

### A HISTORIC EDITION FOR EUROPE'S LEADING ROAD AND URBAN TRANSPORT SHOW

SOLUTRANS, the Global Hub for Heavy and Light Commercial Vehicles, took place from 21 to 25 November in Eurexpo Lyon, France. The largest gathering of LCVs and HGVs in Europe, the exhibition welcomed 1,100 exhibitors and brands (up 10% on 2021) and registered a record-breaking attendance of more than 64,000 professionals, a figure 14,000 higher than the previous show. SOLUTRANS 2023 also confirmed its international reach by welcoming nearly 15,500 professionals from outside France, accounting for one out of every four visitors, compared with one in ten in 2021!

French Transport Minister Clément Beaune, inaugurating the show on Tuesday 21 November, emphasised the importance of this type of an event to shine a light on the sector and its innovations, notably in the area of zero-carbon: "Here we are seeing a huge amount of investment, innovation and solutions from major manufacturers: solutions that are fundamental for decarbonisation. I strongly believe that the low carbon challenge will be met thanks to the transport sector."

#### SOLUTRANS IN ORBIT

With 1,100 exhibitors and represented brands (including 41 % new exhibitors), equating to a 10% increase on the 2021 show, SOLUTRANS 2023 recorded an all-time high. The culmination of the groundwork led over several years by FFC French Bodywork Federation) and the exhibition chairman Patrick Cholton, the event also recorded a record attendance with 64,300 visits, up by 28% on 2021, thereby confirming the show's status as a reference for all commercial vehicle professionals. This means that 14,000 more professionals visited the aisles of Eurexpo than two years previously. They were able to discover a concentrate of the ranges of the industry's HGV and LCV manufacturers, equipment suppliers, body builders and service companies.

#### THREE TIMES MORE FOREIGN VISITORS

With 28% of its visitors from abroad, hailing from 20 countries, and 24% of its visitors also from outside France from 128 countries, which is three times more international visitors than in 2021, SOLUTRANS confirms its international reach, with the star countries at this show being Italy, Spain, Belgium, Germany, Türkiye, Switzerland and the Netherlands. It should also be noted that among the exhibitors, all the HGV manufacturers and bodybuilders in Europe made the trip to Lyon.

In addition, the **SOLUTRANS Digital Show**, the digital twin offering a unique virtual experience, offered visitors the chance to dive deep into SOLUTRANS through an interactive space to witness live talks, make appointments with exhibitors, etc., wherever they came from and whatever time of day they visited the website.

## A TRADESHOW DECIPHERING THE TRENDS...

The **decarbonisation** of transport flows, intrinsically connected with the **energy transition**, constitutes the main challenge of the industry and therefore of SOLUTRANS. As the guiding theme of the 2023 show, the energy transition featured in many different highlights, such as the latest iteration of the FFC's report Vision'AIR, the only independent survey into the future of the energy mix, which assesses the outline of the fleet between now and 2035. The energy transition was also supported at SOLUTRANS through a resolute and ambitious programme of **46 talks and panel discussions**. The most noteworthy among them were the opening plenary naturally, but also the talk on the costs of transport, presented by CNR and always highly anticipated by its audience. Without forgetting the talk on ULEZs or the impact of the Olympics on logistics in Île-de-France. **All the talks will soon be available in catch-up mode on the SOLUTRANS YouTube channel**. And it is also worth mentioning the interest, or even the enthusiasm, of visitors for retrofitting. Converting a diesel or petrol powertrain to an electric one are undoubtedly part of the energy transition, and the propositions of Renault, Stellantis, Hyvia, GCK, Hylika or Neotrucks certainly hit the mark. Remaining true to its mission to present the most extensive product range possible, SOLUTRANS also welcomed an array of energy providers, from Bolloré Energy to TotalEnergies, without forgetting Altens and Neste. In areas such as fossil fuel alternatives, electrification B100 and HVO, the strategies are many and varied.

## ... AND REVEALING INNOVATION AND EXCELLENCE

SOLUTRANS receives plaudits every year for its atmosphere which is both studious and convivial. The 2023 show was no exception to the rule, with a quite exceptional festive aspect. The innovation capabilities of HGV and LCV manufacturers, bodybuilders and equipment suppliers were distinguished twice at SOLUTRANS: at the gala dinner, and at the Innovation Awards evening.

The **2024 International Truck of the Year**, **2024 Truck Innovation**, **2024 International Van of the Year** and the **2024 International Pick-Up Awards** respectively went to Volvo Trucks FH Electric, the MAN ANITA Project, the FORD Transit Custom and the FORD Ranger and to the VOLKSWAGEN Amarok.

