



STANFORD COACHWORKS NEWSLETTER

EDITION 5 - FEBRUARY 2021



AN INSIGHT INTO STANFORDS

This month we were taking a look at the team behind our NSSTA.



BEHIND THE SCENES AT SCW

We have an exciting new vehicle coming next month!



WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO LATELY?

Read about the vehicles that we have converted this month.

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February may be the shortest (and recently the coldest) month of the year, but that never results in a shortage of conversion work for us. This month we have converted many vehicles from COVID-secure wheelchair accessible minibuses to PTS ambulances.

8 Wheelchair Accessible Vauxhall Movanos for Enterprise Flex-E-Rent

This month we have converted 8 wheelchair accessible Vauxhall Movanos for one of our long-standing rental clients, Enterprise Flex-E-Rent.

We have now worked with Enterprise for 6 years and over this time we have converted a variety of vehicles for them, from wheelchair accessible minibuses to full PTS vehicles.

Enterprise Flex-E-Rent is the commercial vehicle rental division of Enterprise in the UK. They provide a wide range of specialist commercial and accessible vehicle solutions, available for short and long-term rental to commercial companies and community care operators.

Based on Vauxhall Movanos, all 8 vehicles can carry up to 8 passengers or 3 wheelchairs with seats removed. Each of the rear saloon passenger seats has been upholstered in Enterprise's standard green patterned moquette with black wipe clean bases and lower back curve. The seats also feature Enterprise green seat belts, open grab handle head rests and removable seat fixings. These removable seat fixings allow for quick and easy transfer of seating to allow space for the 3 wheelchairs.

Inside the front cab area, we have reupholstered all seats in the same matching moquette. A protective driver's screen complete with a night blind has also been installed.

Access into the rear saloon can be achieved via a manual pedal operated side step fitted below the side load door entrance. For wheelchair passengers, we have installed a Ricon internal tail lift at the rear of the vehicle. To safely secure the wheelchairs to the tracked floor, we have fitted high level cant rail tracking complete with matching patterned moquette covers.

We would like to thank Enterprise for their 6 years of continued loyalty to us and we hope that their clients benefit from these 8 new vehicles. If you would like to find out more about Enterprise Flex-E-Rent's range of vehicles available to rent, [click here](#).



PTS Vehicles for Dawsongroup Bus & Coach

February also saw us convert 2 brand-new PTS vehicles for returning customer Dawsongroup Bus & Coach. Dawsongroup PLC is a group of companies specialising in the supply of commercial assets. The group covers 9 distinct asset groups, utilised by the largest corporates. Dawsongroup Bus & Coach have a long history associated with all aspects of passenger carrying vehicles but have recently expanded into rental PTS vehicles and HDU's.

Both PTS vehicles are based on Renault Master LM35 Business + chassis' and each feature a rear parking camera. In the front cabin, we have reupholstered the driver's seat in wipe clean blue material to match the rear saloon. Behind this, we installed a protective driver's screen complete with a night blind. For storage of wheelchairs, we have designed a L-shaped luggage pen which sits in place of the front passenger seat.

The rear saloon can facilitate up to 7 seated patients, 3 wheelchairs or a bariatric stretcher. To provide additional space, 2 seats have been

fitted with removable seat fixings. The 5 other seats feature either tip up bases or tip and fold functions in order for them to be stowed away. All of these seats have been upholstered in a wipe clean material with grab handle head rests.

At the rear of the vehicle, we have fitted internal tail lifts for wheelchair and stretcher access. For seated patients, a manual pedal operated side step has been installed below the side load door.

We would like to thank Dawsongroup Bus & Coach for their returning custom. For the full article which features the specification and more photos [click here](#).



AN INSIGHT INTO STANFORDS: OUR NATIONAL SMALL SERIES TYPE APPROVAL (NSSTA)

At Stanford Coachworks safety is our number one priority. To ensure that all of our vehicles meet high UK safety standards, each vehicle undergoes either an IVA test or is converted to meet strict National Small Series Type Approval (NSSTA) regulations. Our NSSTA, which we have held since 2014 for our Mercedes Sprinter conversions, provides confirmation that our vehicles meet specific standards and requirements laid out by the Vehicle Certification Agency (VCA).

