

Friday, 21 December 2012

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UK International Who Buys What Product People

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## NatEx benefits from rail strike threats



Following widespread threats of disruption to rail services National Express says that advance bookings for Christmas coach travel are up 50 per cent on last year. NatEx attributes the rise to threatened strike action and to disruption caused by engineering works. It says demand has doubled on some routes which cover those operated by West Coast Mainline and Cross Country Trains.

Tom Stables, managing director NatEx UK Coach, says "Strikes and engineering work mean it's not a very merry Christmas for many travelling by rail. Fortunately, National Express is on-hand to keep Britain moving this Christmas. We've already laid on thousands of extra seats and are ready to add more as needed. Competitive fares, up to 80% cheaper than the train, also means cash-conscious customers can rest assured they are getting good value travel."

www.nationalexpress.com



### Related Content

11 November 2009 | News - UK

#### Boardroom split over NX rights issue

Shares in National Express fell slightly as the Cosmen family, the group's largest shareholder, said it does not agree with a planned £360million rights issue intended to reduce the group's £1.

30 November 2009 | News - UK

#### NatEx gets rights issue support

Shareholders in National Express have voted by two to one to support a rights issue which is expected to raise £360million which will be used to reduce the group's £1billion debt.

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#### New role for Cleaves

The managing director of the National Express UK Coach business, ANDREW CLEAVES, has been appointed the group's international development director.

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#### NatEx heading for the buffers?

THERE are troubled times ahead for National Express.

22 May 2009 | News - UK

#### NatEx sells London bus business

NATIONAL Express is pulling out of London - for the second time - with the agreement to sell its Travel London business to NedRailways, a subsidiary of NS Dutch Railways.

04 June 2012 | News - UK

#### Bridge strike driver wins appeal

A bus driver who was dismissed by National Express Dundee after his bus hit a bridge has won a court case to pursue a claim for unfair dismissal.

### International news



#### Nobina orders Exqui Citys

Nobina, the biggest transport operator in Scandinavia, has ordered 15 Van Hool Exqui City bi-articulated hybrid buses. Issue 299

### Latest News | View All News

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#### Optare doubles revenue, reduces losses

Optare sales revenue doubled in the six months to 30 September from £22,7million last year to £46,7million this year.

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#### NatEx to close Crawley?

National Express looks set to close its Crawley depot, which employs 140 people.

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#### Stagecoach invests in Wigan upgrade

Within weeks of taking over First's Wigan operations Stagecoach will this month replace a quarter of the fleet with 31 new buses valued at £3,9million.

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#### NatEx benefits from rail strike threats

Following widespread threats of disruption to rail services National Express says that advance bookings for Christmas coach travel are up 50 per cent on last year.

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#### London adds new payment cards

Bus users in London can now pay their fares with a contactless debit or credit card.

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#### Leeds sees start of joint ticketing

Joint ticketing has been introduced on the A65 Kirkstall Road corridor in Leeds.

### Latest vehicle deliveries



#### Ensign Bus adds hybrid Volvos

Ensign Bus has taken delivery of six Volvo B5LH hybrids with Wrightbus bodywork to be used on local bus services. Issue 299



#### Two-door Solos for Quality Line

Quality Line, the bus division of Epsom Coaches Group, has put eight dual-door Optare Solo SRs

### Featured Vehicles For Sale

#### Mercedes 313 -- 59 Plate

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#### Mini Buses

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#### Midnight Coach Express

www.midnight-express.se  
Supplier of nightliners & minibuses for the Entertainment Industry.

### UK Market Data

Company	Price
FirstGroup	223
Go-Ahead	1235
National Express	216
Optare	0.55
Rotala	37
Stagecoach	274



**Optare targets hybrids**  
Optare showed two Solo SRs at the Persontrafik 2012 exhibition through its local dealer BK Invest. *Issue 299*



**Conectos for Warsaw**  
A fleet of 60 Turkish-built Mercedes-Benz Conecto artics has entered service in Warsaw with city transport operator MZA. *Issue 299*



**Megabus expands again**  
Stagecoach this week started megabus. *Issue 299*



**More cash for Proterra**  
Electric bus manufacturer Proterra has raised \$23million (£14million) to step up production of its EcoRide city bus. *Issue 299*



**EEV Citaros for Budapest**  
Mercedes-Benz is to supply VT Transman with 159 EEV Citaros for operation in Budapest. *Issue 299*

**Product news**



**Grayson Christmas servicing offer**  
Grayson Thermal Systems is offering a festive incentive for bus and coach operators to book air-conditioning servicing early with a £5 Tesco voucher for every vehicle booked in by 31 December 2012. *Issue 299*



