keith Joins MCI As Private Market Regional Vice President

Motor Coach Industries (MCI), a subsidiary of NFI Group Inc. (NFI), announced Allen Keith has joined MCI as private market regional vice president for new and pre-owned coach sales in the northeast region.

Based in Manchester, CT, Keith is responsible for new coach and pre-owned coach sales to private operators in the northeast region, including Maine, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, D.C.

"Allen brings a wealth of sales experience to MCI, and we are thrilled to welcome him to our team. Allen's record of accomplishments, both corporate and personal, demonstrates his commitment to building strong relationships and customer loyalty," said Patricia Ziska, vice president, private market sales, MCI. "Allen will be an exceptional leader the northeast region, helping our private coach customers expand and update their fleets with MCI's industry-leading products."

Keith brings 13 years of sales management experience to the MCI sales team, and joins the company following six years as regional parts manager with NFI Parts™ – another NFI subsidiary.

"During his career, Allen has excelled in developing new markets, establishing productive partnerships with coach fleet operators,

and helping customers navigate challenges presented by the pandemic through effective management of parts procurement and introduction of new products.

MCI's battery-electric J4500 CHARGE™ and D45 CRT LE CHARGE™ coach models are part of NFI's comprehensive zero-emission mobility offering. NFI offers zero-emission mobility, with electric vehicles operating (or on order) in more than 80 cities in six countries.

MCI products include the luxury J-Series (an industry best-seller for over a decade), the work-horse D-Series, and the brand new zero-emission luxury and commuter coaches: the battery-electric J4500 CHARGE™ and MCI D45 CRT LE CHARGE™. MCI also provides maintenance, repair, 24-hour roadside assistance, parts, and technician training through the industry's only Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) accredited

and award-winning MCI Academy.

For information, visit [mcicoach.com](http://mcicoach.com).



Allen Keith

## Nashville's Hillsboro Transit Center Opening

The new Hillsboro Transit Center recently marked its grand opening with a ribbon-cutting.

Remarks were given by Nashville Mayor John Cooper, Director of Metro Nashville Public Schools Dr. Adrienne Battle, WeGo CEO Steve Bland, MNPS School Board Member Gini Pupo-Walker, Council Member Russ Pulley, Nashville MTA Board Chair Gail Carr Williams, Schuler Pelhan, principal at Hillsboro High School, and MNPS student Xandria Bowen.

"We celebrate the grand opening of the Hillsboro Transit Center and thank all of our partners and key stakeholders for their support," Carr Williams said. "The center will provide riders with a safe, efficient, and comfortable waiting experience."

The center is adjacent to Hillsboro High School. The project is a collaboration between WeGo Public Transit, Metro Nashville Public Schools, the Tennessee Department of Transportation, and the Nashville Department of Transportation.

The Hillsboro Transit Center will provide riders with the comfort of covered bus bays, climate-controlled waiting rooms, real-time bus information, phone charging stations, and exterior waiting areas. The ADA infrastructure is equipped with Wi-Fi, ticket vending machines, and lighting improvements.

The Nashville Metropolitan Transit Authority (Nashville MTA) and the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) are operating bodies of WeGo Public Transit, which serves 26 local bus routes, eight regional bus routes, and one train serving Davidson and Wilson counties.



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## IndyGo's Music In Transit Back For 2022 In Indianapolis

Music in Transit, an award-winning concert web series created in partnership by IndyGo, Square Cat Vinyl, and now GANGGANG, returns for its fourth season. This year's series will showcase six Indianapolis-based musical acts, spanning multiple genres, performing original sets on an IndyGo rapid transit bus.

The series will kick off with a Music in Transit Community Block Party and feature food trucks, fun, giveaways, DJs and live music by Skyp.



The new season will be available on Square Cat Vinyl's YouTube channel, with the first video debuting June 12. Additional music videos will be released every Sunday at noon following the season four premiere.

"IndyGo couldn't be happier to see this program return for another season," said IndyGo President and CEO Inez Evans. "Music in Transit shines a spotlight on the amazing connectivity IndyGo brings residents with the Red Line, in addition to the immense talent of Indianapolis' local musicians."

"The variety of music we get to showcase through our videos makes it a series for everyone," said Music in Transit Co-creator and Director Jake Huber, whose company Total Fun Productions produces the series. "We hope the widespread genres, combined with the fact that we're recording on a 60-foot battery-electric IndyGo bus, can show that IndyGo's transit service is also multidimensional."

Music in Transit was created in 2019 by Square Cat Vinyl, a coffee and record shop located along the Red Line in Fountain Square, with the support of the Arts Council of Indianapolis. The goal of the program remains the same: celebrate the local arts community as well as the expansion of public transit, including the launch of the Red Line, Indianapolis' first bus rapid transit (BRT) line, and the upcoming Purple Line. Since its inaugural season, the series has received nine National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Regional Emmy nominations, with one win for outstanding audio in 2019. The series also received Indy Chamber's 2020 Monumental Award for public art.



*The 30-foot K7M is BYD's top-selling battery electric bus model for universities and corporate campuses, shuttling students and workers in quiet comfort.*

### Burlington, NC, Purchases 2 BYD K7Ms

BYD has announced Burlington, NC, purchased two K7M 30-foot battery-electric buses to serve the customers of the community's Link Transit.

"The sale marks BYD's first entry into the North Carolina market. The K7M is one of BYD's top products. With zero emissions, it runs quietly, improving quality of life wherever it operates," said BYD.

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**Email:** sales@bushive.com

**Website:** www.bushive.com

**Company Officers:** Michael Hinckley, President; Brian Mann, Vice President of Business Development

**Products:** busHive is a tech company that helps motorcoach organizations modernize charter operations. Its cloud-based system streamlines quoting, confirmations, dispatching scheduling, billing, and payroll. It also offers a vehicle maintenance module that assists with tracking preventive maintenance, work-orders and inventory as well as a driver compliance module that helps monitor when physicals, licenses and other training requirements are due. 22

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**Phone:** 425-821-8454

**Website:** www.ddswireless.com

**Products:** End-to-end, turnkey fleet management solutions for taxi, limousine, transit and other commercial fleets. Its packaged solutions provide a full range of fleet management software and hardware for real-time dispatching;

vehicle location and tracking; routing and scheduling optimization; and mobile data communication, navigation and mobile payment processing. 22

## **Distinctive Systems, Inc.**

19531 Lost Creek Dr.

Estero, FL 33967 USA

**Phone:** 646-448-9981

**Email:** nasales@distinctivesystems.com

**Website:** www.distinctivesystems.com/us

**Company Officers:** Don Greenglass, President; Bob Hopwood, Vice President of Support Services; Eric Elliott, Vice President of Sales & Marketing

**Products:** Distinctive Systems is a supplier of software to the coach industry. Established for 30 years, over 1,500 operators rely on one or more of the company's latest Microsoft SQL-based systems for the efficient management of their companies. The main systems at Distinctive Systems include its Coach Manager Charter and Contract Booking System, the Tour Booking System and the Vehicle Maintenance System. Distinctive Systems has garnered a reputation over the years for updating its applications with additional functionality, on an ongoing basis.

