



News service MAN Group

Press release of
August 21, 2003

A lion-hearted partner for home games: Lion's Top Star of the MAN Nutzfahrzeuge Group reinforces the logistics of the 1860 Munich football team

The Munich lions, an aspiring football team in the German football league, opt for lion-like products when it comes to buses, too. The transport company Gruber GmbH & Co. KG, the partner of 1860 Munich, has received a three-axle highliner coach which will transport the team of Falko Götz in suburban transfers. The team's new flagship was handed over on Wednesday, 13th August 2003.

In their coats of arms both the Lion's Top Star and 1860 Munich display the Bavarian lion which originally came as the heraldic animal of the Guelphs from Braunschweig to the river Isar – the aristocratic dynasty from Lower Saxony was partly responsible for founding the city of Munich. The lion from Braunschweig also has pride of place on the grille of the vehicles from MAN Nutzfahrzeuge AG.

“MAN and the 1860 Munich football team have one thing in common: a good name which stands for quality. Both set standards – in the sports class for first rate football and in the bus class for up-market coach travel”, stresses Peter Erichreineke, the managing director of MAN Nutzfahrzeuge Deutschland GmbH. Karl-Heinz Wildmoser junior, who controls the fortunes of professional football at 1860 Munich was given the keys of the three-axle bus on behalf of the sports team.

The size of the Lion's Top Star alone makes it an impressive sight. Despite its 13.8 m length the high-liner coach with its steered third axle can also circle elegantly around the tight corners and narrow entries to the stadiums. With its four-star seating some with leather fittings it offers up to 52 passengers ample space. The team heads for the training grounds or stadium in all-star comfort, with full air conditioning, an on-board toilet, large fridge and galley in the central aisle.