



CapaCity Buses For Tübingen

On 28 November 2008 Omnibus Gross, based in the town of Rottenburg am Neckar, became the first private bus and coach company in Germany to operate Mercedes-Benz CapaCity urban buses. Then, a fortnight later, on 11 December, Jakob Kocher of Tübingen took delivery of five similar vehicles.

Tübingen, a university town with over 86,000 inhabitants and around 25,000 students, is unique in Germany in terms of its public transport needs, and has developed a network that could well serve as an example for other urban communities. The 37 urban bus routes form a 330 km, 225-stop network, on which in 2007 over 17 million passengers were carried. Nowhere in the town is more than 300 m from a bus route - while most places are within just 150 m of one!

The CapaCity is a 100 % low floor articulated vehicle, 19,540 mm in length, and has a maximum capacity of 193 passengers. Boarding and alighting are speeded by the fact that there are no steps at the extra-wide entrance doors. In spite of its great length, the CapaCity is just as agile on urban streets as a standard 18 m long vehicle, running on four axles, two of which are steered, and with a tight turning circle of 22.85 m.

The chassis incorporates front wheel suspension and a pitch and roll damping system featuring variable shock absorber characteristics and control, thus offering a ride which is comfortable. ABS, ASR and EBS are fitted as standard, as are disc brakes on each wheel and independent suspension on each of the front wheels.

Daimler

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