With Coach Manager, your clients can easily submit quotes directly from your website and have each quote flow directly into your Coach Manager software. Your website customers can complete Deposit, Balance, and Statement Payments on your website using Distinctive Sys-

tems' Client Portal functionality, along with the ability to Accept/Decline quotes directly off your website with all information seamlessly flowing into Coach Manager. Fuel and Credit Card Surcharges can also be easily managed within the software, among other functionality. The Vehicle Maintenance System offers a seamlessly integrated Electronic Job Card and the Tour Booking System provides a complete back office and website sales experience to your tour clients and staff. 22

## **Enghouse Transportation**

80 Tiverton Ct., Suite 800

Markham, ON L3R 0G4 CANADA

**Phone:** 905-489-0352

**Email:** solutions@enghouse.com

**Website:** www.enghoustransportation.com

**Products:** Enghouse Transportation is a transportation operations software provider. For more than 37 years, its team has built relationships with transit agencies, operators, and transportation and logistics service providers of all sizes, all over the world. Enghouse's comprehensive portfolio of solutions support fixed-route scheduling, interactive voice response (IVR), paratransit demand response, integrated workforce management, full account-based fare collection, mobile ticketing, carrier and shipper transportation management systems, and mobile delivery apps with real-time GPS tracking and POD. 21

# CHARTER MANAGEMENT TECHNOLOGY

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518-877-2507



**busHive**<sup>®</sup>  
TRANSPORTATION SOFTWARE



### **GIRO Inc.**

75 Port-Royal St., East, Suite 500  
Montreal, QC H3L 3T1 CANADA

**Phone:** 514-383-0404

**Email:** info@giro.ca

**Website:** www.giro.ca

**Company Officers:** Jean Aubin, President and CEO; Huguette Benoit, Vice President of Marketing, Sales, Product Management and Expert Advisory Services; and Robert Victor, Vice President of HASTUS, North America and Australia  
**Products:** Driven by efficiency, GIRO helps agencies plan, schedule and operate high-quality public transit services, with software solutions adapted to their specific reality. GIRO's HASTUS solution is deployed at transit operators and authorities in more than 25 countries around the world, including eight of the 10 largest transit agencies in North America. Over 600 GIRO employees are committed to contributing significantly – with the highest standards of excellence and sense of shared purpose – to GIRO's clients' efficiency gains. 22

### **Motility Software Solutions**

851 Trafalgar Ct., #160w,  
Maitland, FL 32751 USA

**Phone:** 407-358-2000

**Website:** www.motilitysoftware.com

**Products:** Formerly known as Systems 2000/Sys2k, Motility Software Solutions has been involved in the software-solutions industry for over 34 years. The company provides specialty vehicle dealers with tools to accurately measure outcomes and to meet and surpass goals. Motility's dealer management software is fully equipped with the features and tools bus and coach dealers need for efficient operations. 21

### **Motorcoach Manager, Inc.**

3517 Marconi Ave., Suite 207  
Sacramento, CA 95821 USA

**Phone:** 916-972-1800

**Toll Free:** 800-780-6880

**Email:** info@motorcoachmanager.com

**Website:** www.motorcoachmanager.com

**Company Officers:** Shirley Campbell, President; Erik Taylor, Scott Hale and Lillian Hale  
**Products:** Motorcoach Manager 2 is an online, flexible fleet management software system that runs on the cloud. It provides a complete, cost-effective system for managing all the logistics of motorcoach operations. It tracks dispatches for charter orders, scheduled line runs and school bus routes from the initial request for service to the final accounting reports. There is a comprehensive driver and employee compliance tracking module included. Payroll and mileage data can be entered after each trip or imported from GPS data. The cloud-based version includes embedded mapping with mileage and time data generated automatically for planning and pricing purposes. It also has a simple

dispatching feature without detailed routing for quick data entry. Motorcoach Manager 2 is appropriate for any size of company providing passenger transportation.

The application is the result of years of collaboration between the Motorcoach Manager staff and hundreds of clients and prospects. A complete set of features—such as built-in email, utilization and availability charts, financial analysis tools, security, equipment and driver management, driver training records, payroll and mileage tracking, etc.—are included. 22

### **Norse Systems, Inc.**

1067 Marble St.  
Watertown, NY 13601 USA

5102 Maple Tree Lane

East Lyme, CT 06333 USA

245 Sage Hollow Rd.

Guilford, CT 06437 USA

**Toll Free:** 800-769-8468 x1

**Email:** norse@norsesys.com

**Website:** www.norsesys.com

**Products:** Norse Systems, Inc. provides a complete set of integrated products for managing bus transportation. Norse has been providing solutions for the bus industry for over 35 years. The comprehensive software product set is combined with private "cloud" based virtual servers and professional support to provide a complete solution for bus operators. The solutions are designed to run on existing computer infrastructure, so there is minimal or no capital cost. Low monthly fees, with no long term contract, keep costs and risks low.

Applications include: Charter/field trip sales and operations, dispatching, driver qualifications, human resources, employee time and pay, transit line runs, day trip/commuter/airport shuttle and tour systems, accident management, equipment maintenance, warrantee tracking and recovery, fuel control, fuel tax reporting, trip bidding, school bus routing with automated map interfaces, multi-site inventory control, purchasing, home to school operations, accounts receivable, general ledger, accounts payable, and more.

The Norse applications are provided with the "Screen Driver." The Enterprise IT environment for developers and users. The system includes user security, system administration, custom reporting, and application development and management tools. Demonstrations and sales presentations are available at no cost. 21

### **RBS - Relational Bus Systems, Inc.**

10 Lancaster St. - Box 215

Cherry Valley, NY 13320 USA

**Phone:** 607-264-9300

**Toll Free:** 800-448-7001

**Email:** manager@rbs2000.com

**Website:** www.rbs2000.com

**Products:** RBS, Inc. designs, implements and

supports Tour and Charter Management systems with more than 500 customers in North America. 22

### **REI®**

6534 L St.

Omaha, NE 68117 USA

**Phone:** 402-339-2200

**Email:** info@radioeng.com

**Website:** www.radioeng.com

**Company Officer:** Scott Hays, President  
**Products:** U.S.-based REI® designs, engineers, and services innovative, professional-grade solutions and electronics for the transportation industry. The company focuses on surveillance/safety, fleet management, and audio/video products to help customers grow and protect their businesses. REI's premier software product is ARMOR™ Software Suite, an automated, wireless solution for fleet and surveillance management. Users configure its adjustable modules to optimize fleet efficiency, safety, and collaboration. Among the software's capabilities: automated video downloads of events; fast, easy video sharing via password-protected links; real-time surveillance views and audio; automated notifications, alerts, and reports; remote DVR access; fleet diagnostics; driver performance reports; vehicle tracking; geofencing; data usage charts; mapped event hotspots; and more.

ARMOR is configurable and accessible anytime, anywhere in the cloud via REI's optional ARMOR cloud service and an internet-connected device. With the service, REI manages customers' ARMOR servers, necessary software upgrades and updates, scalability, and infrastructure. Administrators' IT resources and server management duties are then minimized. ARMOR demonstrations are available by contacting REI. 22

### **Trapeze Group**

200-5060 Spectrum Way

Mississauga, ON L4W 5N5 CANADA

**Phone:** 905-629-8727

**Email:** info@trapezegrp.com

**Website:** www.trapezegrp.com

**Products:** Transit Operations and Workforce Management, designed to simplify scheduling, frequent sign-ups, complex pay rules and solve other logistical headaches; Transit Enterprise Asset Management, which tracks equipment and infrastructure over time, extends their lives and keeps them safe; Automated Fare Collection, designed for optimal cash management, provides agencies with fare media and provides higher utility to existing investments; and Traveler Information delivers schedule and real-time information to transit and paratransit passengers. Transit scheduling and planning and paratransit scheduling and dispatch solutions provide flexibility for an agency, while business intelligence tools provide views of an agency's data. 22

## *busHive Software*

### **Providing The Next Generation Of Charter Management Solutions**

**busHive has been providing the motorcoach industry with cutting-edge technology for over a decade. Over this time, more than 400 organizations rely on it to manage day-to-day operations. The latest cloud-based system has become recognized as the next generation of charter management solutions. Explore a demo today at [www.bushive.com/demo](http://www.bushive.com/demo).**



#### **Quoting**

Nearly every charter reservation begins with a quote. busHive's PC Miler integration allows operators to automatically calculate commercial time and mileage and eliminates the need to look up addresses. Customizable billing rates allow users to bill based on a combination of mileage, hourly, day or flat rates. This allows sales staff to get out professional and accurate quotes in just a matter of minutes.

