

## Press release

Paris, 3 April 2019

### SOLUTRANS 2019: AN EDITION FEDERATING AN ENTIRE INDUSTRY

The 15<sup>th</sup> edition of SOLUTRANS, the international show for road and urban transport solutions, reflects the dynamism of its industry and expects to meet with the same success as its 2017 edition, which had recorded 48,240 visits and 610 exhibitors and represented companies.

With eight months to go before it opens, 95% of the exhibition surface area is already booked, with the presence of all the leading French and international industry players.

Firmly focussing its sights on the future, the 2019 edition is adopting a digital and electric perspective through an array of actions and events to accelerate developments in the industry. SOLUTRANS 2019 is consequently shaping up to be the largest European gathering of electric heavy goods and urban vehicles from 3.5 to 44 tonnes.

#### SOLUTRANS 2019: a speedy start



The 2017 edition proved to be an out-and-out success, recording 48,240 visitors, 610 exhibitors and represented companies, 45% of new exhibitors and more than €200 million of sales generated by the order intake at the show.

For 2019, 90% of the surface area is already booked, an increase of 16% on the same time in 2017. This new edition promises to see similar mobilisation from all market players.

To date, the exhibition reports a 16% increase in exhibitors compared to the same period in 2017, including 23% of new exhibitors with Volkswagen, Menci & C.Spa, LAG Trailers BV... and 25% of international exhibitors.

The world's seven largest heavy duty vehicle manufacturers (DAF, Iveco, MAN, Mercedes, Renault Trucks, Scania and Volvo Trucks) have confirmed their presence alongside the main French and European builders of trailers and semitrailers, without forgetting leading LCV firms (vehicle manufacturers, car body manufacturers, LCV fitters and OEMs).

## SOLUTRANS 2019: events in tune with industry challenges

Mirroring the expectations and challenges facing the industry, SOLUTRANS 2019 will address seven major themes, supported by an extensive programme of talks and round tables (appendix 1):

- New powertrains and infrastructure: electrification of highways and vehicles;
- From vehicle connectivity to automation, innovation driven by data;
- Electric vehicles (LCVs and HGVs), the solution to urban logistics challenges;
- Euro 6, gas, electric, hydrogen, up-and-coming energies;
- New transport modes (ground, air): what impacts and consequences?
- New issues in logistics and their repercussions on the transport sector;
- Heavy goods vehicles and urban vehicles: basic training and employment undergoing change from production to operation.

These subjects will be addressed during special features:

- Plenary sessions, inaugurated by the **6th Industry Meeting** in partnership with PFA and COFIT<sup>1</sup>, and rounded off by **Transport in 2025**;
- A **white paper on electric vehicles** revealing the findings of a study into the feasibility of an electric heavy goods and urban vehicle sector, together with the current state of play and comprehensive proposals to develop electric mobility.  
The result of the work of *GTFM<sup>2</sup> Véhicule Electrique*, entrusted to FFC by PFA<sup>3</sup>, in partnership with COFIT, AVERE and URF<sup>4</sup>, this white paper will be presented to government representatives at the opening plenary.
- Another visit from the Swedish government, strongly committed to electric mobility, as part of a common roadmap on innovation in clean and autonomous transport.
- **And, making their debut in 2019:**
  - o the **SOLUTRANS Breakfast**, a daily event taking place every morning when the show opens, in which an industry personality will be interviewed about major issues in the industry;
  - o the **SOLUTRANS Transport Experts**, a round table with specialist journalists, organised every evening and dealing with one of the key themes addressed by the exhibition.



## SOLUTRANS 2019: a revisited layout

For better visibility and to offer an even more enjoyable experience to professionals, SOLUTRANS is reorganising the layout of its halls and job speciality sectors:

- **The Tyres area** (Hall 3) with the presence of manufacturers, distribution networks, accessory and rim manufacturers and workshop equipment suppliers. The Tyres section will also accommodate a forum in which a programme of talks and round tables will be held, dedicated to this strategically important market for carriers and shippers.

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<sup>1</sup> COFIT: Industrial Transport Sector Steering Committee

<sup>2</sup> GTFM: Industry Speciality Working Group

<sup>3</sup> PFA: Automotive and Mobility Sector Platform

<sup>4</sup> URF: French Roads Union

#### - SOLUTRANS 4.0

In an era of digital and new tech, the transport and logistics sector is reinventing itself, vehicles are becoming increasingly connected to the extent of becoming totally autonomous. To accompany this fourth industrial revolution, the exhibition introduces SOLUTRANS 4.0, a new space bringing together all the players working in disruptive technology applied to HGVs, urban vehicles and intralogistics, alongside ITC (Information and Communication Technology) suppliers.



