

## HESS delivers battery-operated district buses to Zurich

The Swiss bus builder HESS has recorded another success. Verkehrsbetriebe Zürich (VBZ), the public transport operator, has ordered eight electrically driven district buses from the innovative HESS company.

The new 10.7m buses from HESS will be in operation on the district bus lines in Zurich from the end of 2021. The acquisition forms part of an electric bus strategy being pursued by Verkehrsbetriebe Zürich (VBZ) to help achieve the goals of the 2000-watt society. The “lighTram® 10 Plug” electric buses will significantly reduce the energy and fuel consumption of the VBZ fleet, as well as their greenhouse gas and noise emissions. The eight new battery-operated district buses alone will result in a future saving of more than 150,000 litres of diesel and around 400 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per year.

The midi buses from HESS are quiet, transport-efficient, low-emission and have an energy-efficient drive system and powerful traction battery. The buses are charged in the Hardau garage when not in operation. The electric buses from HESS offer a spacious passenger area and good accessibility to the wheelchair and pushchair area.

The HESS company was founded in 1882. The foundations for its current success were laid in the 1940s when it started constructing the first electrically driven buses. HESS continued to develop its products and positioned itself as one of the world’s leading manufacturers of electric buses. Today, hundreds of thousands of passengers are transported in HESS electric buses every day.

### Image



Image caption: Visualisation of a battery-operated district bus from Verkehrsbetriebe Zürich  
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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