#### **Scheduling**

Maximizing vehicle utilization is critical for your bottom line. A color-coordinated user interface makes it easy to see daily vehicle and driver availability. Conflicts are shown in red to prevent drivers from having overlapping work or going into overtime. Driver itineraries, with turn-by-turn directions, are also generated.

#### **Driver Portal**

Communication with drivers is important to running a successful operation. Text or email notifications are sent to drivers when they are assigned new work. Drivers can easily accept to confirm the trip, view the driver itinerary, and complete post-trip time & mileage electronically. Drivers also can set up their availability so dispatchers can see if they are available for each reservation.

#### **Billing**

Customizable billing rates allow each company to bill their way! Rates can be configured based on mileage, hours, day or flat. Additional costs such as tolls, parking, gratuity, and permits can also be easily added to quotes and invoices when applicable. Reporting tools show outstanding balances, overdue invoices, and aging summaries.

#### **Payroll**

Calculating payroll each pay period can be simplified. Total hours and gross pay can be generated for each employee. Flexible pay-rates allow bus companies to pay per hour, day, flat or by percentage. Users can export this data for their local payroll provider or process payroll internally.

#### **Vehicle Maintenance**

Minimize vehicle downtime by keeping up with preventative maintenance. A completely customizable maintenance schedule can be created to keep fleet managers in the loop. Keep all records in one place for DOT inspections and track the cost to operate each vehicle in your fleet.

#### **Driver Compliance**

Federal, state and company requirements can be tracked. Everything from physicals and license renewals to drug testing and behind-the-wheel refreshers. Monitor performance by tracking infractions such as accidents, tickets, and complaints.

**Contact: busHive, Phone: 518-877-2507;**

**Email: [sales@bushive.com](mailto:sales@bushive.com);**

**Website: [www.bushive.com](http://www.bushive.com).**

# BUSLINE BUYERS GUIDE TO

# AUDIO/VIDEO, ENTERTAINMENT & SECURITY SYSTEMS

## AngelTrax

119 S. Woodburn Dr.,  
Dothan, AL 36305 USA  
800-673-1788

**Email:** sales@angeltrax.com

**Website:** www.angeltrax.com

**Products:** AngelTrax is a leading designer, manufacturer and provider of high-definition in-vehicle mobile surveillance. AngelTrax drives the market with state-of-the-art products, including Vulcan™ Series MDVRs, patented Hybrid Component™ MNVRs, IP cameras, high-definition cameras, live view, live tracking, driver behavior management with AI features and patented Virtual Synchronized Mapping™ technology. Engineered to combine the advantages of HD and IP cameras into one recording system, Vulcan Series Mobile DVRs were developed over several years with a limitless budget to meet the need for extreme storage reliability, versatility for any vehicle type, and durability for the long haul. 21

## ASA Electronics

2602 Marina Dr.,  
Elkhart, IN 46514 USA  
**Toll Free:** 800-688-3135

**Website:** www.ASAElectronics.com

**Products:** The company has been designing and manufacturing mobile electronic products for the marine, RV, powersports, agricultural, construction, commercial vehicle and bus industries since 1977. 22

## Clever Devices, Inc.

300 Crossways Park Dr.  
Woodbury, NY 11797 USA

516-433-6100

**Website:** www.cleverdevices.com

**Products:** Clever Devices is a provider of technology solutions for all modes of public transportation including fixed-route, bus rapid transit, paratransit and rail. The company's solutions enhance mobility and help meet the public transportation challenges of communities around the world. 22

## EyeRide

113 E. Main St.  
Pflugerville, TX 78660 USA  
833-EYERIDE

**Email:** info@eyeride.io

**Website:** www.eyeride.io

**Products:** The company provides such items as DVR camera surveillance systems; cameras for commercial trucks, buses and transit vehicles; GPS tracking systems for fleet vehicle management; mobile Wi-Fi hotspot routers for buses and motorcoaches; and electronic logbook and DVIR equipment. 22

## Idrive

249 N. Turnpike Rd.  
Santa Barbara, CA 93111 USA  
805-308-6094

**Email:** sales@idriveglobal.com

**Website:** www.idriveglobal.com

**Products:** Idrive provides artificially intelligent (AI) in-vehicle camera systems with live GPS tracking, live look-in, facial recognition, distracted and drowsy driving detection and more. 22

## Luminator Technology Group

**SEE AD OPPOSITE**

900 Klein Rd.,  
Plano, TX 75074 USA

**Phone:** 972-424-6511

**Email:** info.na@luminator.com

**Website:** www.luminator.com

**Company Officers;** Kirk Goins, CEO; Andreas Krause, CFO

**Products:** Luminator Technology Group delivers globally-recognized technology solutions including stationary and on-board passenger information, video security, and air treatment. Uniquely positioned to deliver a full range of hardware and software, as well as integration and support services, Luminator provides tangible benefits to transportation operators and passengers: By delivering meaningful real-time information to transit agencies and riders — providing the intelligence needed to make informed decisions; Enhancing safety with comprehensive video security, and reducing the transmission of airborne viruses with a technologically-advanced air treatment solution; and, Ensuring on-going efficiency with solutions that are easy to maintain, update and operate.

The RoadRunner 4K system delivers the clearest, highest quality video, supporting advanced analytics. Excellent zoom capabilities capture license plates and other details with exceptional clarity. Purpose-built design that is manufactured to withstand harsh environments is key to reliability and durability. With a hybrid design that allows flexibility with the use of both IP

Continued On Page 36

# Luminator Technology Group Delivers Transit Solutions

## From Stationary To On-Board, Luminator Provides A Full Range Of Integrated Product Solutions

Luminator Technology Group delivers globally recognized transit technology, including stationary and on-board passenger information displays, video security, air treatment, and fleet management solutions.

Founded in 1928, Luminator delivers a full range of transit hardware and software, as well as integration and support services. From its global headquarters in Plano, TX, Luminator provides a fully integrated, cost-effective and reliable suite of transit technology solutions that delivers intelligence, safety and efficiency to a transit system.

Luminator is uniquely positioned to connect transit passengers to vital information while supporting the operational objectives of efficient transit operations. Whether servicing a small community, large city or a region, Luminator is developing and delivering technology with tangible benefits to public transit systems.

Luminator serves customers in more than 85 countries, and partners with leading industry suppliers and support organizations to deliver the solutions those customers need, in ways that can efficiently benefit their core objectives:



### DESTINATION DISPLAYS

Luminator destination displays provide energy efficiency, a long service life, and ease of operation and maintenance. Designed and manufactured to operate reliably and continuously, the displays have proven durability in a wide variety of weather and climatic conditions. Compact solutions make Luminator destination displays easy to install in a variety of vehicle types and in confined spaces.

### STATIONARY DISPLAYS

Luminator stationary display systems cover the entire range of passenger route guidance systems. In conjunction with highly integrated, open software solutions, Luminator's powerful, future-proof passenger information systems combine data with energy-efficient interfaces, making dynamic, real-time passenger information more efficient for transit agencies.

Continued On Page 36

LUMINATOR IS YOUR  
**SINGLE STOP**  
TRANSIT SOLUTION PROVIDER

- On-board Video Security
- Passenger Information
- Fleet Management
- Air Treatment

INTELLIGENCE, SAFETY AND  
EFFICIENCY IN TRANSIT



LUMINATOR.COM

and analog inputs, the RoadRunner AHD Recorder supports up to 16 cameras – optimal for maintaining a fleet-wide solution that provides full video coverage on all vehicle types, ranging from smaller buses and trams to large multi-level trains. 22

### REI

6534 L St.,  
Omaha, NE 68117 USA  
402-339-2200

**Email:** info@radioeng.com

**Website:** www.radioeng.com

**Company Officer:** Scott Hays, President

**Products:** U.S.-based REI® designs, engineers, and services professional-grade solutions and electronics for the transportation industry. It focuses on surveillance/safety, fleet management, and audio/video products to help customers grow and protect their businesses. The company's roster includes solutions for infotainment, driver assistance and collision avoidance, automated fleet management in the cloud, and mobile video surveillance.