Dave Wiggins, our production manager, works closely with the VCA and oversees the conversion of every SCW vehicle. Our production team ensures that the process of the build, the build itself and the parts used follow an exact set of rules set out by the VCA. The type approval process requires our production & homologation teams to continuously monitor a variety of aspects to help us maintain our status as an organisation with NSSTA.

Our NSSTA allows us to build M2 Mercedes Sprinters in house without the requirement for an offsite examination from the DVSA. Instead, each vehicle is monitored from the point of order, right



through to completion of the conversion. Once complete, a type approval certificate is formulated by Miranda Roney from SCW's production / homologation department. The certificate is then issued by Alan Hollier, SCW's Production Director.

With help from the stores department, new parts and ideas can be added to our existing approval to ensure that we always stay one step in front of our competitors. Although a vast amount of work must be completed, the process gives us the opportunity to build vehicles to our own schedule.

We are extremely grateful to have such a fantastic team who put in an incredible amount of hard-work to ensure that we maintain our NSSTA. To find out more about our NSSTA, [click here](#).

BEHIND THE SCENES AT STANFORD COACHWORKS...

This month we're going behind the scenes at Stanford Coachworks to show you a unique vehicle that we currently have in build.

This exciting new conversion will be revealed in next month's edition! Can you guess what the vehicle may be used for?



CLIENT FEEDBACK: A THROWBACK FROM APM TRAVEL

We would like to thank [APM Executive Travel](#) for their kind feedback and photos. We're glad that you are still enjoying your SCW minibuss 16 years later!

'We currently run a Mercedes Benz Sprinter 2005. Even after all these years the conversion has stood the test of time. Everything is well made and nothing has come loose or rattles.'

SCW quality rating: ★★★★★



THIS MONTH'S TOP PICK:

A COVID-SECURE FORD TRANSIT CUSTOM FOR A SOUTHERN COUNTY COUNCIL

With the demand for COVID-secure minibuses on the rise, we have recently seen an influx in requests for protective screens in our conversions. One of our long-term clients, a county council based in the South of England, contacted us with a request for a smaller COVID-secure minibus to provide transport services for vulnerable people.



The council requested that the vehicle included a custom-built bulkhead with a protective screen. The screen enables them to provide these essential services without putting their clients or drivers at risk. The rear saloon also features a completely separate heating and air conditioning system allowing both driver and passenger to remain comfortable without the worry of recirculating air.

Based on a high roof Ford Transit Custom, the minibus can facilitate up to 6 passengers in the rear saloon and 2 in the front cab (post-COVID). The rear saloon seats and interior are upholstered in a full wipe clean material, making the whole vehicle easy to sanitise after each journey. All of the seats include decorative blue piping and are fitted with grab handle head rests and removable seat fixings to allow space for 2 wheelchairs.

As the Transit Custom features twin side load doors, we have fitted manual pedal operated side steps below each rear saloon entrance door. A high-visibility yellow grab handle has also been positioned on either side of the bulkhead for assisted rear saloon access.

At the rear of the vehicle, we have fitted an internal tail lift which makes the minibus accessible to clients using wheelchairs. High level cant rail tracking with matching wipe clean covers have been installed for use when securing each wheelchair to the tracked floor.

We would like to thank the county council for their returning custom and we hope that their new minibus helps keep their clients and drivers safe during these uncertain times.

If you would like to find out more about our conversions and the COVID-19 solutions that we have designed to make our minibuses safer, [click here to read our latest wheelchair accessible vehicles brochure](#).

The Specification:

- Ford Transit Custom L3H2 Trend
- Twin front cab passenger seat reupholstered to match the rear saloon
- Magnet metallic paint finish
- Rear privacy tinted windows
- Full custom-built bulkhead with protective COVID screen
- Full wipe clean interior
- 6x M1 tested rear saloon seats upholstered in a grey wipe clean fabric with blue piping
- Grab handle head rests
- Removable seat fixings
- BraunAbility internal tail lift
- Twin side load doors with high-visibility internal grab handles
- SCW tracked floor system covered with non-slip lino
- Eberspacher heating and air-con
- Blue & white rear saloon LED lighting
- LED illuminated entrance / exits
- High level cant rail tracking
- Rear clamp storage box
- Koller Fast wheelchair restraints

