

Retrofitting as a Fast Start to the Electrification of Public Transport: e-troFit Excels in Test Program

Denkendorf, 07/15/2021 – e-troFit has significantly increased the test capacities of its series vehicles for potential fleet operators by expanding its pool of demonstration vehicles. The offer of no-obligation trials is proving popular, and numerous trials are underway in the public transport sector.

“As a developer and manufacturer of innovative electrification kits for commercial vehicles, we are successively expanding our fleet of test vehicles. Our goal is to offer interested municipal utilities, transportation companies, and private public transport fleet operators the opportunity to extensively test our electric drive system, which meets the toughest quality and safety standards in scheduled service,” explains Alexander Lietz, Head of Bus Sales D/A/CH at e-troFit GmbH.

Public Transport Tests – From Allgäu (Bavaria) to the Far North

Tests conducted during the second quarter of 2021 included those at Verkehrsgesellschaft Kirchweihthal in Allgäu, Regiobus Idar-Oberstein, Regiobus Potsdam-Mittelmark, and Verkehrsbetriebe Hamburg-Holstein. There is also considerable interest in e-troFit’s series-production vehicles from around the world. For example, SAD, based in Bolzano in South Tyrol, is currently testing deployment in scheduled service – in a challenging alpine region extending to the mountain passes of the Dolomites. Further tests for example at Stadtbus Bad Kreuznach GmbH (Transdev Verkehr GmbH) are scheduled for the coming weeks.

Positive Feedback on the Retrofit Concept

Michael Bechteler, Managing Director of Verkehrsgesellschaft Kirchweihthal in Kaufbeuren, expressed his satisfaction after the one-week trial, during which the bus was tested in regular service as a backup as well as on school bus services: “We were able to see for ourselves the quality, reliability and ride comfort of the converted buses during test operations. For us, retrofitting is the key to getting started with electric mobility fast.”



*Michael Bechteler, Verkehrsgesellschaft Kirchweihthal GmbH,
with Alexander Lietz, e-troFit (from l. to r.)*

Martin Scharf, Managing Director of Scharf OHG Omnibus & Reisebüro, is another firm believer in the retrofitting concept following his experience of the tests and is well on the way to having buses from his fleet retrofitted. In addition to the vehicle, he was supplied with a high-quality mobile charger for testing, which he used to charge the bus overnight and test it under real conditions in regular service. “Power consumption in particular is an important key metric for day-to-day operating costs. The vehicle’s highly efficient use of energy impressed us – as did the entire e-troFit solution package featuring a smart charging infrastructure.”

Most Sustainable Solution in the Commercial Vehicle Sector

With its electrification kits, e-troFit delivers not only a high-quality, but overall the most efficient mobility solution currently available for meeting the Clean Vehicles Directive, which will come into force in August 2021. This gives fleet operators an important tool for designing a zero-emissions vehicle fleet.

The shift to electromobility will benefit from new federal funding guidelines expected in the second half of 2021 and the associated equal treatment of the procurement of converted and new vehicles.

Test Simply and without Obligation

Once the arrangements for the test have been agreed and the test period specified, an e-troFit service team will provide on-site instruction on the vehicle and its technology. The briefing can also take place virtually, depending on your wishes and taking into account the current coronavirus regulations and required safety measures, and on-site contact can be limited exclusively to the handover of the series-production vehicle.

Green Mobility as a Service Solution

Besides technology expertise, the e-troFit team can also provide assistance with regard to possible government subsidies. Their full-service package ranges from financing to project planning and the implementation of charging infrastructure solutions.

About e-troFit GmbH:

e-troFit – electrifying transportation! The privately financed German start-up with its headquarters in Denkendorf and offices in Garching near Munich employs around 75 people. e-troFit is also present at four additional sales and development locations in Austria, Italy, Spain and Bulgaria.

e-troFit is the first digital OEM worldwide (without its own storage and manufacturing facilities) to offer innovative solutions for the electrification (retrofitting) of used and new commercial vehicles such as trucks deployed in distribution transport, buses in local public transport (LPT) as well as municipal vehicles.

e-troFit is certified to ISO 9001 and as such is the only supplier of retrofit solutions to guarantee operational safety in accordance with international automotive industry standards such as functional safety ISO 26262. A network of international partners guarantees service and availability across Europe.

With its holistic approach to telematics, charging infrastructure, fleet management and autonomous driving, the company designs quickly implementable and cost-efficient solution packages for sustainable mobility transformation and a “second life” for diesel commercial vehicles. They effectively support the implementation of the CO2 reduction targets in accordance with the European Green Deal Agreement and the Clean Vehicles Directive, which will come into force in 2021.

e-troFit was awarded the German Mobility Prize (2018) and the Austrian VCÖ Mobility Prize (2019), as well as being voted one of the top 50 start-ups in Europe in the field of mobility (2020, EUSP).

Additional information: www.e-trofit.com/en/



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