

Release date: 17 January 2008

FORZA ITALIA FOR DARLINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL AND NETV

Darlington Borough Council has taken delivery of 17 Fiat Scudo vans supplied by North East Truck & Van (NETV), the country's largest independent commercial vehicle distributor.

Powered by a 1.6 litre diesel engine, the Fiat Scudo 90 Multijet vehicles have been fitted with internal racking and storage systems for use by the Council's building services team which include joiners, plumbers and electricians.

The fleet purchase follows a two-day road test with an NETV demonstrator and was awarded through the Office of Government Commerce (OGC) motor vehicle purchase framework agreement.

Available to all Public Sector Organisations (PSOs) across the UK, this agreement has been set-up to deliver significant efficiencies as a result of combined volumes, additional leverage and collaborative working between government departments and wider public bodies nationwide.

Roger Scott, Transport Services Manager from Darlington Borough Council, explains: "The Fiat Scudo package from NETV not only offers best value for money for the taxpayer but also gives us a vehicle that is able to perform a number of roles within the organisation."

/more

Forza Italia for Darlington Borough Council and NETV / page 2

“Being able to select a partner with the capacity to support the council’s operations was critical to us and is one of the key factors behind placing this latest order with NETV,” he adds.

The fleet of Fiat Scudo 90 Multijet vehicles are expected to cover 12,000 miles a year and will be maintained by Darlington Borough Council’s team of fleet engineers, with genuine Fiat parts supplied direct by NETV, which operates a parts stock worth in excess of £1,500,000.

Parts deliveries are made using NETV’s own dedicated fleet of 22 Fiat Doblo Cargo vans, which are available to make daily deliveries to customers across the region. Such a large parts fleet also ensures that emergency deliveries can be made, often within minutes of an order being taken.

ends

Background information: North East Truck & Van (NETV) is a privately owned limited company and is the largest independent Iveco distributor in the UK, and winner of the Motor Transport Dealer of the Year Award 2005. It employs over 320 staff across its eight dealerships in Blaydon, Billingham, Carlisle, Hull, Immingham, Lincoln, Scunthorpe and York, and sells the full range of Fiat, Hino, Irisbus, Iveco and LDV new and used commercial vehicles. NETV is also a franchised aftersales dealer for MAN ERF, Seddon Atkinson and Alexander Dennis, offering 24 hour opening at its three largest sites, with late opening elsewhere and Sunday servicing by appointment. It also offers all-makes servicing and parts, with customers ranging from owner-drivers to large national fleets. The company benefits from a fast-developing Special Vehicle Operations (SVO) division and is the only Iveco dealer allowed to undertake SVO work on behalf of other distributors in the UK. It also carries out SVO work on vehicles from other manufacturers (work on Scania and Volvo models is particularly common). NETV has an annual turnover of £85 million, and routinely sells over 3,000 new and 600 used vehicles a year, with £1.7 million of parts held in stock.

Note to Editor: For further press information, please contact James Keeler at Garnett Keeler PR on 020 8399 1184.

NETV/104/08