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Scania increases production capacity in Poland

After extensive renovation, Scania's facility in Słupsk has been transformed into Europe's most modern, efficient factory for bus manufacturing. Workstations and production logistics have been designed for efficient, high-quality production according to the method-based way of working that characterises the Scania Production System (SPS).

The facility was re-inaugurated on Tuesday afternoon, 14 September, by Leif Östling, President and CEO of Scania; Roman Zaborowski, governor of the Pomerania region of Poland; and Dag Hartelius, Sweden's ambassador to Poland.

"We have invested in the working environment and reorganised the production flow in a way that enables us to carry out continuous improvements of working methods, productivity and quality, in the same way as at Scania's other production units in Europe and Latin America," says Gert Flodkvist, head of Scania Production Słupsk.

The facility in Słupsk, with 700 employees, is the hub of Scania's European production of fully built (bodied) buses for public transport. The Scania OmniCity and OmniLink models are bodyworked here. Chassis for the Scania OmniCity are also assembled in Słupsk. These chassis are also delivered to other, independent bus bodybuilders in Europe, Africa and Asia.

To date, buses in the Scania Omni range have mainly been delivered to such markets as the Nordic countries, Poland, Great Britain, France and Italy. Scania has initiated an effort to increase sales to other major markets, for example Germany – Europe's largest bus and coach market.

"Higher production capacity in Słupsk is important in our strategy of increasing sales of buses for public transport. The more efficient manufacturing process created by this renovation is also of great significance in ensuring a continued positive earnings trend in Scania's bus and coach operations," says Melker Jernberg, Senior Vice President and head of Scania Buses and Coaches.

Scania established industrial operations in Słupsk in 1992 when it acquired half the shares in Kapena S.A and began final assembly of trucks in the jointly owned company Scania Kapena S.A. In 1994 the company started production of Scania buses.

Since 2002, the operations in Słupsk have focused entirely on bus manufacturing. Scania ended its partnership with Kapena in 2003 by acquiring all shares in the jointly owned company and changed its name to Scania Production Słupsk.

For further information, please contact: Hans-Åke Danielsson, Press Manager,
tel. +46 8 553 856 62, e-mail hans-ake.danielsson@scania.com

Scania is one of the world's leading manufacturers of trucks and buses for heavy transport applications, and of industrial and marine engines. A growing proportion of the company's operations consists of products and services in the financial and service sectors, assuring Scania customers of cost-effective transport solutions and maximum uptime. Employing some 32,000 people, Scania operates in about 100 countries. Research and development activities are concentrated in Sweden, while production takes place in Europe and South America, with facilities for global interchange of both components and complete vehicles. In 2009, net sales totalled SEK 62 billion and net income amounted to SEK 1.1 billion.

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[N10028EN] H-Å Danielsson