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Dodge FrontRunner minibus scores highest in American durability test

Coxx moves chassis production for Dodge FrontRunner from the Netherlands to USA.

Rijen (NL) / Atlanta (VS) - Coxx Mobile Systems (COXX) has moved the production of the X-Low low floor chassis for the Dodge FrontRunner minibus from Rijen (the Netherlands) to Atlanta (Georgia, US) to comply with US "Buy America" provisions.

The chassis for these low-floor minibuses are manufactured using American steel, in accordance with Dutch specifications. This serial production was thus far done in the Netherlands. The low-floor minibuses are manufactured and merchandised by New England Wheels in Billerica, Massachusetts, US, for American and Canadian customers.

The Dodge RAM FrontRunner was introduced in 2015. It is - especially for American standards - an innovative minibus with its low entry, accessibility for wheelchairs, the capacity of up to 14 passengers and air suspension for excellent driving comfort and safety.

The drivetrain and front of the passenger van is a Dodge RAM ProMaster (known as Fiat Ducato in Europe) with a fuel-efficient 3,6 liter V6 Fiat/Chrysler engine. The front is bolted to the high-strength steel Coxx X-Low chassis.

The X-Low chassis are completely modular to serve as a basis for different types of vans. They can be assembled efficiently in small or large batches. This chassis was first manufactured in 1980 and since then developed using heavy-duty lightweight steel.

In fall 2017, the New England Wheels FrontRunner underwent the Altoona Test as required by the US Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The results were excellent: 91/100 points. This is the highest score ever recorded since this new pass/fail-test was introduced in 2017. The Altoona Test simulates a driving distance of 150,000 miles with rough roads and obstacles. Buses are tested for safety, reliability, structural integrity and durability, performance, brakes, noise, emissions, fuel efficiency and maintainability. This underlines the excellent quality and durability of the Coxx X-Low chassis.

Only the production of the chassis built under an exclusive relationship with New England Wheels - to their specifications - have been moved to America. In Rijen, the X-Low chassis will continue to be built for the assemblage of low-floor distribution vehicles, campers, mobile offices and medical units. The relocation has no negative effects on employment in Rijen, because of the continuous growth of the Dutch company.

For more information contact Robert Cox, managing director Coxx Mobile Systems, robert@coxx.nl, phone +31 641 047 966.

Pictures on <http://persbericht.com/coxx>

More info on Coxx X-Low chassis: <http://coxx.nl/x-low-downloads>

More info on New England Wheels FrontRunner: <http://newenglandwheels.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Updated-Brochure-1.22.18.pdf>

More info on Altoona Testing: <https://transit.dot.gov/research-innovation/bus-testing>