

# LBS Highways and Byways

*Leonard Bus Sales, Inc.*



## CONSTRUCTION IS UNDERWAY ON LBS BERGEN !

Leonard Bus Sales has completed the purchase of an eight-acre parcel in the Apple Tree Acres Corporate Park in the Town of Bergen, Genesee County, and construction is underway on a 20,300ft<sup>2</sup> service facility to serve western New York. LBM Construction, Inc. of Orchard Park has been contracted for the design and build of this "purpose-built" structure, which will include twelve work bays, two lifts, a bus parts distribution center, and administrative and conference areas. Initial staffing projections include ten to twelve full time employees, and several part-time drivers. In addition to new vehicle preparation and service and warranty repair in Bergen, a customer support vehicle will be dispatched to provide on-site repairs when necessary. Parts distribution will be enhanced through the deployment of a parts sales vehicle on a scheduled route throughout the region.



LBS is pleased to announce that William Harvey has accepted the position of Operations Manager at the new facility. Bill is a widely known and well respected school transportation professional, most recently serving as Transportation Director at Pittsford Central Schools in the Rochester area. In addition to his comprehensive understanding of the pupil transportation industry, Bill brings a keen understanding of customer needs and expectations to the LBS team. Initially, Bill will be instrumental in planning and organizing start-up activities for the new operation, and following its opening later this year, will be directly responsible for managing the day to day operations for all functions at Bergen.

Leonard Bus Sales is looking forward to becoming an active member of the Bergen business community, and to furthering our efforts to provide "best in class" service and support to school transportation professionals statewide.

For updates and more pictures visit [www.leonardbus.com](http://www.leonardbus.com)

## LBS INCREASES PRESENCE IN CENTRAL NEW YORK

Leonard Bus Sales has reached an agreement with Birnie Bus Service to lease a newly renovated 4,700ft<sup>2</sup> service facility in the Griffiss Business and Technology Park in Rome, NY. This latest expansion will provide an easily accessible service point for transportation providers in the region, and will offer a complete line of warranty and retail repair services.

The LBS Rome team will be led by Mark Ingham, a long-time LBS employee with many years of school bus repair and maintenance experience.

The new facility is expected to be fully operational early this fall, and will include four fully equipped service bays, repair parts inventory, trained service technicians, full network access to International and IC Corporation service and parts systems, and parking for approximately seventy units.

*We look forward to seeing you in Rome!*

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## GETTING TO KNOW YOU

### *Jim Hogan—General Manager, Maintenance and Facilities*

Jim began working as a mechanic for LBS in June of 1987 at the Hancock, NY facility. His responsibilities included new bus preparation, lettering, washing and detailing, and mechanical repairs. The Hancock shop was long and narrow, with low ceilings that prevented opening roof hatches, let alone lifting a bus! To back a bus out of the shop, it was necessary to stop traffic on Hancock's main street to safely exit the building.

When LBS moved to its current Deposit, NY location in 1988, Jim operated a service van in the twenty eight county area of responsibility, performing repairs at customer's sites and building many lasting relationships that continue to this day. In the early '90s, Jim was promoted to the position of Service Manager in Deposit. Subsequently, LBS entered into maintenance agreements with several area schools, and Jim's responsibilities grew to include the management of those important contracts. When the Mechanicville

facility opened in 1997, Jim's duties expanded once again to include the general management of all facilities



and maintenance activities. Today, Jim oversees the entire LBS service effort, soon to include our new Rome and Bergen locations.

In his spare time, Jim enjoys spending time with his two sons, ages 23 and 20, stock car racing (as a spectator), and snowmobile racing in the winter.

Submitted by Kathleen Disler

## STUDENTS WILL STAY WARM ON EVEN THE COLDEST WINTER MORNINGS

### IC Tests New Emission Qualified Engines for Heating Capabilities

Are you concerned about keeping the students warm in the bus? We at IC Corporation are. For the fourth time in the past nine years, our engineers have conducted bus heating tests in extreme cold weather conditions in northern Minnesota.

This year's test program was concerned with the new 2004 emission qualified engines from International Truck and Engine Corporation. We wanted to be sure that these new clean air engines would also be capable of heating the bus interior in the manner we've been accustomed to in our previous products; and we weren't disappointed. Not only did our new engines measure up to our veterans, they continued to outperform the competition.

