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NETV LAUNCHES NEW IVECO REFUSE COLLECTION VEHICLE

North East Truck & Van (NETV) has today unveiled a specially adapted Iveco Eurocargo designed for the refuse collection and recycling market in the UK.

Modified by NETV's own in-house Engineering Division, which carries out Special Vehicle Operations (SVO) work for Iveco, the project aims to maximise sales of the Eurocargo amongst local authorities and municipal hire specialists.

The new vehicle is based on the standard Eurocargo 180E28, which is adapted by NETV and can be offered as either an 18 tonne 4x2, 23 tonne 6x2 mid-lift or as a 26 tonne 6x2 with either a mid-lift or mid-lift steering axle.

Amongst the most notable changes made by NETV include the fitment of an Allison 3000 automatic gearbox together with an intarder. An asymmetric parabolic road-friendly suspension is also fitted to the drive axle to ensure excellent ride comfort in this demanding application and to increase the rear bogie weight to the maximum 19 tonnes on all 6x2 models.

The regular Eurocargo cab has also been adapted by NETV to suit municipal applications, with a five man-cab featuring a four-person bench seat in the rear, plus grab handles to ensure easy access. The interior is designed to be easy-to-clean, with wipe-down surfaces and vinyl seat covers.

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Sandy McDonald, Managing Director of NETV, explains: "This new model will enable us to supply local authorities with a dedicated refuse collection vehicle based on the proven Eurocargo chassis, which many council's already operate as tippers, sweepers and gritters.

"It has been developed after close consultation with a number of local authorities, which made a strong case for an alternative to the low-height models currently available on the market," he adds.

NETV's new Eurocargo model has been developed at its dedicated Engineering facility within the company's headquarters in Billingham. The first vehicle – a top-of-the-range 26 tonner with a mid-lift steering axle and Heil bodywork – was unveiled today, 10 June, on NETV's stand at the Chartered Institute of Waste Management Exhibition in Paignton.

Following the show it will be taking part in a series of product demonstrations and road tests with council's across the country. NETV is targeting sales of approximately 100 units in the first full year after the vehicle's launch.

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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.