



The lion is roaring in Singapore

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The Land Transport Authority has ordered another 122 units of the new double-decker city bus.

If it says MAN on the outside, MAN is exactly what you get. This also applies to the 122 new low-floor double-deckers in Singapore, jointly developed with the Malaysian bodybuilder Gemilang Coachwork and supported by MAN Trucks & Bus Asia Pacific and the local importer STK. The chassis comes from the commercial vehicle manufacturer, while Gemilang contributed the aluminium body, using composites that make the vehicle one of the lightest on the market. The design of the eye-catching green double-decker city buses is once again the result of close expert cooperation. Indeed, the design originates from the specialist department in Munich.

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The three-axle low-floor A95 chassis is provided with a Euro 5 engine with 320 HP (235 kW) and a six-speed Ecolife transmission from ZF. Low noise and exhaust emissions aim to benefit the environment and local residents. An electronic braking system (EBS) with ABS and ASR as well as the electronic stability program (ESP) and a total of three stabilisers ensure safety and comfort. Despite its high capacity of 135 passengers, the clearance circle of just 22 meters makes the bus very manoeuvrable.

The overall dimensions of the double-decker are twelve metres in length, 4.40 metres in height and 2.55 metres in width. In accordance with European safety standards, the lower deck features a wheelchair bay. A comfortable and wide staircase leads passengers to the upper deck. On board is a total of 85 seats of which seven are special seats provided for the elderly and those with reduced mobility. The interior also impresses with a modern design.

MAN Truck & Bus is one of Europe's leading manufacturers of commercial vehicles and supplier of transport solutions, with revenues of approximately €9 billion a year (2015). The product portfolio includes trucks, buses and diesel engines, as well as services related to passenger and cargo transport. A subsidiary of Volkswagen Truck & Bus GmbH, MAN Truck & Bus employs more than 35,500 people worldwide.

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On board, not only passengers but also the driver can enjoy considerable comfort. The design of his workplace is reminiscent of a high-quality car. All controls are logically positioned and arranged within easy reach. The instruments impress with their good recognisability, both during the day and at night. A split monitor provides for simultaneous monitoring of the upper and lower deck – another benefit as regards safety and comfort.

Following an initial order of 60 units in 2015, the Land Transport Authority (LTA) of Singapore placed a new order with the local importer STK for 122 of these compact but surprisingly spacious double-deckers, intended for use in service in urban transportation. The chassis will be supplied before the end of 2016, with the complete buses to be delivered in 2017. Since the first orders five years ago, the MAN bus fleet in Singapore will now increase to over 950 units. “With the recently introduced double-decker chassis, we have expanded our product portfolio and are now in a position to present the entire product range from the 12-metre solo bus via the 18-meter bendy bus to the 12-meter double-decker, thus satisfying our customers’ various requirements,” says Christian Schuf, Sales Manager Bus at MAN Truck & Bus Asia Pacific.

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Caption: MAN Truck & Bus and the Malaysian bodybuilder Gemilang developed the new double-deckers for Singapore in close cooperation.