

7.2-tonne IVECO Daily Hi-Matic “fits the bill perfectly”, says Connaught PSV Managing Director

- *Order book growing for Ferqui-bodied IVECO midicoaches, as sole importer invests in Daily Hi-Matic demonstrator for nationwide customer trials*

Basildon, January 19, 2018

Connaught PSV, sole importer for Spanish coachbuilder Ferqui, has commissioned its own IVECO Daily Hi-Matic demonstrator after securing customer orders for more than 25 chassis in the 12 months since introducing the Daily and Ferqui combination into the UK market.



Managing Director of Connaught PSV, Steve Peach, says the 7.2 tonne IVECO Daily Hi-Matic provides the perfect platform for Ferqui’s 29- and 33-seat midicoaches, and is investing in a demonstrator to ensure more fleets can experience the new vehicle.

“This area of the market has been turned on its head since a competitor chassis ceased production,” explains Peach. “The Daily is winning a lot of interest, particularly thanks to the class-exclusive eight-speed Hi-Matic transmission which is seriously impressive.

“It makes the Daily a pretty unique vehicle at 7.2 tonnes, with its light commercial vehicle platform offering impressive manoeuvrability, driving performance and ride comfort. The only alternative is a competitor’s 9-12 tonne truck chassis which are more expensive, heavier and less manoeuvrable in urban centres.”

Connaught PSV says the Ferqui-bodied Daily can be specified with either 29 or 33 seats, depending on required luggage space. Both models feature high-back reclining seats (with a fixed back row), making them perfect for everything from school contracts to intercity journeys and touring. The specification also includes climate control air-conditioning, a powered front passenger door, full length luggage racks incorporating individual reading lights, full draw curtains, convection heating to both sides of the cabin and an on-board PA system.

The Doncaster-based firm can also order a 25-seat ‘luxury specification’ Daily for VIP contracts, plus wheelchair-accessible models with access from either the rear or side of the vehicle are available to order upon request.

Ferqui is an accredited IVECO BUSMASTER bodybuilding partner and has been mounting its bodies to the IVECO Daily chassis for more than a decade, making it a firmly established combination within the European marketplace.



Peach adds: "The 7.2-tonne Daily fits the bill perfectly as a base for our new range of midicoaches. Any teething issues between the bodybuilder and chassis manufacturer have long been engineered out of the product in Europe, and the feedback we're getting from customers here in the UK has been fantastic."

Connaught PSV had twice previously ordered a demonstrator for its fleet – only to sell the vehicle before it arrived in the UK due to strong customer demand. For 2018, it's committed to retaining the demonstrator, and making it available for fleets nationwide.

IVECO BUS delivers the Daily 70C18HP chassis directly from its factory to Ferqui's facility in Spain, speeding up order lead times. Power is provided by IVECO's 3.0 litre Euro VI diesel engine delivering up to 170 hp; plus each Daily Hi-Matic is built on a 4,750mm wheelbase and features disc brakes, 100 litre fuel tank and rear air-suspension with auto self-levelling and a raise/lower facility when stationary.

The Hi-Matic transmission offered by IVECO BUS is also found in premium cars manufactured by sister group companies Jeep and Maserati. Offering absolute driving pleasure, it changes gear more quickly and precisely than even the best driver, needing less than 200 milliseconds for a gear shift when greater acceleration is required. Its proven durability and reliability helps reduce repair and maintenance costs by 10 per cent versus a standard manual transmission.

For more information visit: <https://www.connaughtpsv.co.uk/ferqui-sr-33-seats-also-available-in-29-seats/>

IVECO BUS

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A major player in the public transportation sector and one of the leading vehicle manufacturers in Europe, IVECO BUS designs, manufactures and sells a wide range of vehicles that precisely meet the needs of private transport companies and public transport authorities:

- School, intercity, route and touring buses (Crossway and Magelys)
- Standard and articulated buses and their BRT (Bus Rapid Transit) versions, including proven leadership in NGV and Hybrid clean technologies (Urbanway and Crealis)
- Minibuses meeting all passenger transportation needs (Daily)
- Bodies for specialized bodywork designers.

IVECO BUS employs over 5,000 people and operates two factories, located in Annonay, France and Vysoké Myto, Czech Republic, which were both awarded bronze medals in 2013 within the framework of WCM (World Class Manufacturing), an international methodology for the management of manufacturing processes according to the highest global standards.



An extensive network of IVECO BUS and IVECO service points provides assistance anywhere IVECO BUS vehicles are operated.

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