

## Batteries from Webasto Power Innovative E-Shuttle

**The demand for battery-powered mobility solutions for local public transport is increasing, particularly in metropolitan areas. French company Lohr is meeting the growing demand with an innovative E-Shuttle system. The batteries to power it come from Webasto.**

**Gilching – November 3, 2021** – Electric, flexible, innovative: French trucking company Lohr Industries will be launching the fully electric and modular “Cristal” shuttle system in four cities in France before the end of 2021. The vehicles will be powered by batteries from Webasto, one of the world’s 100 largest automotive suppliers. Some German cities have also already signaled their interest.

During rush hour periods, the “Cristal” will be used in so-called shuttle mode, with two to four vehicles coupled together under the guidance of a professional driver. This allows up to 64 people to be transported at speeds approaching 31 miles per hour. Coupling and uncoupling the shuttles is a simple, automated process which takes less than a minute.

Outside of peak hours, or for alternative on-demand transport applications, the “Cristal” can also be used as an individual vehicle to cover the so-called last mile. In France, a valid car driver’s license is all that is required for this.

### **Batteries from Webasto’s Schierling plant**

In the search for a suitable partner to provide the drive batteries for the “Cristal”, the choice quickly fell on Webasto. After all, the roof and parking heater specialist has – within just a few years – also made a name for itself as a leading system provider in the electromobility segment. The Webasto plant in Schierling houses one of the most modern battery system production plants – the highly flexible multi-product-line, which is capable of producing up to 40,000 batteries a year.

Two batteries with a combined capacity of 70 kWh are used for each “Cristal” vehicle. The range is around 75 miles. The vehicles are charged either at a central depot or at specific stops along the drivers’ route that have access to a power supply. The on-board rapid charging system delivers a half charge in 30 minutes and a full charge in 90 minutes.

“The idea was to provide a flexible and environmentally friendly mobility solution for public transport applications”, explains Jean-François Argence, director of the Lohr Group’s “New Mobilities” division. “Webasto’s battery system precisely meets our needs and requirements in terms of quality, design and price.”

“The standard battery system gives our customers the best of both worlds: They benefit on the one hand from the price and quality advantages of a standardized product and, on the other, from the precise fit of a customized solution. Together with our partner Lohr, we have achieved another key element in the future of electromobility”, explains Heike Niehues, who is responsible for the global industrial customer and aftermarket business at Webasto.

Some 20 vehicles will be delivered to the cities of Avignon, Orange, Ajaccio and are scheduled to take to the roads there for the first time before the end of the year. Lohr is also in close contact with representatives of German municipalities regarding the possible use of the “Cristal”.

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### **About Webasto:**

The Webasto Group is a global innovative systems partner to the mobility sector and is among the top 100 suppliers to the automotive industry worldwide. The company's product portfolio comprises in-house developed roof systems, heating and cooling systems for various types of vehicle, batteries and charging solutions for hybrid and electric vehicles, as well as complementary services relating to thermo management and electromobility. Webasto's customers include manufacturers of passenger cars, commercial vehicles and boats as well as dealers and end customers. In 2020, the company generated sales of some 3.3 billion euro and employed more than 14,000 people at more than 50 locations. The headquarters of the company founded in 1901 is located in Stockdorf near Munich, Germany. For more information, go to [www.webasto-group.com](http://www.webasto-group.com)

### **About Lohr**

LOHR is a private French group established in the Alsace region near Strasbourg. For more than 55 years it has been a global specialist in the design, manufacture and marketing of goods and passenger transport systems. The company generates 80% of its sales in the export market. With a global industrial presence that includes six plants on three continents, 1,500 employees and a research and development center with 120 engineers and technicians, the LOHR Group continues to consolidate its position as world leader in the car transporter vehicle market. The company is also developing its innovative piggyback business and is also promoting projects that will deliver benefits in terms of sustainable mobility. To find out more: [www.lohr.fr](http://www.lohr.fr)

### **Contact for the media**

Webasto Group  
Michael Halser  
Communication Manager  
Tel.: +49 89 8 57 94-53340  
E-Mail: [michael.halser@webasto.com](mailto:michael.halser@webasto.com)

Alice Röhler  
Communications Manager, Customized Solutions  
Tel.: +49 89 8 57 94 - 52 662  
E-mail: [alice.roehler@webasto.com](mailto:alice.roehler@webasto.com)

Lohr  
Corentine Vetterhoeffer  
Responsible for Communication  
Tel. +33 (0)3 88 38 96 97  
E-Mail: [corentine.vetterhoeffer@lohr.fr](mailto:corentine.vetterhoeffer@lohr.fr)