

Live Urban Demonstrations of ZeEUS - Zero Emission Urban Bus System



Launched in November 2013, ZeEUS (Zero Emission Urban Bus System) is a flagship EU project coordinated by UITP, which aims to test a wide range of different innovative electric bus technologies and charging infrastructure solutions. This initiative is co-funded by the DG Mobility and Transport of the European Commission with a budget of €22.5m (€13.5m EU-funded). ZeEUS brings together 40 leading partners who represent the entire stakeholder spectrum. The project, which will run until April 2017, will test full electric, plug-in hybrid and battery trolley buses in live operational demonstrations evaluating their economic, societal and environmental benefit. Core demonstrations will take place in 8 European cities: Barcelona (Spain); Stockholm (Sweden); Glasgow, London (UK); Bonn, Münster (Germany); Plzen (Czech Republic) and Cagliari (Italy). In total, 35 plug-in hybrid, full electric and battery trolley buses built by the European bus manufacturers more active in electrification will be tested by local operators.

The project also foresees a set of activities to develop standards, support local regulations and identify financial tools in order to foster the introduction of electric buses in the European cities fleets. Demo groups, which consist of stakeholders conducting demonstrations, will



test e-buses in real operations and will be able to provide practical answers to cities, public transport operators and authorities who are interested in introducing electric buses but would like to gain more insight before taking the decision to deploy and invest.

The first core demonstration was launched in Barcelona on 14 October 2014. Within this demonstration, lead by the local operator TMB (Transports Metropolitans de Barcelona), two full-electric 12m buses i2e from IRIZAR have been already put in service, while two 18m articulated plug-in hybrids by SOLARIS will come in 2015.

After Barcelona, it was Stockholm's turn to showcase their Volvo 12m plug-in hybrid buses during Stockholm Fair on 28 October 2014. The presentation precedes the Launch Event scheduled on January, during which the buses will be presented to the citizens, city officials and local stakeholders. As part of the ZeEUS project, an Observatory will be set up to closely follow the

developments of selected tests of high capacity urban electric buses. This activity will help provide the entire stakeholder spectrum with the global picture of the electric bus market. The ZeEUS Observatory will involve Observed Demonstrations, which will contribute to the discussion about some key topics of electric bus systems and the key phases to achieve market introduction.

All information about the project will be presented every year in an eBus publication in order to provide key insights into how the market of electric bus systems is progressing. The ZeEUS Observatory will also organise an annual ZeEUS Electric Bus Forum in Brussels to showcase Demos' electric bus developments along with workshops dedicated to the key topics of urban electric buses. A Call for Observed Demonstrations has been launched. Should you wish to apply, please contact stephanie.leonard@uitp.org ●

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