

## **HESS articulated buses electrify line 9 in Biel**

**Verkehrsbetriebe Biel is electrifying the current diesel bus Line 9 (Schiffländte-Schule Linde) with two electric buses from HESS. Vehicles of the type lighTram®<sup>19 OPP</sup> with an overall length of 18.7 meters will be used.**

The entire floor space of the passenger compartment can be used optimally, and there are no annoying component towers. A panoramic window in the back provides a view of the streets of Biel, flooding the back of the bus with natural light and offering passengers a pleasant ride. Axles 2 and 3 of this vehicle are electrically powered. These vehicles can be recharged in the depot via the CCS2 plug or via the charging station at the final stop near the Linde school building ("opportunity charging"). The electric buses make an important contribution to reducing CO<sub>2</sub> in the city of Biel and, thanks to their electric heating, will not emit any particulate matter even in winter.

What began at HESS in 1940 with the construction of the first electrically-powered buses has resulted in the company's development into a world leader in electric buses from 10.7 to 24.7 meters in length. With an attractive design, a generous amount of space at all of the doors, and ergonomic driver workstations, the lighTram® family of electric buses from HESS brings new dimensions to the field of tyre-based passenger transport. Accordingly, more passengers can be transported than with conventional electric buses. Already, hundreds of thousands of passengers are being transported in HESS electric buses every day.

**Image**

Caption: lightTram<sup>®</sup> 19 OPP at the charging station in Biel  
Source: HESS



Caption: from left, Erich Fehr (Mayor of Biel), Alex Naef (CEO, Carrosserie HESS AG)  
Source: HESS

## HESS:

Over 500 motivated and highly-trained employees in the **HESS Group**, thousands of vehicles in operation on five continents and in every kind of operating environment: the name HESS has become synonymous around the world with a passion for vehicle construction, efficient and reliable mobility, development and progress, and innovation and creativity.

### The entire HESS range

- Bus construction
- Commercial vehicle construction
- Repairs & service for buses, commercial vehicles and cars
- Spare parts

**HESS** has stood for a **passion** for vehicle construction since 1882, when Heinrich Hess founded his wheelwright's and blacksmith's shop just outside Solothurn. Together with its international licensees in countries such as the USA, Australia, Portugal and Israel, HESS manufactures around 2,500 buses per year. Our head office in Bellach employs around 340 personnel working in some 20 professions as well as 30 apprentices. In 2008, HESS received the Solothurn Business Award in recognition of its sustainable entrepreneurship. In 2008, 2015 and 2018, HESS was awarded the "Golden Watt" prize from the Swiss Federal Office of Energy (BFE) for its energy-efficient mobility.

**HESS** has established itself as a pioneer in bus construction when it comes to **design, quality** and **reliability**. The environmentally friendly HESS buses improve the quality of life in cities and agglomerations, which is why public transport companies in Switzerland, Europe and overseas have been relying on the bus solutions from Bellach for many years. The **CO-BOLT® modular system** has been developed over the decades and is used to build means of transport that are precisely tailored to their area of use.

The electric buses in the "**lighTram®**" family are available with a total length of between 10.7 m and 24.7 m and are testament to the leading technical role played by HESS in this area.

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