



Example 3 **New Accessible Barrier-Free Overland Buses in Use**

Country **Austria**

Similar service in Spain

good practice for people with ...	kind of vehicle	kind of measure/approach
... motor impairment ... visual impairment	regional bus	engineering/technology approach

Project description

In August 2007 the ÖBB-Postbus GmbH ordered 260 new buses which will come into operation in the scheduled regional bus transport for all of Austria. The costs of this project amount to more than 50 million Euros. The delivery of the buses started in September 2007 and will be finished by the end of 2007.

MAN, Mercedes and Tamsa produce the new buses. All vehicles are equipped with state-of-the-art techniques, high safety levels and air conditioning. Each bus has a capacity of 50 to 130 passengers. All buses are accessible and barrier-free. Low-floor buses have a collapsible ramp. Overland buses are specially adapted and have an integrated lift at the rear door that enables wheelchair-users to board the bus. Inside the bus there is a suspension lift to carry motor impaired passengers, and there is an even floor in the whole bus. Distribution of seats varies between 38 regular seats and eleven wheelchair places. The restroom is also adapted for the disabled.

Never before have so many buses with such equipment been available in Austria. The new bus fleet is a milestone for people with reduced mobility. The company’s vehicle fleet consists of 2,100 buses and twelve old-buses with an overall average distance of 137 million kilometres being driven per year.

Source:

ÖBB POSTBUS: Postbus kauft 260 neue Busse (de), http://www.postbus.at/de/Pressecorner/Presseinformationen/260_neue_Busse/index.jsp (22/10/2007)