The testing is conducted in the early morning hours, starting at 3am, because the lowest temperatures of the day usually occur just before dawn. The test buses are equipped with a grid of instruments to sense temperatures, pressures, coolant flow and other factors pertinent to operation of the bus and the heater system. Prior to the testing, the buses are "cold soaked" overnight outdoors. To begin, they are started and allowed to warm up with the

engine at an advanced idle speed for 30 minutes. Then they are driven from the storage area a few miles over city streets to the pickup cycle route. The route is a closed loop on city streets. Stop points are laid out at intervals that average approximately one city block. At each stop the passenger door is opened for thirty seconds to simulate the entry of students. The pickup route test continues for about 40 minutes. This is a severe test of the heating system because of the low transit speeds, short distance between stops, extensive idle time and the inflow of cold air when the door is open. It's severe, but realistic, and provides a sure way to evaluate the anticipated effectiveness of the engine/heater system in real world service.

This year's test fleet consisted of four buses:

- 2004 IC CE with International® T444E engine
- 2005 IC CE with International® VT365 engine
- 2005 IC CE with International® DT466 engine
- 2002 Thomas/Freightliner w/ Mercedes MB906 engine

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The IC CE with the T444E engine was used as the standard of performance and all other products and equipment changes were compared to it. This product was chosen as the standard because it was a part of all the previous years' testing and is considered a good school bus heating engine by our customers. We resolved that our new products must measure up to the performance of the venerable T444E.

The overall heating performance results can be summarized as follows.

- Over the nine mornings of testing the minimum ambient temperatures observed ranged from +7 to -32 Fahrenheit. (At times we were testing buses when the local schools were closed because of dangerously low tem-

peratures!)

- The International VT365 engine supported body interior temperatures equivalent to the T444E.
- The International DT466 engine provided body interior temperatures superior to the T444E (and the VT365) by 7 degrees Fahrenheit.
- The Thomas/Freightliner with the Mercedes MB906 engine provided body interior temperatures 16 degrees below both the T444E and the VT365.
- The Caterpillar C7 (replacement for the 3126) was not included in this year's testing, but the 3126 was compared to the T444E in the previous test program. By



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taking into account the lack of heating improvements made for the C7. It is reasonable to project that the C7 engine will fall short of the International VT365 by 10 or more degrees of body interior temperature.

To gain a perspective of the importance of these differentials the reader should simply consider the change in comfort that would result in changing the temperature of the room currently occupied up or down 10 degrees.

We came away from this test program satisfied that our new CE bus product with 2004 emissions compliant International engines will continue to provide our customers, and their customers – the students, with superior body heating performance.

Reprinted from International News & Views March 2004

## IMPROVEMENTS AND FEATURES OF THE 2005 IC CE

New CE bus model features include:

- New interior styling
- IROS rear air suspension options now available
- Best In Class windshield and wiper system
- Increased drivers storage
- Best In Class driver ergonomics
- Taller entrance door & driver's side window
- Improved overall fit and finish throughout.
- New full power hydraulic brake system
- New bumper crossing arm
- International® engine / Allison transmission combinations for the CE Bus feature Intuitive Shift™ controllers for optimum performance.
- New 2004 International® VT365 and Heavy Duty DT466 engines
- Integrated chassis/body electrical system with "one-button" stop and other new features
- 78" Interior headroom
- Electric entrance door control is standard
- Ducting engine intake air through the hood provides precleaning

## TRAINING CLINIC SCHEDULE

### November 2004 - Vehicle Electronics / Multiplexing

- Monday, November 15 - The Holiday Inn, 8250 Park Road, **Batavia**
- Tuesday, November 16 - Guilderland Central School Bus Garage, School Road, **Guilderland**
- Wednesday, November 17 - The Ramada Inn, 1289 Route 300, **Newburgh**
- Thursday, November 18 - The Homewood Suites by Hilton, 275 Elwood Davis Rd, **Liverpool**
- Friday, November 19 - The Binghamton Regency, Water Street, **Binghamton**

Visit [leonardbus.com](http://leonardbus.com) calendar of events for RSVP information.



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Bergen, NY - Opening December 2004

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www.leonardbus.com

Information Just a Click Away!

Calendar of Events

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Valuable information from Leonard Bus Sales and its major suppliers is available right at your fingertips.

Visit the websites of:

Leonard Bus Sales, Inc.
www.leonardbus.com

Girardin Minibus
www.girardin.com

IC Corp.
www.IC-Corp.com

International Truck and Engine Corp.
www.internationaldelivers.com

U.S. Bus Corporation
www.usbuscorp.com

Each of these sites offers interesting information along with maintenance and training tips and current bus industry news.

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Calendar of Events section featuring a decorative border of clock icons and listing four conferences: NYS School Boards Conference, NY School Bus Contractors Conference, NYS DOT School Bus & Passenger Carrier Safety Conference, and National Association of Pupil Transportation Conference.