



Solo - more models, more choice,
more flexibility



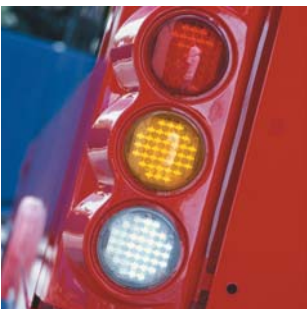
Wherever you want to go - go Solo

Whether you're operating on the busiest city streets or the narrowest of country lanes, there's a Solo that meets your needs perfectly.

Acclaimed for its progressive design, modern integral construction, exceptional reliability and pure passenger appeal, it is arguably the most versatile bus on the road today. The award winning Solo has led the way in the low floor/easy access revolution – and following a series of major evolutionary enhancements to the range it is set to win even more accolades from operators, drivers and passengers alike.

To enable the Solo to service the most challenging and problematic routes, we've added models like the Solo SE. Incredibly compact and highly manoeuvrable, it's available in lengths starting at just 7.1m, making it our shortest and most affordable Solo yet.

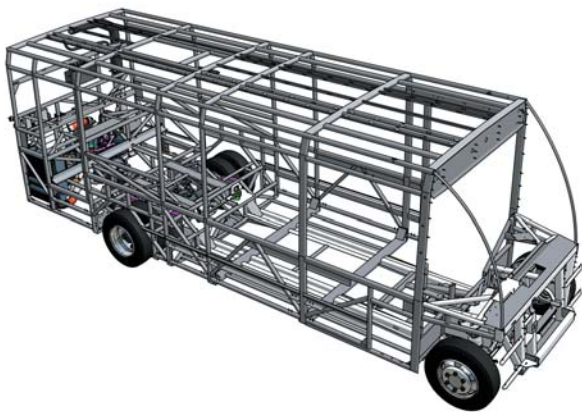
We can also offer zero emission full electric, hybrid, bio-methane dual fuel, pure plant oil or used cooking oil drivelines – all designed to fit within the same space envelope as the standard diesel powerpacks from Mercedes-Benz, Cummins or MAN.



The Solo's success is testimony to Optare's progressive thinking and pioneering approach. Innovation drives everything we do. We're the only bus manufacturer to win a Queen's Award for Design. We evaluate every element of our buses in pursuit of the optimum total vehicle package and we're constantly challenging ourselves to develop vehicles that will elevate expectations to new levels.

As well as offering passengers the ultimate travelling environment, Optare consistently stays one step ahead of the competition by delivering more choice and profit potential to operators.

So much so, that today we have successfully taken our low-floor/maximum access technology to export markets, with our pioneering style now a familiar feature on roads in the USA, Western Europe and Scandinavia, and the Middle East.





Solo - driving the low floor revolution

Run the rule over the Solo's pioneering design for yourself. You'll find its entrance step is lower than any other bus on the road with a normal ride height of just 265mm, while the standard 'kneeling suspension' means it can be lowered to around 200mm. There's even a fold out ramp for simpler, safer boarding and alighting of wheelchairs or pushchairs.

You won't be stuck for choice either. The Solo seats between 23 and 37 people, and with the additional standing capacity, some models can accommodate over 50 passengers in total. Both left and right hand drive options are available and it now comes in a range of lengths between 7.1 and 9.5 metres to enable even greater manoeuvrability in today's crowded streets.

For good measure, the SlimLine variant is only 2.33m wide, so it offers all the advantages of the full-width Solo but with an overall saving of 130mm.

Our SE model broadens the appeal of the Solo even further. At either 7.1, or 7.8 metres in length, it has been specified to ensure the lowest possible entry price to the Solo range and lays down a real challenge to many van and truck based products, which simply don't have the heavy duty features of the Solo.

There's a variety of seating types and layouts too - with a high proportion of seats set in the low-floor front area so most passengers can get to them without negotiating any steps. Not forgetting the spacious, comfortable interior, which comes in a choice of colour coordinated trims with air conditioning available as an option.



Study the Solo's unique exterior and you'll see that its front axle is placed forward of the entrance door. An innovation that eliminates front wheel-arch intrusion, maximising carrying capacity and making access even easier. There's also the option to add energy-efficient LED lights as a dazzling extra feature.

With the advent of ever more stringent emissions legislation for diesel engines, operators are compelled to choose between SCR or EGR technology to ensure compliance, Optare is the only bus manufacturer to offer a choice of engines across our whole range.