**These awards were presented at an unforgettable gala evening, bringing together no fewer than 1,460 guests, featuring speeches from personalities and rounded off with an exceptional private showcase.**

- Meanwhile, the Innovation AWARDS distinguished:
  - **Equipment suppliers category**: - God Award: KKS – JOST; Silver Award: ID FUEL – ELECTRO; Bronze Award: HIB – TELMA SAS; Joseph Libner Award: Vector HE 19 MT low CO2 – CARRIER TRANSICOLD.
  - **Body Builders category**– Gold Award: Recircle Solution – LECAPITAINE; Silver Award: Slidoor – BENALU-LEGRAS GROUP; Bronze Award: PLSC S.CS X-TOUGH semi-trailer – SCHMITZ CARGOBULL AG; Joseph Libner Award: Recircle Solution – LECAPITAINE.
  - **Digital Award category** – Connectivity Solution: OpenR link with convector companion – RENAULT; Software publishing – MICHELIN Smart Predictive Tire – GROUPE MICHELIN; Judges' special award: Vision Assist – BÄR CARGOLIFT France SAS.
  - **Special Cargo Boke Award** – Trailer with lift gate pallet carrier – K-RYOLE; VUF XXL Valeo Transporter – VUF BIKES; PelicanTrain – PELICAN CYCLES; TricyLift – FLEXIMODAL.

Also worth noting: the **"2023 Commercial Vehicle Industry Personality of the Year"** created at the behest of the FFC, was awarded to **Pierre Coppey**, CEO of VINCI Autoroutes, at the exhibition's Gala Dinner. The Federation wished to pay tribute to the actions conducted by VINCI Autoroutes in support of transport professionals and the strategy deployed to accompany the decarbonation of the commercial vehicle industry.

## HIGHLY POPULAR FEATURES AND HIGHLIGHTS

To cater to all the expectations of visitors, SOLUTRANS 2023 laid on a wide range of special highlights and features:

- SOLUTRANS organised a **brand new Road Testing Village** dedicated to diesel and "new energy" vehicles, outside Hall 4. This offered visitors an opportunity to get behind the wheel of new vehicles and appreciate their qualities.

- **The cargo bike area** with its 30-odd stands in Hall 1 offered visitors the chance to discover the advantages of cyclo-logistics, the background, the key issues and the solutions to cater to this specific “last yard” delivery in large cities and especially in ULEZs. An indoor 250-metre test track presented cargo bikes in realistic conditions. Many visitors, including Minister Clément Beaune, were able to try out these vehicles which offer a clear vision of tomorrow’s urban logistics.

Finally several other theme areas rounded out the profusive offering at SOLUTRANS 2023: the dedicated **tyre area**, organised in partnership with the French Tyre Association (SPP) bringing together all the sector’s professionals with its own talks forum; the **jobs and training area**, in an improved format to receive, inform and advise, with the Saturday dedicated to job dating sessions for nearly 8,000 vacancies; and the **Banking, Insurance and Consulting area**, offering visitors the chance to meet these essential players to finance and insure increasingly expensive vehicles.

### SEE YOU IN 2025 FOR AN EVEN MORE EXCEPTIONAL SHOW

Building on the success of the 2023 show, many exhibitors have already secured their pitch at SOLUTRANS 2025. A high “rebooking” rate, for an even bigger exhibition, since it is planned to expand into an extra hall. The 2025 edition of SOLUTRANS is already looking highly promising!

**Make a date for 18 to 22 November 2025 at Eurexpo Lyon.**

---

#### 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, held its 17th edition from 21 to 25 November 2023 at Lyon Eurexpo, France. The event, belonging to the French Bodywork Federation FFC and certified by the International Organization of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers (OICA), brings together, over 95,000 sqm, nearly 55,000 professionals along with 1,100 exhibitors and brands from all over the world, under a shared banner: “Energy transition: all players in a greener industry.”

SOLUTRANS is the two-yearly rendezvous of one of the most innovative sector verticals, from industry to services. Global economic conditions make SOLUTRANS a showcase for the exceptional performances of HGV builders, bodywork manufacturers, vehicle fitters, OEMs, manufacturers of workshop equipment, tyre professionals and distribution networks. SOLUTRANS also aims to echo the challenges of the sector, with a specific focus on energy sources, retrofitting, city centre deliveries and its constraints, etc. This year the show presented its vision of the “last yard”, with an approach centring on city centre access restrictions, and low emission zones in particular. New delivery methods, notably cargo bikes, which are becoming a part of the transport ecosystem, had a large educational and test area allotted to them in the centre of Hall 1.

With its status as a global industry event, SOLUTRANS has set itself the goals of supporting the industrial sector, promoting solutions to professionals, and anticipating the challenges that lie ahead.

#### SOLUTRANS press office:

CLC Communications - Tel.: +33 1 42 93 04 04 – +33 6 46 56 20 00

Jérôme Saczewski – Laurence Bachelot – Eglantine Douchy – Marine Broustal

[j.saczewski@clccom.com](mailto:j.saczewski@clccom.com) – [l.bachelot@clccom.com](mailto:l.bachelot@clccom.com) – [e.douchy@clccom.com](mailto:e.douchy@clccom.com) – [m.broustal@clccom.com](mailto:m.broustal@clccom.com)

#### FFC media contact:

Frédéric Richard – +33 6 82 87 69 34 - [frederic.richard@ffc-carrosserie.org](mailto:frederic.richard@ffc-carrosserie.org)



[solutrans.fr](http://solutrans.fr)  
#SOLUTRANS