Among REI's A/V products: a directional GPS digital media player, dual-zone multimedia controller for drivers, an

ultrawide 37" LCD monitor, a lineup of feature-rich multimedia radios, an emergency lighting module for automatic illumination of interior vehicle lighting, a J1939 CAN-bus cable for streamlined communication and diagnostics between components, public address (PA) systems and microphones, and more.

Included on a list of advanced driver assistance solutions: a 360° surround view camera system with panoramic and bird's-eye views for superior visibility of bus danger zones; and a collision avoidance system with pre-emptive alerts for accident prevention and mitigation. For bus surveillance, REI offers durable, high-definition cameras and DVRs for capturing crystalclear audio, and video in 720p/1080p resolutions. Among REI's software lineup is ARMOR™ Software Suite, an automated, wireless tool for streamlining fleet management/surveillance. The solution optimizes efficiency, safety, and collaboration. 22

### Rosco Vision

90-21 144th Pl.,  
Jamaica, NY 11435 USA  
800-227-2095

**Website:** www.roscovision.com

**Products:** Backup camera systems and

other visual safety solutions to the worldwide commercial vehicle market. 22

### Safety Vision

6100 W. Sam Houston Pkwy. N.  
Houston, TX 77041 USA  
713-896-6600

**Email:**

masstransitsales@safetyvision.com

**Website:** www.safetyvision.com

**Products:** For almost 30 years, Safety Vision has been providing advanced on board video products for the mass transit industry. The company has a portfolio of products that are second to none in terms of customer choice and advanced technology. Safety Vision provides both open architecture and proprietary on board solutions. It can tailor a solution for fixed route, paratransit, heavy rail, and light rail applications that best fit an individual customer's needs. 21

### Seon

Unit 111 – 3B Burbidge St.  
Coquitlam, BC V3K 7B2 CANADA  
604-941-0880

**Email:** sales@seon.com

**Website:** www.seon.com

**Products:** Seon is a manufacturer of video surveillance and fleet management solutions for school and transit buses. 22

## Luminator Technology Group:

Continued From Page 35

### INFOTAINMENT SOLUTIONS

Luminator's INFOtransit solutions deliver maximum flexibility in delivering on-board infotainment. Featuring real-time updates and easy-to-use software, INFOtransit makes administration, content management and diagnostics simple — while also delivering an option for revenue-generating advertising.

### VIDEO SECURITY

RoadRunner on-board video security systems from Luminator are designed to enhance fleet efficiency, reduce maintenance and operating costs, increase accessibility of data, and mitigate risk and liability. The RoadRunner 4K system's zoom capabilities enable it to capture license plates and other details with clarity, while its AHD (Analog High Definition) system features a flexible, hybrid design that supports use of both IP and analog inputs on up to 16 cameras.

### AIR TREATMENT

Luminator's Renew™ Air Treatment system dispenses Grignard Pure™, an EPA-approved antimicrobial air treatment that kills 98 percent of SARS-CoV-2 particles in the air, where COVID-19 transmission is most likely. As passengers board and disembark and fresh air flows into the vehicle, the Renew system maintains an effective level to continuously kill virus particles in the air.

### FLEET MANAGEMENT

Luminator's INFORM™ Fleet Management Solutions deliver comprehensive fleet-wide management to reduce costs, increase efficiency, improve safety, and strengthen compliance. In-vehicle alerts instantly notify drivers of infractions and potentially hazardous habits with in-vehicle feedback for selected behaviors like speeding, idling or not wearing a seat belt.

Contact: Luminator Technology Group, North America,  
900 Klein Rd., Plano, TX 75074.

Phone: 972-424-6511;

E-mail: info.na@luminator.com; Website: www.luminator.com.

From ABC Companies

## Bobby Hill Joins SVT Group As Strategic Account Executive

Bobby Hill joined the ABC Companies Specialty Vehicles and Technology group as a strategic account executive.

“This role will serve the quickly growing demand for electric passenger vehicles, as ABC Companies continues to introduce a range of applications for EVs in the coach, and transit market across the country,” said ABC.



**Bobby Hill**

“Hill brings 30 plus years of experience in the coach and EV industry to the rapidly developing SVT group at ABC. He has narrowed this experience into a specialization on electric vehicles and batteries over the last seven years. Hill is joining ABC Companies from his most recent role as vice president of sales with an EV battery manufacturer.

“Prior to this role, he served as vice president of sales for a global commercial EV

manufacturer, specializing in passenger transportation. These valuable experiences provided him with a broader perspective, and ultimately motivated him to return to a family-owned company.”

Hill said, “The experience gained working with a multi-national manufacturer provides a unique opportunity to bring my commercial experiences to an organization which starts with the customer first and then brings the right vehicle solutions to help that customer grow.”

According to ABC, he has gained experience throughout his career from all sides of the coach business. Frequent business travel aboard coaches grew into a love for the vehicles. His interest in luxury passenger coaches and travel logistics inspired him to create his own tour company.

ABC said Hill has owned several coach operations and takes pride in having provided transportation during six Olympic games. The challenge of sourcing high quality coaches for his business led him to ABC Companies many times over the years, for the very reasons he has most recently seen within the rapidly growing EV market.

“As a past client, Bobby experienced ABC’s closely held values of service and quality firsthand. The consistent and positive experience led him to his new role at ABC.

“The Specialty Vehicles and Technology group has partnered with over 15 vendors to provide the best quality options on the market today. The process of integrating EVs and new infrastructure into a fleet can be intimidating amid rapidly developing technology. ABC’s Fleet Electrification Services guides owners through a formal process of vehicle selection, infrastructure installation, onboarding, and partner feedback to facilitate a better experience,” according to the company.

**Contact ABC Companies at 800-222-2875  
or visit [abc-companies.com](http://abc-companies.com).**

**NORTH COUNTY  
TRANSIT DISTRICT**



## MTS And NCTD Buses Deliver Tons Of Food Donations For Families In Need

A caravan of 13 NCTD (North County Transit District) and MTS (San Diego) buses descended on the Jacobs & Cushman San Diego Food Bank on Saturday, April 16, to deliver tons of food donated by thousands of San Diego residents, as part of the annual Stuff the Bus holiday food drive.

Volunteers from the Girl Scouts, MTS and NCTD spent their Saturday encouraging shoppers at 73 local Vons and Albertsons stores throughout the county to help drive away hunger and Stuff the Bus with food donations to help those in need.

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  - Pays dividends in saved labor and costly supplies.  
Millennia software; Secure, Linux operating system.  
Displays gas trends and forecasts maintenance.  
Data/Alarm logging, plant controls, HMI graphics.
- CONTINUOUS DIAGNOSTICS AND FAULT NOTIFICATION.**
  - Proven transit garage performance in California.  
Network to multiple work stations over client’s LAN.  
Remote readout via cell phone, virtually anywhere.  
Manufactured in Monroeville, PA, USA.

**\*Ask about our on-board leak detection systems.**

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# ALTERNATIVE FUELS ★ HYBRID VEHICLES

## ABC Companies



### Turtle Top Odyssey VMC Optimal E1

The Odyssey family of buses provides a first-class travel experience which you can now appreciate on a state-of-the-art VMC Optimal electric drivetrain. Eliminate range anxiety as a full charge on our Proterra trusted batteries provides 120 miles of range with proper driving. Recharge in just an hour and a half with DC fast charge. Both passengers and drivers will enjoy the responsiveness of our all-electric engine and appreciate the quiet, smooth ride with no fumes. With various floor plans available, this will be versatile addition into your fleet and carbon emission reduction.