**Online consumables from MC Group**  
A new online shop selling commercial vehicle consumables has been launched by independent dealer MC Group. *Issue 299*



**New dedicated coach tyres from Goodyear**  
Goodyear's Marathon Coach and Ultra Grip Coach winter drive tyres are its first ever dedicated coach tyres in Europe. *Issue 297*



**Synectics CCTV for new Solos**  
Berkshire-based Courtney Coach Group has chosen Synectics CCTV for its new fleet of Optare Solo SRs. *Issue 297*



**Auto electric specialist supports fleets**  
Specialising in auto electrical components for bus and coach fleets, H Bowers provides workshop services, specialist repairs for heaters and thousands of part numbers including a full range of starter motors, alternators and dc motors, extensive stocks of Webasto and Eberspacher heaters, and lighting including Hella, BMAC and Perei. *Issue 296*

into service; they are the first two-door SRs in the UK. *Issue 299*



**Peakes takes Irizar i6 integral**  
New for Peakes Coaches of Pontypool is this Irizar i6 integral. *Issue 299*



**New Panther is right choice for Stanley**  
Before investing in the company's first new Volvo B9R with Plaxton Panther bodywork, Stanley Coaches partner Ian Scott, responsible for the company's engineering operations, looked at a number of alternatives – and was convinced that the Plaxton Volvo combination was the right choice. *Issue 295*



**Citaros add capacity in Maidstone**  
Arriva Southern Counties has taken delivery of six new Mercedes-Benz Citaros – valued at a precise £864,000 – for its Park Wood Shuttle service in Maidstone. *Issue 295*



**Kenzie diversifies with first new buses**  
Best known as a high-quality coach operator, Kenzie Coaches of Shepreth has purchased two Volvo B7RLE buses for a new contract. *Issue 295*

**Coach tourism news**



**Lobbying action on German VAT proposals**  
The European Alliance for Coach Tourism (EACT) is lobbying the German government about its proposals to amend the VAT registration and taxation of foreign coach operators providing passenger transport services within Germany. *Issue 299*



**Vote of confidence from Kent visitors**  
A survey of visitors to Kent shows strong levels of satisfaction, according to Visit Kent. *Issue 299*



**Midlands covered by Bailey guided tours**  
Roger Bailey, owner of Blue Badge Guided Tours, is a full-time Heart of England Blue Badge Tourist Guide, offering guided walking and coach tours of the region, including the West Midlands, Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire and Rutland. *Issue 297*



**Tours on the up at Dublin distillery**  
One of Dublin's top visitor attractions, The Old Jameson Distillery in Smithfield, has shown a 17 per cent growth in visitors for the first six months over the same period last year, with 107,000 visitors passing through its doors between 1

Share prices at: 03/07/12  
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**UK Fuel Prices**

Region	Price
Northern Ireland	138.0
Scotland	137.6
Wales	137.8
North	137.1
North West	137.0
Yorkshire & Humberside	136.6
West Midlands	137.0
East Midlands	137.2
East Anglia	137.7
South East	138.2
South West	137.7
London	137.8

Click here for full UK & European industry data



Product

### Long-term trial proves MiX solution

A long-term trial undertaken by German bus operator Sylter Verkehrsgesellschaft (SVG) has shown improvements of almost 10 per cent in fuel efficiency with the use of Fleet Manager, MiX Telematics' fleet management solution, as well as reduced operating costs and lower exhaust emissions. *Issue 296*

### People in the news



### Long service awards at EYMS

The work of 12 long-serving employees of EYMS Group has been celebrated at a dinner in the Tickton Grange Hotel near Beverley. *Issue 299*



### Morton takes over at Omnibus Soc

MICHAEL MORTON, managing director of Arriva Buses Wales, is to be the president of the Omnibus Society for 2013. *Issue 299*



### 21st international appointments

21st Century has strengthened its international business team with two new appointments, LENKA HORNICKOVA and GERALDINE ESQUERRE. *Issue 299*



### Arriva changes

Arriva has announced senior management changes following the decision to retire by DAVID EVANS, managing director for the group's mainland European division. *Issue 299*



### New role for Cleaves

The managing director of the National Express UK Coach business, ANDREW CLEAVES, has been appointed the group's international development director. *Issue 299*



### Kitchin for Vectis

Southern Vectis has appointed MATT KITCHIN as general manager. *Issue 299*

January and 31 June this year. *Issue 297*



### Colour and floral variety at Borde Hill

An award winning world-class garden in the Sussex Weald, Borde Hill is set in a 200-acre heritage parkland and woodland. *Issue 297*



### Celebrating Bath's most famous resident

The Jane Austen Centre offers a snapshot of life during Regency times and explores how living in this magnificent city affected Jane Austen's life and writing. *Issue 297*