

Press release

Lyon - 23 November 2021

SOLUTRANS 2021

A SUCCESSFUL EDITION FOR THE GLOBAL HUB FOR HEAVY & LIGHT COMMERCIAL VEHICLES!

Marked by a noteworthy climate of newfound optimism and conviviality, the 2021 edition of SOLUTRANS, owned by the French Bodywork Federation FFC, has closed its doors on an extremely positive note, once again proving its ability to go from strength to strength!

Over the space of five days (from 16 to 20 November 2021), the exhibition welcomed more than 1,000 exhibitors and brands and recorded nearly 50,000 visits. This attendance was stable compared with an already historic 2019 edition, and in fact exceptional given the circumstances. Indeed, nearly all the events currently held in Europe post declines of around 20% in their visitor numbers.

The only large-scale European event in 2021, the exhibition mobilised the stakeholders from the entire sector around an even more abundant offering and content tying in with the energy transition, responsible transport and the reduction of the carbon footprint.

The French Minister Delegate for Transport, Jean-Baptiste Djebbari, who came to visit the show on Friday 19 November, reiterated his support for the industry and announced the launch of two schemes to develop electric LCVs and HGVs.

Universally acclaimed by the exhibitors, the organisation by the FFC and its chairman, Patrick Cholton, enables each edition to propose a revisited exhibition attaining ever higher quality standards with even better qualified contacts. The two evening events featuring the I-nnovation AWARDS and the Gala dinner were the culmination that propelled the tradeshow to the status of must-attend events for innovation and conviviality for the industry.

SOLUTRANS therefore once again asserts its status as the “Global Hub for Heavy Commercial Vehicles”.

A high quality edition with an acclaimed new format



With 1,000 exhibitors and represented brands, the 2021 edition of SOLUTRANS proved to be an all-out success, the result of substantive work undertaken over the past several years by the FFC (French Bodywork Federation). Its new organisation, helping exhibitors to stand out and offering professionals a smoother visiting experience, was acclaimed by all. Thus, the **new Hall (Hall 1)**, rechristened SOLUTRANS 4.0 “The future starts here”, presented disruptive innovation and new players in the sector in all fields, from engineering to training via industry.

The **test track**, extended and redesigned in response to demand from visitors and HGV and LCV manufacturers, enabled exhibitors to present their new energy vehicles (gas, hybrid, electric, fuel cell, etc.) in real life conditions to a great many professionals.

Finally, the **Tyre area**, created in association with the French Association of Tyre Professionals (SPP), brought together all the players in the sector. A dedicated talks and round table programme (available in catch-up mode) offered visitors better insight into this key sector of transport. Also available in catch-up mode are the 25 programmes produced by Autoroute Info - 107.7 in the temporary radio studio on the FFC's stand over the five days.

An edition in line with the strategic challenges of the sector and the themes defined in association with the Ministry of Transport

As the guiding theme of the 2021 addition, **the energy transition and the reduction of the carbon footprint** could be found in a varied range of highlights:

- The presentation of the findings of the Vision'Air survey (conducted by Le BiPE and BDO Advisory, on behalf of the FFC), at the exhibition's opening plenary conference.
- A content-rich and comprehensive talks programme with nearly 30 talks and round tables focusing on connectivity, identification, employment, CSR commitments and cyber security, with an opening plenary on the theme "Hydrogen, what does the future hold for the HGV sector?" organised in partnership with France Hydrogène.



To illustrate the business climate and its stature as appreciated by governmental bodies, it is also worth highlighting the announcement made at the show by Jean-Baptiste DJEBBARI, Minister Delegate for Transport. Hauliers are set to receive €65 million of additional aid as part of a call for projects for "electric heavy vehicles". This call for projects aims to increase the amount of subsidy per vehicle and finance up to 60% of the installation of charging terminals suited to the needs of hauliers. This aid will be made available at the beginning of 2022 to all the market players contributing to the deployment of electric transport and mobility, in particular logistics professionals. The conversion of combustion engine vehicles to electric vehicles (retrofit) is also eligible.