Overall Length.....	23'
Overall Height.....	9' 7"
Seating Capacity.....	12 +2 up to 19
EVSE Compatibility.....	Level 2 AC (13.2 kW) & DC Fast Charge 5.5 hrs / 1.5 hrs
GVWR.....	14,500 lbs.
Range.....	120 miles*
Battery Capacity.....	113 kWh
Wheelbase.....	176" - 200"

*\*All-electric range can vary depending on route or drive cycle, environmental conditions, vehicle or equipment configurations, and driver behavior.*



### Optimal S1 Low Floor

VMC Optimal low floor shuttle offers the technology and efficiency of VMC in a smaller package. Optimal's proprietary No-Kneel® chassis is designed to allow for an ultra-low 11-inch (280mm) step-in height and quick deployment of an ADA-compliant accessibility ramp without the need for kneeling suspension, enabling easy access for all passengers.

With 113kW of energy storage, this purpose built chassis equipped with Proterra batteries stored within the frame rails allows for the low-floor chassis layout, while also protecting the vehicle's critical components. Ideal for an assisted living shuttle, micro transit or last mile solution this vehicle is enabled by quieter electric propulsion, optimized ride dynamics and body design that your passengers will appreciate.

Overall Length.....	26'.6"
Overall, Height.....	9'.3"
GVWR.....	14,500
Seating Capacity.....	13+3 up to 21
Level 2 AC Charge.....	under <8 hours
DC Fast Charge.....	<2 hours
Battery Capacity.....	113 kWh
Wheelbase.....	212"
Range.....	120+ Miles*

*\*All-electric range can vary depending on route or drive cycle, environmental conditions, vehicle or equipment configurations, and driver behavior.*

## ABC Companies



### Turtle Top Terra Transit VMC Optimal

This straight sidewall shuttle maintains the same safety standards that Turtle Top incorporates in all models. The Electric version of

the popular Terra Transit is a versatile and trusted platform equipped with a state-of-the-art electric drivetrain which provides a quiet, smooth, and familiar driving experience that your drivers will love. Offering an avg. 120-mile range this vehicle provides practical, reliable service while producing zero emissions on the road. Charging is simple and quick, with both Level 2 AC charging and DC Fast Charge supported. We use the highest-quality components available, including our thermally managed batteries which deliver the best range, efficiency, and lifetime of any batteries in the market.

Overall Length.....	20' - 34'
Overall Height.....	115"
Seating Capacity.....	17-34
Wheelbase.....	138" - 235"
GVWR.....	14,500
Battery Capacity.....	113 kWh

### Sunset Vans

Sunset Vans offers an all-electric minibus built on Dodge Ram Promaster with powerful electric motor. ADA compliant, this vehicle is a great solution for a micro-transit vehicle, last mile solution and is ideal for transportation companies, hospitals, assisted and independent living facilities, retirement home and day care facilities.



Enjoy lower maintenance and operational expenses. Take advantage of incentives for electric vehicles in states that are eligible, and drive with the peace of mind knowing you are reducing your carbon footprint. Options and features may vary based on configuration.

Overall Length.....	17'
Overall, Height.....	7'.9"
Range.....	150 - 200 Miles *
Seating capacity.....	8 + 3 wheelchairs
Wheelbase.....	159"
Level 2 Charging.....	< 6-7 hours
DC Fast charge.....	< 30 min
Battery Capacity.....	50 - 75 kW
Regenerative Braking	

*\*All-electric range can vary depending on route or drive cycle, environmental conditions, vehicle or equipment configurations, and driver behavior.*

ABC Companies; 17469 West Colonial Drive  
Winter Garden, FL 34787 USA; 407-656-7977

E-mail: [marketing@abc-companies.com](mailto:marketing@abc-companies.com)

Website: [www.abc-companies.com](http://www.abc-companies.com)

# ALTERNATIVE FUELS ★ HYBRID VEHICLES

## ABC Companies



### Van Hool TDX25E

The world's first all-electric double deck is now available in the United States! Passengers will enjoy the quiet and smooth ride of this exciting addition to the trusted Van Hool line of coaches. Lowering your carbon footprint, while transporting more passengers, is now possible.

The TDX25E is designed with range in mind, up to 310 miles on a full charge. Both the CX45E and the brand new TDX25E use a Siemens power train and reliable Proterra batteries. Over the past few decades Van Hool has built more than 1,200 vehicles with an electrical drive system (hy-drogen, trolley, battery, and hybrid).

Overall Length .....	44' 4.2"
Overall Height .....	13' 1"
Overall Width .....	8' 5.8"
Seating Capacity .....	69
Battery Capacity .....	676 kWh
Range .....	310*
Suspension .....	Electronically Level Control
Air Conditioning .....	Integrated HVAC System

*\*All-electric range can vary depending on route or drive cycle, environmental conditions, vehicle or equipment configurations, and driver behavior*

### RePower Coach

For those who have an existing vehicle and want to go electric consider ABC's Diesel to Electric RePower program.

The diesel to electric RePower process begins with an inspection for mechanical and structural integrity required for new battery electric components. De-contenting of equipment and components required for batteries, controllers, electric drive and auxiliary motors.

Refurbishment of donor coach to customer specifications ranging from cosmetic and interior to suspension and mechanical. RePower includes the complete installation and integration of all vehicle controls and systems. Commissioning of each vehicle to ensure thorough testing and quality control compliance.



Overall Length .....	44' 4.5" - 45'
Overall Height .....	11' 10.5" - 13'
Overall Width .....	102"
Seating Capacity .....	Per configuration
GVWR .....	Based on donor vehicle
All Electric Range .....	165 - 200 miles*
Battery Capacity .....	640 - 660 kWh Octillion Batteries 2 kWh / mile avg

*\*All-electric range can vary depending on route or drive cycle, environmental conditions, vehicle or equipment configurations, and driver behavior.*

## ABC Companies

### Van Hool CX45E

North American operators can take advantage of a zero-emission vehicle built on the proven Van Hool CX Series platform. Featuring the industry's leading Proterra battery system, an optimized chassis that has been engineered for balanced weight distribution, premium passenger and driver amenities. The CX45E is purpose-built to support a carbon-free future without compromising rideability, passenger comfort or performance.



Combining the modular Siemens drive-train system with Proterra's battery system in conjunction with the innovative converter technology and energy efficient auxiliary system components for HVAC, Dynamic Braking, Passenger Entertainment Power Steering and more the CX45E is designed to achieve daily range targets for operators. The vehicle's zero emissions, quiet battery drive offers a smooth and comfortable ride, with very low noise levels to enhance the passenger experience like never before.

Overall Length .....	45'
Overall Height .....	11' 6"
Overall Width .....	102"
Seating Capacity .....	56
Range .....	280+ miles *
Regenerative Braking	

*\*All-electric range can vary depending on route or drive cycle, environmental conditions, vehicle or equipment configurations, and driver behavior.*

### Lightning Low Floor



The Vicinity Lightning is a fully electric low-floor transit designed to utilize commercially available components and charging systems to offer an affordable and reli-

able electric bus. Lower entry and running costs enable transit operators to adopt EV technologies sooner. Short turning radius and compact size allows great maneuverability in any community. Scaled down for a diverse range of uses including community shuttles, paratransit, university shuttles and other applications. Fully ADA compliant with kneeling and up to 4 wheelchair positions and an optional middle access door. Powered by sustainable energy sources with a creative design and use of materials reduce overall carbon footprint. Electric propulsion system designed with maximum efficiency in mind to reduce energy consumption and increase range.