Operators preferring the SCR route can specify either a four-cylinder Mercedes-Benz or a six-cylinder Cummins engine, or for EGR, you can specify the four-cylinder MAN. All three engines are renowned for their superb performance, fuel efficiency and reliability.

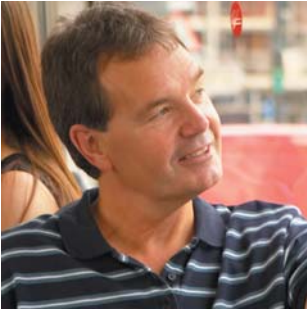
The Solo comes with full air suspension as standard for a smoother ride and superb handling - while its all round disc brakes are complemented by an electromagnetic retarder for enhanced braking efficiency and safety in operation.

For routine maintenance, all daily check points are easily accessible and should a major overhaul become necessary the engine, gearbox, exhaust system and cooling pack are all mounted on a quick release carrier with self-sealing couplings for oils, fuel and coolant. You'll also find an impressive fully multiplexed electrical system, which significantly reduces heavy and complicated wiring harnesses whilst allowing faults to be checked for, located and remedied in seconds via a simple lap-top based diagnostic programme.

One thing is for sure, however long or short you want your Solo to be, you'll have one of the most passenger-friendly and advanced buses on the road today.



Future proof technology



Optare's low weight design already sets the benchmark for fuel economy. Now our EcoDrive dashboard and intelligent Optaremising™ software, which helps your drivers to save fuel and allows you to monitor their driving styles, puts us even further in the lead.



Multiplex wiring systems carry a vast amount of performance monitoring and command data to enable the bus to function. Optare EcoDrive takes this a stage further by gathering and processing it into useful information that can be presented in a simple way to both the driver and the operator, to support them in their efforts to achieve greater fuel efficiency.

There's also the ability to use an optional telematics transmitter to transfer data in real time back to the depot or traffic office via existing telecom network systems so you can instantly see where your vehicle is, diagnose faults, monitor driver performance and much, much more.

To future-proof your operations and maximise fuel economy, fleet efficiency and passenger comfort, we use integrated technologies - feature packed electronic systems that are designed into the vehicle at the point of manufacture. These systems work hand-in-hand with the existing multiplex electronics controlling our vehicles, and as a result provide you with increased reliability, higher performance and greater functionality than bolt-on systems.

We also recognise that with rapidly developing low-carbon technologies, bus operators need vehicles that can be updated to stay ahead.

Our unique demountable power pack means our entire product range is future proof and can be easily upgraded over the life of the bus, whether with more efficient diesel technology, alternative fuel options, or hybrid or zero emission full electric drivelines.



Optare Product Support gives you easy access to total peace of mind



Optare's philosophy of providing customers with a complete package of services is unique in the British bus industry. And through Optare Product Support, we offer a market leading parts and service capability.

A key focus of the Product Support division is to provide the operator with a rapid response to service and maintenance support issues. At our fully equipped and conveniently located service centres, and at our dedicated refurbishment and upgrade centre, we'll provide all the repairs, servicing, maintenance and refurbishments you need.

In addition, our highly trained and fully equipped mobile Service Technicians are ready to visit your premises to provide a range of practical support, including vehicle system diagnostics.

Our central parts operation has more than 40,000 product lines in stock. This extensive inventory of genuine parts and our use of state-of-the-art logistics technology guarantees exceptional quality of service. We've also applied technology to our new online parts information and ordering service, 'Parts Portal', which you can access at www.optareparts.co.uk.

The service allows you to view parts before you order to ensure the correct selection and offers alternatives for any superseded parts. If you don't have a part number, you can click on the relevant part in our exploded diagrams.

Parts Portal makes getting hold of the parts you need quicker and easier. But, however you order, we'll ensure that UK mainland deliveries are made the next day.

Our scheduled maintenance and inspection programme is designed to ensure complete peace of mind – giving you a dependable fleet and helping you to comply with your operator's license requirements. And as daily operation takes its toll on the condition of your vehicles, our mechanical overhaul and complete refurbishment service can extend their working life for significantly less than the cost of a replacement, even for vehicles not built by Optare.

Should you require service or parts support, assistance is just one phone call away. Call 0871 230 1324 for all the help you need to get your vehicle back on the road as quickly as possible. You can also use this number for technical assistance or to arrange comprehensive product training.

With total commitment to providing a comprehensive range of dedicated aftersales support services, Optare Product Support is your first - and only - point of contact for everything you need to keep your buses on the road.



