



North American
Bus Industries, Inc.

NewsRelease

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Commerce, CA “Christens” New Fleet of NABI 35-Foot Buses.

Anniston, AL (March 17, 2009) – When the City of Commerce, CA needed to replace its fleet of buses, transit officials in neighboring communities suggested making contact with North American Bus Industries. As a result, Commerce was able to expeditiously receive seven 35-foot versions of the popular NABI bus.

“We had seen the NABI buses operating in other L.A. area communities, and authorities told us their buses had proven successful in this operating environment,” said Claude McFerguson, Assistant Director of Transportation, City of Commerce. “We knew this bus would meet our operational needs and would be a nice reward to the Commerce residents and passengers we serve.”

McFerguson said North American Bus Industries was especially helpful in expediting the time-consuming process of issuing a solicitation. “NABI suggested we take advantage of an opportunity with the Minnesota DOT Cooperative Purchasing Venture. Not only did this get us the ideal bus, it sped us through the process.” Bill Coryell, VP of Sales, Western Region, North American Bus Industries, said when Commerce officials approached him with their desire to “piggyback” onto some leftover options, he recognized the Minnesota venture as an ideal fit for Commerce’s needs. “In this way, we were able to get them the bus they wanted and deliver their new fleet inside of a year.”

At a recent “State of the City” event, Commerce officially presented their new bus fleet to the public, and set the tone for their success by holding a christening. “We dressed up a new bus with balloons and decorations, raffled a new bike to one of the City’s residents; and had a city official christen the fleet with a bottle of champagne, just like they do to launch new ships,” McFerguson said. Commerce’s transportation authorities recognized they had very loyal and very polite passengers. “These new buses, with all their special passenger features, were a way we could say ‘thank you’ to our regular passengers, and attract a new generation of passengers,” McFerguson added.

The Commerce fleet was equipped with features such as display boards that operate in Spanish as well as English, smooth and dependable wheelchair ramp security cameras, and bike racks. “A significant number of our passengers ride bicycles throughout the City, so the addition of the bike racks is a popular feature,” McFerguson said.

Traffic conditions in Commerce are “very dense,” so finding a highly maneuverable bus was important. “These 35-footers with their tight turning radius really meet our needs,” McFerguson stressed. He also said that the

Cummins powerplant/CNG fuel combo was also important. “We have a goal to have all city-owned vehicles operate on alternative fuel sources. This is another step in the right direction.”

“Everything about these new buses ties in perfectly with our City’s trademark, being “The Model City”. All the passenger features, the slick new paint scheme, the CNG fuel option, even the fact that they are easier and safer for our operators ... it has all given our operation a lift that the public is noticing” McFerguson concluded.

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’, 35’, 40’, 42’, 60’ and 65’ (articulated) transit buses at its facilities in Anniston, Alabama. North American Bus Industries 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.

North American Bus Industries Financial Services (NABIFS): As a member of the Traxis Financial Group, NABIFS provides a suite of flexible, customer centric financial products and services to help North American Bus Industries’ customers optimize their budgets to meet their bus ridership needs and requirements. Services include flexible lease and lease purchase financing, providing Transit Authorities with a mechanism to maximize available state and federal funding. When grant money or aid is unavailable, these offerings create customer benefits through optimization of customer’s working capital and cash flow position. For information on North American Bus Industries Financial Services please contact our media relations group at 203.562.0200, and your local North American Bus Industries sales professional or visit us on the web. www.traxisfinancialgroup.com

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