Overall Length .....	28'
Overall Height .....	9.8'
Overall Width .....	96.5"
GVWR .....	22,000 lbs.
Seating Capacity .....	Up to 34
Range .....	185 miles *
Battery Capacity .....	168 - 252 kWh

*\*All-electric range can vary depending on route or drive cycle, environmental conditions, vehicle or equipment configurations, and driver behavior.*

**ABC Companies; 17469 West Colonial Drive  
Winter Garden, FL 34787 USA; 407-656-7977  
E-mail: [marketing@abc-companies.com](mailto:marketing@abc-companies.com)  
Website: [www.abc-companies.com](http://www.abc-companies.com)**

# ALTERNATIVE FUELS ★ HYBRID VEHICLES

## Hometown Manufacturing



### Hometown Coach Electric Urban

The Hometown Coach Electric Urban provides up to 85 percent operating and maintenance savings, utilizing industry-proven EV batteries that are validated through millions of real world miles. That ensures long life and inexpensive replacement costs.

The Urban's state of the art battery managements system adds proven reliability and performance with remote telematics. Acceleration and hill climbing performance is comparable to combustion-powered vehicles.

The Urban also includes over-the-air software updates for new features and functionality, as well as full welded steel cage framing with 304 stainless or carbon steel. Hybrid is also available on all models.

#### Hometown Manufacturing

750 Industrial Parkway, Crandon, WI 54520

Phone: 715-478-5090 • Fax: 715-478-5095

Email: [Kristina@hometownrolley.com](mailto:Kristina@hometownrolley.com)

Website: [www.hometown-mfg.com](http://www.hometown-mfg.com)

Model .....	Electric Urban
Max GVWR.....	30,000-44,000 lbs.
Wheel Base.....	160", 198", 208", 228"
Body Height.....	120"
Int. Height .....	96"
Battery Technology .....	Lithium-Ion NMC
Battery Capacity .....	392-594 kWh
Range.....	180-200 miles
Level 2 AC Charging .....	50 kW/J1772
20kw .....	2.5 hours
60kw .....	4 hours
150 kw.....	5.5 hours

## Hometown Manufacturing



### Hometown Coach Electric View

The Hometown Coach Electric View is more than just another transit bus. The vehicle boasts many customized features.

The View is 7-year Altoona-tested, provides up to 93.7 percent operating and maintenance savings, and features a drive in battery that comes with an 8-year/150,000 mile warranty with 700-plus U.S. service centers. The View's independent battery control improves reliability and performance, while the vehicle's instant torque outperforms diesel options.

Also available is the View's full-welded cage framing that is enclosed or comes with open air body style. The vehicle is finished with a variety of mass transit features for added durability and comfort. Full ADA options are available as well, along with multiple floor plans. Hybrid is also available on all models.

#### Hometown Manufacturing

750 Industrial Parkway, Crandon, WI 54520

Phone: 715-478-5090 • Fax: 715-478-5095

Email: [Kristina@hometownrolley.com](mailto:Kristina@hometownrolley.com)

Website: [www.hometown-mfg.com](http://www.hometown-mfg.com)

Model.....	Electric View
Max GVWR.....	23,000 lbs.
Wheel Base .....	178"-208"
Body Height .....	126"/136"
Int. Height .....	82"
Battery Technology.....	Proterra industrial grade
liquid .....	cooled lithium ion
Battery Capacity .....	226 kw/h
Range.....	150-170+ miles
Level 2 AC Charging .....	19.2 kW/J1772
60kw Charge Time.....	3.5 hours
150kw Charge Time .....	1.8 hours
Charge Voltage & Power .....	208V, 25 kW

10 and 12 year warranty available.

Chargers range from wall mount 30 kw to cabinet style 60kw -750 kw complete fleet wide charging stations.

# ALTERNATIVE FUELS ★ HYBRID VEHICLES

## Hometown Manufacturing



### Hometown Trolley Electric Villager

The Electric Villager features Hometown Trolley's original trolley design. From private tour operators to fixed-routes in downtown areas, the Villager is sure to bring classic style to any location.

The Villager is 7-year Altoona-tested, provides up to 93.7 percent operating and maintenance savings, and features a drive in battery that comes with an 8-year/150,000 mile warranty with 700-plus U.S. service centers. The Villager's independent battery control improves reliability and performance, while the vehicle's instant torque outperforms diesel options.

The Villager is finished with elegant, vintage looking features such as spiral brass, mahogany, and leather grab straps. Also available is the Villager's full-welded cage framing that is enclosed or comes with open air body style. The vehicle is finished with a variety of mass transit features for added durability and comfort. Full ADA options are available as well, along with multiple floor plans. Hybrid is also available on all models.

#### Hometown Manufacturing

750 Industrial Parkway, Crandon, WI 54520

Phone: 715-478-5090 • Fax: 715-478-5095

Email: [Kristina@hometowntrolley.com](mailto:Kristina@hometowntrolley.com)

Website: [www.hometown-mfg.com](http://www.hometown-mfg.com)

Model .....	Electric Villager
Max GVWR .....	23,000 lbs.
Wheel Base .....	178"-208"
Body Height .....	132"
Int. Height .....	80.5"
Battery Technology .....	Proterra industrial grade liquid cooled lithium ion
Battery Capacity .....	226 kw/h
Range .....	150-170+ miles
Level 2 AC Charging .....	19.2 kW/J1772
60kw Charge Time .....	3.5 hours
150kw Charge Time .....	1.8 hours
Charge Voltage & Power .....	208V, 25 kW

10 and 12 year warranty available.

Chargers range from wall mount 30 kw to cabinet style 60kw -750 kw complete fleet wide charging stations.

## Hometown Manufacturing



### Hometown Trolley Electric Streetcar

The Hometown Trolley Electric Streetcar provides up to 85 percent operating and maintenance savings, utilizing industry-proven EV batteries that are validated through millions of real world miles. That ensures long life and inexpensive replacement costs.

The Streetcar's independent battery control improves reliability and performance. Acceleration and hill climbing performance is comparable to combustion-powered vehicles.

The Streetcar is finished with elegant, vintage looking features such as spiral brass, mahogany, and leather grab straps. The Streetcar also includes over-the-air software updates for new features and functionality, as well as full welded steel cage framing with 304 stainless or carbon steel. Hybrid is also available on all models.

#### Hometown Manufacturing

750 Industrial Parkway, Crandon, WI 54520

Phone: 715-478-5090 • Fax: 715-478-5095

Email: [Kristina@hometowntrolley.com](mailto:Kristina@hometowntrolley.com)

Website: [www.hometown-mfg.com](http://www.hometown-mfg.com)

Model .....	Electric Streetcar
Max GVWR .....	30,000-44,000 lbs.
Wheel Base .....	160", 198", 208", 228"
Body Height .....	128"
Int. Height .....	93"
Battery Technology .....	Lithium-Ion NMC
Battery Capacity .....	392-594 kWh
Range .....	180-200 miles
Level 2 AC Charging .....	50 kW/J1772
20kw .....	2.5 hours
60kw .....	4 hours
150 kw .....	5.5 hours

# ALTERNATIVE FUELS ★ HYBRID VEHICLES

## BYD



### K7M

The 30' battery-electric K7M is BYD's top-selling model for universities and corporate campuses, shuttling students and workers in quiet comfort. It performs well in smaller cities, at airports, performing arts venues and parking structures. The K7M has a range of up to 158 miles on a charge. The larger K7M-ER has a range of up to 196 miles.

The K7M shuttles passengers to Disneyland, and to the terminals and parking lots of the Kansas City International Airport. The K7M is also in service in the college town of Columbia, MO., and nimbly navigating the narrow, historic streets of historic Frederick County, MD. In the largest single order of battery-electric buses to date in the United States, BYD is currently manufacturing 130 K7Ms for the Los Angeles Department of Transportation.

#### BYD

1800 S. Figueroa St., Los Angeles, CA 90015

Phone: 213-748-3980

Email: [info.na@byd.com](mailto:info.na@byd.com)

Website: [en.byd.com](http://en.byd.com)

Model.....	K7M
Length.....	30.7'
Width.....	95.7"
Height.....	128"
Turning Radius.....	30.2'
Suspension.....	Air suspension
Seating Capacity.....	Up to 22 + 1

## BYD



### K8M

Transit systems demand high quality and extreme reliability and the American-built, battery-electric K8M delivers. The K8M offers a range of up to 150 miles on a single charge. The innovative K8M, a state-of-the-art transit bus, can seat up to 33 passengers. The highly reliable and safe K8M electric bus is equipped with a 435kWh LFP battery and can be fully charged within 3 hours.

