



## Trolleybuses fitted with Vossloh Kiepe technology win Innovation Award in Canada

Vossloh Kiepe's customer TransLink, and its bus operating unit Coast Mountain Bus Company, were honored by the Canadian Urban Transit Association (CUTA) in its annual Corporate Leadership Awards 2012, which are among Canada's most recognized for excellence in public transit. At the CUTA Annual Conference in Victoria, TransLink won in the Innovation category for the First North American Public Transit Carbon Offset Initiative, and the Coast Mountain Bus Company won in the Environmental category for its waste management program.

The joint TransLink and BC Transit project involved replacing conventional diesel buses with lower-emission vehicles. Under the initiative, TransLink receives carbon offsets by operating a huge fleet of diesel-electric hybrids, electric trolleybuses in the Lower Mainland and BC Transit for operating hydrogen buses in Whistler. The objectives of the project were to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by using cleaner-running, more energy-efficient vehicles which rely less on fossil fuels. The project has enabled both transit agencies to further reduce their corporate and thus regional ecological footprints while finding a new approach to

generate revenue, both of which are strategic themes of CUTA's Transit Vision 2040. Fuel efficiency has improved from 61.4 liters/100 km in 2008 to 56.0 liters/100 km in 2011. Overall, this has saved 1.6 million liters of diesel fuel since 2009, a significant cost reduction. In addition, both TransLink and BC Transit have successfully offset and sold 18,862 t of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent under the fuel switch project (2009–2011). In connection with TransLink's carbon offset initiative, GHG Accounting Services Ltd., a greenhouse gas quantification service provider, calculated that the emission reductions contribution from technology developed by Vossloh Kiepe make up 37 percent of the overall emissions reduction, but the trolleybus fleet that was included in the project only represents 15 percent of the entire project fleet. This underscores the significant contribution that Vossloh Kiepe's trolley technology can make to the reduction of GHG emissions. Later this year, GHG Accounting will publish a new Public Transit Protocol that will allow for emission-reduction capabilities to be recognized in more modes of transportation, including commuter rail services and double-articulated trolleybuses. 🌱