

PRESS RELEASE

Bus & coach manufacturers reach agreement on joint standard for data

Europe's 6 major bus and coach manufacturers have concluded an agreement on the introduction of a standard that is to become the interface between vehicle data and the Fleet Management Systems (FMS) used by bus companies and coach operators. The objective is to give those who operate more than one make of vehicle the opportunity to implement a single standard interface with which to integrate the vehicle data from their entire fleet.

Breakthrough

The new open interface will enable the processing of all vehicle data using a single FMS. This was previously impossible, due to the lack of a standardised system. The development will therefore render the management of bus and coach fleets a less costly affair. The 6 European manufacturers that signed up to the agreement are VDL Bus Groep, EvoBus, Neoman, Volvo, Scania and Irisbus. These firms consider the new standard a true breakthrough, as it is based on an open architecture that will therefore enable the installation of other suppliers' applications.

Individual customising

The data used by the FMS originates from the vehicle's CAN Bus system, which can be hooked up to using the standardised connector. A certain amount of the data contained in the CAN Bus system, however, shall remain solely accessible to the manufacturer in question. The FMS interface will enable any individual bus company and coach operator to provide customised systems, such as driver support, safety, trip and vehicle support. The 6 manufacturers involved also concluded terms for further co-operation and the exchange of information and experience with a view to promoting the continuous development of the system.

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