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Hybrid Technologies Lead the Charge at Busworld Europe 2025

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Image: Busworld

Just some weeks ago at **Busworld Europe 2025** in Brussels, **hybrid technologies** emerged as a central theme in the ongoing transition to zero-emission transport. The exhibition made one thing clear: the shift to clean mobility is not a linear journey—but a **smart integration** of electric, renewable, and conventional energy systems.

Leading OEMs—including **DAF, IVECO, Scania, MCV, and MAN**—presented new generations of hybrid solutions designed to bridge today's operational realities with tomorrow's climate goals. From **mild-hybrid systems** delivering up to **15% fuel savings**, to **plug-in hybrids** capable of **80 km of zero-emission range**, the consistent message was: **hybridisation is not a compromise—it's a catalyst for practical decarbonisation**.

DAF & Driventic: Hybrid That's Already Working

DAF Components, in collaboration with **Driventic**, showcased a **production-ready mild-hybrid system** that combines a **PACCAR MX engine** with an integrated electric motor and hybrid gearbox. Features include:

- Start-stop functionality
- Regenerative braking
- Electric torque assist during acceleration

Already in operation across **110 city buses in Rome**, the system has delivered **up to 15% fuel savings** and meaningful CO₂ reductions—without requiring new infrastructure or operational changes.

IVECO: Fuel Flexibility Meets Hybrid Efficiency

IVECO Bus reinforced its **technology-neutral approach**, presenting hybrids designed for **low-carbon and renewable fuels**:

- The **URBANWAY HYBRID NGV** combines a natural gas engine with electric drive, fully compatible with **biomethane**, offering significant GHG reduction over diesel.
- The **CROSSWAY Hybrid** built on the same Platform but compatible with **renewable XTL fuels**, enabling intercity and regional operators to reduce emissions using existing refuelling infrastructure.

Scania: Plug-In Hybrid Coach with Geofencing

Scania introduced a **plug-in hybrid coach** designed for **intercity and tourism applications**, featuring:

- Geofencing to switch automatically to zero-emission mode in low-emission zones
- Up to **40% fuel and emissions savings**
- Full electric operation in urban areas, preserving ICE flexibility for longer routes

MCV: Hydrogen-Electric Hybrid for Urban and Medium Routes

MCV revealed the **C127 FC Low Entry**, a **12.1-metre hydrogen-electric hybrid bus** that pairs a **100 kW Ballard fuel cell** with a **410 kW Voith electric motor** and **100 kWh battery**. Highlights include:

- ~40 kg hydrogen storage at 350 bar
- Intelligent blending of fuel-cell and battery power based on route and load
- Capacity for **up to 79 passengers**
- Smooth, zero-emission drive with extended range and fast refuelling

This architecture provides a **versatile, high-capacity solution** for operators seeking both performance and sustainability.

MAN: Hybrid Extends Beyond the City

MAN brought its hybrid strategy to **intercity applications** with the **Lion's Intercity EfficientHybrid**:

- Derived from the urban **Lion's City** hybrid platform
- Features energy recuperation, compact battery storage, and electric boost
- Start-stop function enables full engine shutdown at stops, reducing idling emissions and noise
- Powered by the efficient **D15 diesel engine**

This marks a strategic expansion of hybrid benefits to regional transport fleets.

Collectively, these innovations point to a maturing hybrid ecosystem—one focused on deployable, operator-ready solutions. From mild-hybrids to hydrogen-electric systems, manufacturers are demonstrating that hybridisation is not a transitional workaround—it's a foundational strategy for fleet decarbonisation.

For the **Hybrid Alliance**, Busworld Europe 2025 reaffirmed a key principle: **collaboration across technologies and manufacturers** is vital. By combining electric propulsion with renewable fuels and efficient combustion systems, the industry is no longer just planning for net-zero—it's putting it on the road.

Read more: [Busworld](#)