

**17<sup>th</sup> January 2006**

## **Metroline introduces state-of-the-art buses to route 24**

**January 2006 will see the launch of 28 new style, double decker buses that will operate on Route 24 in London. The launch comes from a £4.3 million investment by Metroline plc.**

ComfortDelGro subsidiary, Metroline has ordered 28 Alexander Dennis Enviro400 double decker buses in total, 5 of which can currently be seen running on their new route. The bus was chosen by Metroline for its lower operating costs and lower emissions, and its modern and unique look will easily distinguish it from other buses in London.

Metroline is currently running 13.5% of the buses serving the Capital. The company's primary business is providing bus services under contract to Transport for London. The new investment is part of the continued modernisation programme, which began in 2004, when the "Routemaster" double deck buses and some single deck buses were replaced.

As well as the provision of up to nine more seats in the lower deck than any comparable bus, the super-low-floor Enviro400 double decker also offers passengers better access and meets the requirements of forthcoming EU bus legislation. The bus also meets the standard TfL requirements for all London Buses, including on-board CCTV, tinted glass, automatic heating system, wheelchair ramp and front 'kneeling' system.

Sean O'Shea, Chief Operating Officer at Metroline commented: "Alexander Dennis was able to put together a package which offered our company the best value for money – high quality vehicles at a competitive price. We already have a large number of Alexander Dennis vehicles in service and we are very pleased with their performance."

Sean added; "Ongoing investments and improvements to services play a crucial part in encouraging the use of public transport. Our main objective is to be the best bus service provider in London and our investment in new, modern Alexander Dennis buses represents an important step in this direction."

## PRESS RELEASE



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The Enviro 400 buses will be allocated to Metroline's Holloway Garage where all 28 will be operating on Route 24.

- Ends -

Note to Editors:

- Photo: The new Alexander Dennis Enviro400 double decker bus with Sean O'Shea, Metroline's Chief Operating Officer
- Metroline is one of the top five London-based bus companies, currently running 13.5% of the capital's bus services under contract to Transport for London.
- Metroline carries 250 million passengers every year, operates 96 routes, covers over 37.5 million journey miles each year, employs almost 3700 people and runs a fleet of over 1,200 buses in North, West and Central London and South Hertfordshire.
- Metroline is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Singapore based ComfortDelGro Corporation Limited, which is the world's second largest listed land transport company.
- Alexander Dennis Limited is Britain's leading manufacturer of single and double deck buses. It also produces coach and fire engine chassis.