



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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COLLINS BUS CORPORATION ENTERS INTO AGREEMENT WITH AZURE DYNAMICS

Collins Bus Corporation announced today an exclusive agreement with Azure Dynamics to develop Type A school buses with Hybrid Electric Technology. Azure Dynamics Corporation is a world leader in the development and production of hybrid electric and electric technologies for commercial vehicles, and the only company capable of building a school bus certified chassis with a hybrid system. Collins, as the largest builder of Type A school buses will soon be able to offer this hybrid technology as an option for buses built on the Ford E-450 chassis.

This optional drive-train can achieve up to 40% increase in fuel economy, while reducing maintenance costs by 30%. More importantly, the Azure technology also reduces harmful greenhouse emissions by up to 30%. This provides schools with an opportunity to improve air quality, especially around the school where buses often sit and idle while loading or unloading students.

Kent Tyler, President of Collins Bus Corporation, said, "We have the best bus distributors in the U.S. and Canada and some of them have been looking for hybrid solutions for their customers. We are excited about being able to soon offer a solution to this demand. Azure brings expertise and a proven system to the school bus market and Collins is proud of this partnership."

"We've been working on green initiatives at Collins for a few years now. In addition to seeking out our partnership with Azure, we've worked on environmental issues at our plant in Kansas in order to become better corporate citizens to the community. Recycling waste material, reducing water consumption, and reducing paint solvent emissions are just a few of our areas of focus. Adding our partnership with Azure to these efforts, we are looking forward to great things... for our customers, our company, and our environment."

Collins Bus Corporation, a subsidiary of Collins Industries, Inc., markets three brands of Type-A buses throughout North America (Collins, Mid Bus, and Corbeil). They have the largest distribution network of any Type-A bus company with over 70 dealers in the United States and Canada. Collins Industries, Inc., a subsidiary of BNS Holding, Inc., is also a leading manufacturer of ambulances (including medical attack vehicles, rescue vehicles and fire emergency vehicles), the nation's second largest manufacturer of terminal trucks and a leader in the road construction and industrial sweeper markets. Since 1971, Collins Industries, Inc. has grown to approximately 1000 employees in five plants comprising over one million combined square feet of manufacturing space. Collins Industries, Inc. sells its products throughout the North America and abroad. For more information please visit www.collinsbuscorp.com.

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