

NewsRelease



North American
Bus Industries, Inc.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Marketing Department
North American Bus Industries, Inc.
8000 W. Central, Suite 400
Wichita, KS 67212

Tel: (316) 779-7700
Fax: (316) 779-7727
www.nabiusa.com

Delivery of NABI Low Floor buses starting a buzz on the streets in South Florida.

Anniston, AL (February 5, 2008) – Throughout Broward County, Florida where Fort Lauderdale is located, transit officials are seeing a renewed excitement for mass transit thanks in large part to the addition of 48 new 40-foot diesel Low Floor buses from North American Bus Industries, Inc. The Broward County Office of Transportation recently received the last of the order, and already agreed to purchase 30 more of the buses as well as an initial order of 12 hybrid versions of the bus.

“We are very pleased by the reception our riders have given these new NABI buses,” said Christopher Walton, Director, Broward County Office of Transportation. “We are hearing the buses look great and are providing a comfortable ride which are added benefits for our riders.”

“Broward County is replacing their aging bus fleet with these sleek new NABI 40-foot buses, and people are noticing,” said Chris Dabbs, regional sales director, North American Bus Industries, Inc. Walton indicated the agency had been eager to modernize its fleet and the NABI buses were the answer to replacing the older buses. The buses came with a new paint scheme and graphics package for their fleet that enhanced the exterior and interior design of the buses. “We were looking for new branding and the NABI buses provided us with a very stylish bus design that complemented our new look.” Walton continued, “The new look not only has captured the attention of our riders but the general public as well.” Walton believes the NABI bus design, along with the new branding, has improved the image of the bus fleet that hopefully will encourage more people to use the bus system.

The new styling package of the 12 additional 40’ hybrid NABI Low Floor bus takes its exterior design cues from the NABI BRT series. This design includes a sleek, aerodynamic front end and windshield module, as well as larger side windows with far fewer seams, creating the appearance of one, large, space-age styled piece of glass. The end result is a futuristic look that helps give mass transit a more modern personality. Inside the buses, new modern seating and fabrics welcome passengers, and the driver’s cockpit has undergone ergonomic advancements.

For Broward County, becoming “greener” was a major issue in their fleet plan. As their transit officials put together a set of specifications for the bus they wanted, they ranked energy efficiency, lowered emissions and reduced sound pollution high on their list. For these reasons, they are very excited about the cleaner, quieter and more energy-efficient characteristics of the diesel hybrid buses they are purchasing.

“The hybrid version of this bus was a thrilling new concept for Broward County,” said Dabbs. “These will be their first hybrid buses.

(more)

The hybrid technology is a diesel/electric combination that utilizes electric power when the diesel engine is least efficient during acceleration. The system recaptures electric power that is typically lost during deceleration, and stores it in a battery system. On acceleration, the bus' power plant blends this stored energy with the power generated by the bus' engine to help reduce fuel consumption and emissions.

“Broward County ordered these first 12 hybrid buses as part of a contract that is spread over five years. They will evaluate the performance and characteristics of this first group before ordering more,” Dabbs said. “We are looking forward to purchasing more of these buses over the next few years,” Walton added. “Our South Florida community is quite conscious of the environment and the “greening” of our transit fleet through the purchase of alternative fuels and new technology, like the hybrid buses, is an extension of that policy.”

Dabbs and Walton also agreed that the buses' new air-conditioning technology was another major positive factor. This new HVAC technology is designed to operate entirely as an electrical system. The typical mechanical system that drives the compressor has been replaced with an electrical system. The result of this new technology is an air-conditioning system that can operate at full power even when the bus is at idle. “Obviously, being in South Florida, this was highly welcomed by the transit system and the passengers,” Dabbs said. This “all-electric” air-conditioning system is the first to be built by an OEM in the transit industry.

“We have had a good working relationship with North American Bus Industries, Inc. representatives on our recent bus purchase,” said Walton. “There are many factors that influence people leaving their cars at home and taking transit. The appearance and reliability of the buses in service are clearly among those factors.”

About Us: North American Bus Industries, Inc. markets three successful transit bus brands: NABI, Optima and Blue Bird offering a complete line of standard and low-floor, heavy-duty 30', 32' 35', 40', 42', 60' and 65' (articulated) transit buses at its facilities in Anniston, Alabama. North American Bus Industries, Inc. is the market leader with its sleek and most advanced designed BRT (Bus Rapid Transit) vehicles which offer a cost effective alternative to expensive light rail. The transit buses are available with clean diesel, CNG, LNG, or diesel hybrid-electric propulsion systems.

- END -

For more information contact:

Diane Hawkins, Director of Marketing

Tel: (316) 779-7700, Fax: (316) 779-7727 or email diane.hawkins@nabiusa.com

Also visit our website at www.nabiusa.com