

New Flyer's Invero Offers State-of-the-Art BRT System

Eugene, Oregon's Lane County Transit selects Invero for its BRT System

Source: PR Newswire [Sep 05, 2003]

EUGENE, OR, Sept. 2 /PRNewswire/ - The Board of Directors of Lane Transit District (LTD) in Eugene, Oregon unanimously approved a resolution to acquire five of New Flyer of America's Invero premium transit vehicles for LTD's Bus Rapid Transit system.

Bus Rapid Transit, or BRT, "thinks like rail but uses buses," explained Paul Smith, Executive Vice President Sales and Marketing at New Flyer Industries. "These efficient systems are designed with the passenger in mind and the equipment is customized for each center's unique needs. This is why the Invero is such a perfect fit. The Invero is designed to be 'change-friendly', and its innovative door designs, panoramic windows, lighting, and flexible seating layouts are unmatched in the transit industry."

The selected model is New Flyer's Invero DE60iLF-BRT 60-foot articulated vehicle, valued at \$974,821 USD each. The buses are scheduled to be delivered in August 2006.

The decision follows a world-wide search for the best service vehicle to equip LTD's innovative BRT system - and the solution was found right here in the United States. The Invero is wholly manufactured in the U.S., which means there will be ready and inexpensive access to service parts, readily available service, and no waivers to accommodate foreign content. New Flyer's manufacturing plants are located in St. Cloud and Crookston, Minnesota.

The Invero was developed through exhaustive consultation with leading North American transit agencies, the FTA, and Westart/CALSTART to help focus the product and system performance criteria, defining the future of this important transportation technology.

New Flyer's new approach to product configuration, coupled with its broad commitment to customer satisfaction, reduced the cost and complexity of this procurement. LTD and New Flyer worked as partners to tailor a product that met and exceeded LTD's vision of a high-style, environmentally-responsible, affordable rapid transit service.

Passengers in Eugene will notice improved climate control, more leg room, less noise, and advanced lighting systems in the futuristic-looking

Invero. Its modular design features double-wide, plug/slide doors on both sides and platform-level entry to ensure easy access for all riders. And the Allison EVp hybrid-electric propulsion system means that the Invero is more environmentally friendly than its predecessors.

"New Flyer is proud to have been selected to participate in this advanced program. We see Lane Transit District as being at the leading edge of BRT development in the U.S., taking the bold step of committing to a fully- configured system. They are truly setting the pace for other municipalities that are considering rapid transit," said Amy Miller, New Flyer's Director of Marketing and Product Development.

"This contract reinforces New Flyer's leading position in this emerging market segment and provides other municipalities access to a line of distinctive BRT products," said Smith.

"This is only the tip of the iceberg for the Invero in the United States," Smith continued. "We're just getting warmed up."

New Flyer's Invero is building support on both sides of the border, evidenced by a contract for 245 non-articulated Invero buses awarded by Canada's capital city of Ottawa and an order for ten 40' Invero buses by Community Transit, Everett, WA. Delivery to Ottawa will begin in December 2003 and will be completed by 2006. Invero's low drag coefficient translates into 15% fuel savings and a reduction in emissions when compared to Ottawa's aging diesel fleet.

New Flyer Industries is North America's largest manufacturer of transit buses, headquartered in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. A pioneer in low-floor and environmentally friendly transit products, its innovative vehicles are providing superior service across the continent. More information on New Flyer is available at www.newflyer.com.