The K8M set a high scoring record in the Federal Transit Administration Model Bus Testing Program in Altoona, PA. The record-setting performance included high marks in structural durability, reliability, maintainability, and safety. As a result, U.S. transit agencies can confidently use FTA funding to buy the K8M.

#### BYD

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Phone: 213-748-3980

Email: [info.na@byd.com](mailto:info.na@byd.com)

Website: [en.byd.com](http://en.byd.com)

Model.....	K8M
Length.....	35.8'
Width.....	102"
Height.....	134"
Turning Radius.....	35.4'
Suspension.....	Air suspension
Seating Capacity.....	Up to 32 + 1

# ALTERNATIVE FUELS ★ HYBRID VEHICLES

## BYD



### K9M

BYD's battery-electric 40-foot K9M is the popular choice for transit agencies, universities, and airports from Long Beach, CA to Nantucket, MA. The zero-emission K9M has 37 seats, a range of 155 miles, and can be rapidly charged in 4.5 to 5 hours. Its sister model, the K9MD, can seat 29 passengers and has a range of up to 225 miles on a single charge. The K9MD can be fully charged in 3 to 4 hours.

Both K9 models offer plenty of battery capacity – 313 kWh for the K9M and 353 kWh for the K9MD. With lower fuel and maintenance costs, the K9M offers a lower total cost of ownership compared to diesel and CNG buses. Creating no air pollution and using quiet electric motors, BYD buses improve quality of life wherever they operate.

### BYD

1800 S. Figueroa St., Los Angeles, CA 90015

Phone: 213-748-3980

Email: [info.na@byd.com](mailto:info.na@byd.com)

Website: [en.byd.com](http://en.byd.com)

Model.....	K9M
Length.....	40.2'
Width.....	102"
Height.....	134"
Turning Radius.....	41.7'
Suspension.....	Air suspension
Seating Capacity.....	Up to 37 + 1

## BYD



### K11M

With the capacity to carry up to 55 seated passengers, the battery-electric 60-foot K11M is ideal for high-volume urban transit systems and BRT lines. It is also perfectly designed to shuttle passengers at large airports, university campuses, entertainment venues and parking facilities. The K11M has a range of up to 220 miles and can be fully charged in 3.5 to 4 hours.

BYD's K11M was the first articulated battery-electric transit bus to successfully complete the Federal Transit Administration Model Bus Test Program in Altoona, PA. Several agencies, including the Antelope Valley Transit Authority, based in Lancaster, CA, The Los Angeles International Airport, The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, and IndyGo, in Indianapolis, IN, have already deployed the model.

### BYD

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Phone: 213-748-3980

Email: [info.na@byd.com](mailto:info.na@byd.com)

Website: [en.byd.com](http://en.byd.com)

Model.....	K11M
Length.....	60.7'
Width.....	102"
Height.....	134"
Turning Radius.....	39.4'
Suspension.....	Air suspension
Seating Capacity.....	Up to 47 + 1 with 5 doors/ Up to 55 + 1 with 3 doors

# ALTERNATIVE FUELS ★ HYBRID VEHICLES

## TEMSA



### TEMSA TS45E

TEMSA, one of the leading EV manufacturers, is now launching its newest product—the TS45E, for the North American market.

The quiet, powerful, and modern design of TS45E is reflected in TEMSA's experience with electric vehicle technology, combined with proven characteristics of the TS45 diesel coach.

With the win-win approach, TEMSA is now offering its flagship product with an enhanced version of both diesel and zero-emission vehicles. Higher doors, larger windshields, and extended side windows are improving the visibility, while the digital cluster assists drivers to monitor the performance of all main systems including the energy storage of the coach.

Operating the TS45E will cost less than a regular diesel coach both by powering the coach and reducing the maintenance intervals. Most electric-powered components are located in the same area with easy access for service technicians.

While the TS45E offers spacious and uninterrupted luggage room to accommodate passenger belongings underneath the passenger compartment, the enlarged overhead parcel racks offer more room for a variety of passenger items inside the coach.

The TS45E battery packaging size is flexible, which allows the end-user to configure different battery sizes considering their budget and range needs. Similarly, the charging type can be configured depending on the infrastructure needs.

**TEMSA NORTH AMERICA**  
 404 Zell Dr, Orlando, FL 32824  
 Phone: 833-628-3672 • Website: [www.temsa.com](http://www.temsa.com)

Model.....	TEMSA TS45E
Seating Capacity .....	56+1
Length.....	45'
Width.....	102"
Height .....	11'6"
Battery .....	Li-Ion NMC
Charging Options.....	CCS Type 1
Wheelbase.....	310.8"
Air Conditioning.....	Mobile Climate Control
Wheelchair Lift Option .....	Braun Wheelchair Lift
Steering .....	Bosch Power Steering System, Tag Axle Steering System (RAS), Tilt and Telescopic Steering Wheel
Suspension .....	Front Axle ZF RL 82 E-Independent, 18,078 lbs. load capacity Rear Axle ZF A 132 with 5.22 dif. ratio, 27,116 lbs. load capacity Tag Axle ZF RL 75 A, 16,534 lbs. load capacity

## Complete Coach Works



### ZEPS Bus

The Zero Emission Propulsion System (ZEPS) drive system technology, developed exclusively by Complete Coach Works (CCW), provides customers with a clean and viable alternative to fossil fuel.

Working with its sister company Transit Sales International, CCW developed its own system by taking an existing low floor transit bus and rebuilding it as a battery electric bus. The resulting ZEPS bus is an economical option for bus operators looking to start an electric fleet.

The ZEPS powered all electric bus has been tested for more than four million severe duty miles. CCW has successfully retrofitted and deployed in service more than 50 ZEPS buses across the nation. These deployments have been proven to perform successfully in all types of weather conditions.

The ZEPS system has been utilized for buses, trolleys, and other heavy-duty vehicles. CCW's commitment to sustainability has enabled it to assist numerous transit agencies in the pursuit of preserving the planet for future generations. CCW looks forward to helping more agencies go all-electric to save money, save fuel, and save the world!

**Complete Coach Works,**  
 1863 Service Court Riverside, CA 92507  
 Phone: 800-300-3751  
[CompleteCoach.com](http://CompleteCoach.com)  
[ZepsDrive.com](http://ZepsDrive.com)

- Charging options: Onboard AC or CCS1 HV-DC
  - 180kW electric PMS motor
  - 2065 pounds of torque
  - All LED Interior/Exterior Lighting
- Significantly longer operating range on a single charge
- 403kWh, 504kWh, 605kWh lithium ion NCA battery pack
  - 30ft, 35ft, 40ft, and 60ft Low Floor Bus

## Motor Coach Industries



### MCI J4500 CHARGE™ and D45 CRT LE CHARGE™

MCI offers two zero-emission battery-electric models. The MCI J4500 CHARGE™ brings battery-electric capability to the industry's best-seller in the tour, charter, and employee shuttle markets. The Buy America compliant and Altoona tested MCI D45 CRT LE CHARGE™ features a revolutionary patented low entry (LE) vestibule with a seating area and ramp that significantly improves dwell times, boarding, and rider experience.

MCI matches the time-tested reliability of its two popular models with battery-electric propulsion and charging methods, adopted from New Flyer's battery-electric Xcelsior CHARGE™ for high dependability – with both MCI models delivering impressive power and a smooth, quiet ride. MCI's platform includes electric-driven components, from electric heat and AC systems to power steering; a high-torque Siemens electric drive system; Nickel Manganese Cobalt (NMC) Lithium-Ion batteries, with high power plug-in battery charging to 100 percent in under four hours; and regenerative braking for energy efficiency and solid stopping power.

