

## HESS wins contract from Basel for electric buses

**After winning contracts from Brisbane, Winterthur and Zurich, Swiss bus manufacturer HESS has also won part of the international call for tenders for electric buses for BVB (Basler Verkehrs-Betriebe).**

The number 50 bus service in Basel, which runs from the main SBB station to the EuroAirport has experienced a constant increase in passenger numbers and in recent years has clearly reached the limit of its capacity. The response to the increase in demand has been to increase the frequency of services. However, further increases in service frequency are no longer possible, because otherwise there is a risk that the buses will start to hinder each other. The solution to the problem came from the HESS family of electric buses: *lighTram*<sup>®</sup> 25OPP. With a length of 25 metres, about six metres longer than the previous diesel buses, they provide more space for passengers and luggage as well as generous areas for pushchairs or passengers with reduced mobility. The fleet of eight vehicles ordered for the airport service can still grow later for use on other BVB routes with strong demand.

Alex Naef, CEO of Carrosserie HESS AG is delighted: “We are happy and proud that HESS, along with its buses and services, have been selected and allowed to contribute to the success of the Basel bus system in 2027. With our experience and geographical proximity, we will be able to optimally support BVB over the lifetime of the buses in its further development as an attractive and sustainable public transport undertaking.”

With its attractive design, spacious standing areas by all doors and ergonomic driver’s seats, the *lighTram*<sup>®</sup> family of electric buses from HESS brings a new dimension to tyre-based passenger transport. Accordingly, more passengers can be carried than with conventional electric buses. Where necessary, the vehicles can be recharged at the terminal stop according to the principle of opportunity charging.

What began at HESS in 1940 with the construction of the first electrically powered buses, has today developed into a leading global company of electric buses of between 10.7 and 24.7 metres in length. Today and everyday hundreds of thousands of passengers will be transported on HESS electric buses.

**Image**

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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