In association with CARA<sup>5</sup>, 40 forward-looking projects ranging from fundamental research to production will be displayed on this space.

SOLUTRANS will also play host to innovative start-ups and showcase technical solutions for the future (3D, virtual reality, etc.) and disruptive delivery models such as drones or robots.

Finally, during the exhibition, the French Bodywork Federation (FFC), in partnership with MAYCAR, will launch the FFC Data Center, a dynamic database. It lists all the data from HGV OEMs and builders in order to make vehicle configuration easier and thus reduce delivery times.

- **SOLUTRANS Jobs, know-how and expertise:** The wide-ranging subject of jobs and training will be addressed in a dedicated space spanning more than 1,000 m<sup>2</sup>. The aim of this dynamic and functional area will be to reveal and promote jobs in the industry and their associated educational paths and encourage employment in the associated markets. In this aim, a large job forum will be set up, in association with industry specialists, with a view to matching up recruiters and candidates. In a new development in 2019, it will be supported by the **creation of a platform dedicated to employment in the industry**, launched by FFC in association with Monster, aggregating all the job vacancies and promoting recruitment and building connections between recruiters and applicants. Finally, it will also feature themed talks, job dating sessions, etc.

#### - SOLUTRANS' Outside

The show also extends outdoors with:

- **Exclusive visits of Transpolis**, organised every day, to discover the first laboratory town in Europe dedicated to the experimentation of technology and vehicles dealing in connectivity and driverless systems.
- **An optimised outdoor test area** with better supervision and signage, the provision of high-performance charging stations for unique demonstrations of all types of vehicles (electrical or autonomous vehicles, concept trucks, etc.) In addition to this area, there will be a 25-km semi-urban test track running around the exhibition centre offering a chance to test drive vehicles in real life situations.



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<sup>5</sup> With more than 200 members, CARA, the European Cluster for Mobility Solutions, harnesses the whole industry and its skills to accompany changes in mobility and passenger and freight transportation systems and create the vehicles of tomorrow

## SOLUTRANS Innovation

In its role as an incubator for innovation, SOLUTRANS will be reconducting a series of initiatives and highlighting them at its next edition:

- The **I-nnovation Awards**, formerly the SOLUTRANS Innovation Awards (*Trophées de l'Innovation SOLUTRANS*), will be taken over and organised by the FFC in a revisited format and with a new visual identity, remodelled award criteria and a broader judging panel. The trophies, made by a craft artisan, will be presented at an evening held in the prestigious setting of the Lyon Chamber of Commerce and Industry. They will include new special awards paying tribute to Joseph Libner, the former Chairman of FFC.
- The **International Awards** with the "Truck of the Year", "International Van of The Year", "Pick Up Award" and the new "Truck Innovation Award" which will all be announced and presented at the gala evening.
- The **Industry Personality of the Year 2019**, award, paying tribute to an institutional personality for their actions and commitment to the market.



## About SOLUTRANS

An international exhibition for road and urban transport professionals, SOLUTRANS is the only event in France bringing together all the players in the truck industry (manufacturers of heavy goods vehicles and LCVs, trailers and semi-trailers, bodybuilders, OEMs, tyres, etc.).

Owned by the FFC (French Bodywork Federation) and organised by Comexposium, SOLUTRANS is held under the patronage of the French Ministry of the Economy and Finance

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**#SOLUTRANS**



## APPENDIX 1

### PROGRAMME OF TALKS & ROUND TABLES

#### Plenary 1:

6th Industry Meeting, organised in partnership with PFA: COFIT conclusions

#### Plenary 2:

Transportation in 2025, outlook of the industry, the points of view of Experts

#### Talks:

- New transport modes, by road and air: challenges and issues for carriers and shippers;
- FFC Constructeurs: how UTAC supports us every day;
- Connected trucks and LCVs: when data escapes from the control of the transport sector;
- Alternatives to diesel
- French logistics, the future flagship of collaborative robotics;
- [URF TALK] PLATOONING, A MEANS OF OPERATING EXISTING HGVS
- [URF TALK] HIGH-CAPACITY HGVS, A CONTRIBUTION TO THE ECOLOGY TRANSITION
- Transport and logistics ecosystem, the state of play of basic training and employment;
- Cybersecurity in transport, new attack modes and mitigation solutions
- Digital transport: information technology optimisation and profitability;
- New job areas in the supply chain and logistics, what impact on transport?