MCI's all-electric series is supported by New Flyer Infrastructure Solutions,™ a full suite of services that help deliver charging specifications to meet each customer's needs

**Motor Coach Industries; 200 East Oakton St.,  
Des Plaines, IL 60018; 866-624-2622  
Email: [marketing@mcicoach.com](mailto:marketing@mcicoach.com);  
Website: [www.mcicoach.com](http://www.mcicoach.com)**

Model.....	J4500 CHARGE™ and D45 CRTe LE CHARGE™
Overall Length .....	J 45' 7"/D 45' 10"
Seating Capacity .....	J 56 passengers/D 54 passengers
Headroom .....	78.25"
Wheelbase.....	315"
Front Suspension .....	Independent front
GVW .....	J 54,000 lbs./D 54,000 lbs.
Propulsion System.....	Siemens Electric Drive System
Batteries.....	63 Ah NMCI Lithium-Ion Ultra-High Energy cell by XALT, estimated J 544 kWh max power/D 389 kWh
Brakes .....	Bendix® ADB22X™ Air Disc Brakes

## Due To Statewide Contracts CCW Reconditioned Bus To OR's Yamhill County Transit

"Complete Coach Works (CCW) has partnered with local governments in Oregon and Washington to enhance its transit operations. Utilizing Oregon and Washington's statewide contracts, transit agencies are able to add safe and affordable remanufactured buses to their fleets," according to a press release.

"Yamhill County Transit (YCT) was the first agency to purchase a bus through CCW's Oregon procurement contract. The McMinnville, OR, transit system's latest order for a remanufactured 2003 30-foot Gillig low-floor transit bus follows three, 30-foot and two, 35-foot remanufactured Gillig buses purchased through the Oregon statewide contract in 2020. YCT is adding this full-size, two-door Gillig transit bus for increased passenger capacity and easier, more convenient passenger boarding."



"YCT has spent the last five years making improvements to our fleet. The new Gillig buses are a great addition. It is our first experience with rehabbed buses, and we are pleased we made the decision to work with CCW. The bus procurement process went smoothly. The CCW staff were great to work with and their technicians resolved issues quickly. We look forward to a long working relationship with CCW," Cynthia Thompson, YCT's transit manager, said.

The bus selected by YCT will be remanufactured to the agency's specifications at CCW's headquarters and plant in Riverside, CA. The bus will include a new driver seat and flooring, interior and exterior LED lighting, and an ADA-compliant wheelchair ramp. CCW will also install a 2007 Cummins Recon clean-diesel ISL engine and rebuilt Allison B400R transmission, as well as providing YCT decal branding on the bus.

"CCW is honored to be an authorized vendor on both the Oregon and Washington statewide contracts, and we are especially pleased to have Yamhill be among the first to mark this milestone with us," said Jim Paul, CCW's regional sales manager. "CCW takes pride in offering just-in-time deliveries, and statewide contracts that drastically shorten the solicitation bid process as agencies can order what they need in an expedited timeframe."

For more information,  
contact Brad Carson at (800) 287-7253  
or e-mail [bradley@completecoach.com](mailto:bradley@completecoach.com).

airline flight and other travel.

“We went with the judge’s mandate, and we are no longer requiring masks,” Kotler said.

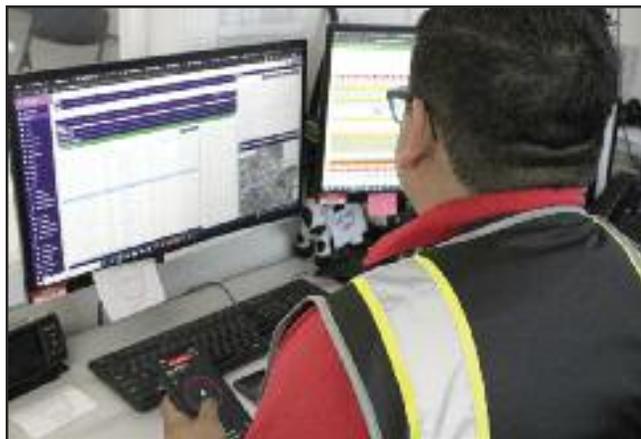
The pandemic resulted in many transit agencies adopting cashless ticketing options to help reduce human contact between drivers and passengers for safety reasons.

“Cashless and ticketless technology was something that was pushed by COVID,” Kotler said.

The result for ATN was the development of an app called “A-Way WeGo,” that gives people the ability to pay, reserve and plan a trip, all in one app.

Another recent issue, while somewhat related to COVID, but more to the war in Ukraine, is the dramatic spike in gas and oil prices.

Fortunately for ATN, as its fleet consists primary of all-electric and CNG fueled vehicles, the price hike has had little impact on operations, Kotler said.



ATN Operations Administrator Daniel Loaiza

### PUBLIC TRANSIT LOOKS TO A BRIGHT FUTURE

Public transit has rebounded nicely in many areas, although the pandemic is in its third year, and is showing no signs of ending anytime soon.

If there is such a thing as a silver lining in a pandemic, perhaps it is the role of public transportation in keeping towns and cities running smoothly, and as a critical element in future city planning.

“I think transit has done an incredible job in shaping its image of a mode that offers world-class clean, safe, reliable and consistent services,” Kotler said. “Furthermore, I think we need to make sure we look at our constituency holistically. Visitors, as well as people who live here, or travel to work in our area, are all our patrons.

“As transit professionals, we have to work very, very hard at making sure we speak the language that the consumer ex-

**“We try to make transit ‘fun.’ For the customer, riding the bus needs to be something that is not difficult. Why do people take Uber or Lyft? — because it is so easy. We have to do the same thing.”**

pects. We don’t concentrate on one group or another, but we are here for anybody who wants to ride ATN.

“In Anaheim, we open the door to the idea that riding the bus can be a great experience. The bus is actually a pleasant place to get from point A to point B.

“We try to make transit ‘fun.’ For the customer, riding the bus needs to be something that is not difficult. Why do people take Uber or Lyft? — because it is so easy. We have to do the same thing. We have to make transit easy and understandable.

“Public transit is also a great career opportunity because of the variety of options it offers. A person can work in customer service, be a mechanic, be involved in graphic design, marketing, finance and other disciplines, all under the umbrella of public transportation.

“Whatever your passion is, you can find it within the transit industry.”

Contact: Anaheim Transportation Network,  
1354 S. Anaheim Blvd., Anaheim CA 92805.  
Phone: 888-364-2787.  
Website: [rideart.org](http://rideart.org).

## SamTrans, Caltrain Release Sustainability Reports

According to the agency, SamTrans (San Mateo, CA) reduced its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 9 percent, its electricity usage by 23 percent, and its generation of air pollutants (CAPs) by 18 percent. These figures will only grow as SamTrans has transitions to a fleet comprised of zero emissions vehicles, which it has committed to complete by 2038.

“In honor of Earth Day, SamTrans released its 2021 Sustainability Report, outlining the environmental progress the agency made in the last two years. Even as the agency struggled with the effects of COVID-19, more gains were made

demonstrating the importance of transit in the fight against climate change,” according to the agency.

“Over 40 percent of California’s GHGs are created by surface transportation. Transit such as Caltrain and SamTrans is key to protecting the planet and fighting climate change.”

SamTrans operates 70 routes throughout San Mateo County. Funded in part by a half-cent sales tax, the San Mateo County Transit District also provides administrative support for Caltrain and the San Mateo County Transportation Authority. SamTrans has provided bus service to San Mateo County customers since 1976.



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**TEMSA NORTH AMERICA INC.**  
404 Zell Dr, Orlando FL 32824 (833)-628-3672  
temsa.com



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR TEMSA REGIONAL HEAD OF SALES



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