



## First hydrogen buses for Berlin from MAN

Munich, June 2, 2006

### EU project HyFLEET:CUTE - Step into the future of mobility

In Berlin environment-friendly hydrogen-fuelled buses will in future be a common sight on the streets. In the presence of Germany's Federal Environment Minister Sigmar Gabriel the Berlin Transport Authority BVG took delivery of the first MAN "Lion's City" buses, two 12 meter single-deckers. As part of the HyFLEET:CUTE project, which started at the beginning of the year, the BVG will in the next two years be provided with 14 MAN buses with hydrogen internal-combustion engine, which will make it the world's largest operator of environment-friendly hydrogen buses. Under the project, which is supported by the EU Commission, the buses are to run on scheduled routes in Berlin until 2009. The first two will go into service during the World Cup.

"This is a great day for our company and for local public transport", said Ernö Bartha, a director of NEOMAN Bus GmbH, at the handover. "For the first time hydrogen buses with a drive concept close to series standard are being put into broad practical service in which they will emit far fewer pollutants than any other internal combustion engine currently available. We regard this as an important technological step towards an environment-friendly future."

In the transport sector a sustained improvement in the environmental balance will be possible in future if hydrogen is used as fuel. In internal-combustion engines in vehicles hydrogen generates very low emissions. In view of the growth in mobility throughout the world every means of transport must make a contribution to protection of the climate. The main aim in using hydrogen as fuel is to significantly reduce the greenhouse gases, and here in particular carbon dioxide. As a carbon-free source of energy hydrogen allows vehicles to operate without emitting any CO<sub>2</sub>. In conjunction with reduced-CO<sub>2</sub> or CO<sub>2</sub>-free technologies for hydrogen generation a major drop in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in traffic can be achieved.

Since mid-1999 three low-floor articulated MAN buses have been in operation in passenger transport on the apron of Munich Airport, where they have covered more than 450,000 km. Since August 2005 two buses, one with a hydrogen-fired internal-combustion engine and one with a fuel-cell hybrid system, have been deployed in local public transport in the vicinity of Munich Airport.

The **MAN Group** is one of Europe's leading manufacturers of vehicles, engines and engineering equipment with annual sales of around €13 billion. MAN supplies trucks, buses, diesel engines, turbomachines and industrial services and employs approx. 50,000 people worldwide. MAN's Business Areas hold leading positions in their markets. MAN AG, based in Munich, is a member of the DAX German Share Index, which comprises Germany's top thirty public limited companies.

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