Finally, the FFC also held a large round table debate on the introduction of LEZs with industry stakeholders. Vehicle manufacturers, PSA, Greater Lyon Authority, CSIAM and hauliers were all invited to express their vision of LEZs which might respect the constraints of each of them, while also helping to reduce the carbon footprint. **This event set the tone in the run-up to the debates which will be held in the 2022 as part of the Industry Meetings (Rencontres de la Filière) organised by FFC.**

The tradeshow of innovation and excellence

As at each edition, SOLUTRANS 2021 shone a light on the innovations in industry through the exceptional offering of its exhibitors and unique events:

- **The I-nnovation AWARDS**, organised by the FFC in a revisited format and with a new visual identity, remodelled award criteria and a broader judging panel, distinguished:
 - **Body Builders category** - Gold award winner: CVIM
- Silver award winner: Forez-Bennes - Bronze award winner: Chereau - "Joseph LIBNER" special award : Le Capitaine.
 - **Equipment Suppliers category** - Gold award winner: DYN'ACCESS - Silver award winner: Allison Transmission - Bronze award winner: Sofrigam - "Joseph LIBNER" special award " : Bosch.
 - **Digital AWARD** : "Connectivity solutions": Lamberet - "Software publishing" : Ekolis - Judges' special award: IDrive
- **The international awards** were announced and presented at the Gala evening: **Truck of the Year** : DAF XF/XG and XG+ ; **Truck Innovation Award** : DAF XF Hydrogen ; **International Van of The Year** : Renault Kangoo and Mercedes Benz Citan ; **International Pick up Award** : Toyota Hilux.
- The presentation of the **2020 Industry Personality of the Year Award** distinguished the chairmen of the three haulage federations FNTR, OTRE and TLF, for the initiatives conducted to support their professions at the height of the Covid crisis.



Professions, know-how and jobs centre stage



Lying at the heart of the concerns of the entire industry, employment and training were highlighted throughout SOLUTRANS on a dedicated and optimised space (organisation of job dates, presentation of the job platform #Mobili'Job, etc.). In partnership with the French road safety body, technical colleges, apprentice colleges and other educational institutes, the Training section showed young people and their families the vehicle body building industry, its products, jobs and the qualifications needed to have a career in the sector.

Highly anticipated and prestigious events

SOLUTRANS 2021 once again featured a number of highlights offering everyone the opportunity to exchange and enjoy time together in a warm and comfortable atmosphere, such as the I-nnovation AWARDS ceremony evening at the Groupama Stadium, home to the football club Olympique Lyonnais, or the Gala dinner, also indicative of the success of SOLUTRANS. 1,200 guests congregated in Hall 2.2 to witness the prize-giving ceremonies of the Truck of The Year and Van of the Year Awards, the International Pick Up Award and the Truck Innovation Award, without forgetting the ceremony of the Industry Personality of the Year, which this year went to the chairmen of the haulier federations FNTR, OTRE and TLF. To round off the evening, a private concert by Johnny Hallyday tribute artist Jean-Baptiste GUEGAN rocked all the guests in attendance.

Make a date for 2023!

The next edition of SOLUTRANS will take place from 21 to 25 November 2023 at Lyon Eurexpo.

About SOLUTRANS

SOLUTRANS: THE GLOBAL HUB FOR HEAVY & LIGHT COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

SOLUTRANS, bringing together market players from across the heavy and light commercial vehicle industry, will hold its 16th edition from 16 to 20 November 2021 at Lyon Eurexpo, France. The event, certified by the International Organization of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers (OICA) and held over 90,000 sqm, draws nearly 60,000 professionals along with 1,000 exhibitors and brands from all over the world. The new promise of the 2021 show is "Sustainable and Connected Solutions for a Responsible Transport Sector".

SOLUTRANS is the two-yearly rendezvous of one of the most innovative industrial sectors. The worldwide economic environment makes SOLUTRANS 2021 a showcase for the exceptional performances of HGV builders, bodywork manufacturers, vehicle fitters, OEMs, manufacturers of workshop equipment, tyre professionals and distribution networks. The exhibition will occupy a new hall christened SOLUTRANS 4.0, notably dedicated to disruptive innovation in the commercial vehicle sector, with a view to offering insight to professionals, manufacturers, body builders, equipment manufacturers, maintenance firms... as far as hauliers and shippers. The ambition of SOLUTRANS: accompany the industrial sector and promote solutions to the challenges that lie ahead.

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