



## PRESS RELEASE

**Contact:** Andre Claridge  
Phone: 518-424-2575  
E-mail: andre@pcpublicaffairs.com

7 Lake Station Road  
Warwick, NY 10990

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### **Trans Tech Bus Announces Production of its E-Trans Electric Type - A School Bus Prototype** Company to build E-Trans on Smith Electric Vehicles' Zero-Emissions all Electric Newton Chassis

**Warwick, NY – September 6, 2011:** Trans Tech Bus announced today that it has begun production of its eTrans electric Type – A school bus prototype. The company will build its first eTrans prototype at its manufacturing facility in Warwick, NY on a Smith Electric Vehicles zero emissions all electric Newton chassis. The eTrans will be unveiled in late October at this year's National Association for Pupil Transportation's annual conference and tradeshow being held in Cincinnati, Ohio.

"This is an exciting time for Trans Tech Bus as we officially enter the electric Type-A school bus market with our eTrans product," said Dan Daniels, President of Trans Tech Bus. "The combination of our innovative school bus conversions and Smith Electric Vehicles' world-leading all electric Newton chassis will ensure we are well positioned at the top of the electric Type-A school bus market."

Branded the eTrans, Trans Tech Bus's first electric Type-A school bus will have an aerodynamic design, 42 passenger capacity, and 120kw induction motor allowing it to reach speeds of up to 50 mph. The eTrans will have a trip range of approximately 100 to 130 miles per charge from its lithium-ion batteries depending on load and driving conditions. The bus will take 6 to 8 hours to recharge with the ability to recharge virtually anywhere with its onboard recharging system. The eTrans will have a small auxiliary power unit fueled by compressed natural gas or propane that will power the school bus's heat and air conditioning systems.

The Smith Electric Vehicles Newton chassis is very energy efficient with electricity costs that are approximately 80 percent less than a comparable diesel vehicle. Trans Tech Bus is working with industry stakeholders to ensure that the eTrans is priced competitively with conventional school buses to ensure its customers will be able to realize significant reductions in long-term operational and maintenance costs.

"The eTrans will be ideal for short, defined, repetitive routes," said Daniels. "An electric school bus with zero emissions generated from its chassis is great for our children and the environment. In addition, given that most school buses operate during the day, school districts and bus contractors will be able to take advantage of lower off-peak electricity rates by recharging their fleets at night when demand is at its lowest."

Trans Tech Bus and Smith Electric Vehicles teamed up through an exclusive agreement for the development and production of Trans Tech Bus's eTrans product. Trans Tech Bus will unveil its prototype on October 23, 2011 and launch its eTrans pilot program in early 2012 allowing a select group of customers to experience the eTrans bus before the company begins full-scale production of the bus sometime around mid to late 2012.

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Daniels concluded, "As the market for alternative fuel Type-A school buses continues to take shape there will be an endless array of innovative solutions that will continue to make electric school buses an exciting alternative to gas and diesel powered buses. Our goal at Trans Tech Bus is to work with Smith Electric Vehicles to meet customer demand by building safe, environmentally-friendly school buses that are affordable, easy to use and do the job required of them."

**About Trans Tech Bus:** Trans Tech Bus is a manufacturer of industry-leading conventional and environmentally-friendly electric Type-A school buses. Offering single and dual wheel models, Trans Tech Bus is known for its innovative and fuel-efficient conversion designs. With a wide array of versatile floor plans the company is able to meet ever-changing customer demand. Trans Tech Bus is helping bring green solutions to the school bus industry by introducing the eTrans -- a zero emissions Type-A school bus. Trans Tech Bus is a division of Transportation Collaborative Incorporated located near the New York metropolitan area in Warwick, NY.

**About Smith Electric Vehicles:** Smith Electric Vehicles manufactures and markets zero-emission commercial electric vehicles that are designed to be a superior-performing alternative to traditional diesel trucks due to higher efficiency and lower total cost of ownership. Its vehicle designs leverage more than 80 years of experience in selling and servicing electric vehicles in the United Kingdom. Smith produces the Newton, the only all-electric medium/heavy-truck offering on the GSA schedule. The Newton delivers a market-leading range and a payload of more than 16,000 pounds with an average annual operating cost that is one-third to one-half that of conventional diesel trucks. The company operates manufacturing facilities in Kansas City, Mo., and outside of Newcastle, U.K.

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