



20<sup>th</sup> January 2022

## **Europcar Mobility Group UK accelerates electric van fleet with the addition of 100 LEVC VN5 Vans**

Kicking off 2022 with a clear sign of its intent to deliver electrified and flexible transport solutions for commercial vehicle users, Europcar Mobility Group UK has added 100 London Electric Vehicle Company (LEVC) VN5 vans to its Vans & Trucks fleet. Available for short-term rental from its Vans & Trucks locations across the UK, Europcar aims to underpin the zero emissions ambitions of its customers with a particular focus on the cities where Clean Air Zones are in force or scheduled for 2022.

As Ron Santiago, Managing Director, Europcar Mobility Group UK explained, the addition of the VN5 addresses an urgent need amongst commercial vehicle users. “Research<sup>1</sup> conducted in 2021 found that 89% of businesses expect a quarter or more of their fleet to enter a Clean Air Zone more than once a week. Yet there is a clear gap in availability of electric vehicles, as well as cost barriers for outright purchase. There is also concern that electrified vans may not be able to meet the high pressure demands of businesses, with uncertainty about the range they can offer.

“Bringing the VN5 on to the Europcar Vans & Trucks fleet addresses these concerns on several levels. Available as part of our long-term rental solutions, it means businesses have the flexibility to ‘try before they buy’, without having to commit to lease or outright purchase, giving them the chance to really understand how electric will work for them and their drivers. Long-term rental of the VN5 also provides important financial flexibility while the UK economy remains uncertain. Plus, crucially, the VN5 gives customers a compliant solution eliminating the need to factor in additional costs for entering Clean Air Zones.”

Joerg Hofmann, LEVC CEO, added: “I am delighted we have signed this agreement with Europcar, which will enable many businesses to try our innovative new electric van before

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<sup>1</sup> 300 fleet managers were surveyed by Censuswide, September 2021

they buy. And I am confident that they will see VN5 is the ideal green mobility solution, offering zero-emission capability with no range-anxiety.”

The VN5 is an important component in supporting Europcar Mobility Group’s commitment to reduce its impact on the environment through its ‘One Sustainable Fleet’ programme. This programme aims to reduce carbon emissions for its car and van fleet, including targeting to have green vehicles (less than 50 g CO<sub>2</sub>/km) accounting for 20% of its car and van fleet by the end of 2024.

The VN5 is a truly innovative workhorse that delivers great storage capacity as well as the flexibility of LEVC’s eCity Range-Extender to eliminate the range anxiety that is holding back many commercial vehicle users from moving to electric.

LEVC products are Battery Electric Vehicles – driven exclusively by electricity – that, through the company’s eCity powertrain technology, feature an additional on-board generator (a small 1.5 litre petrol engine), known as a Range-Extender. This provides greater usability and flexibility than pure electric operation. When required, the Range-Extender recharges the Drive Battery, which in turn powers the electric Drive Motor that drives the wheels. Always electrically driven, there is no connection between the Range-Extender and the electric Drive Motor. The Range-Extender only acts as a power source to provide electricity to the Drive Battery, extending the driving range.

VN5 is based on the same innovative architecture and proven eCity technology as LEVC’s TX electric taxi. With a pure EV range of over 60 miles and a total flexible range of 304 miles VN5 is ideally suited to urban deliveries in zero-emission mode, as well as longer journeys outside of town. The more frugal driver could achieve a 76-mile pure EV city range, according to WLTP city methodology\*.

The VN5 is available from the following Europcar Vans & Trucks locations:

Birmingham  
Bristol  
Cardiff  
Gateshead  
Glasgow  
Heathrow Skyport  
Leeds  
Manchester Trafford Park  
Purfleet  
Sheffield

End

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### **About Europcar Mobility Group**

Europcar Mobility Group is a major player in mobility markets and listed on Euronext Paris. Europcar Mobility Group's purpose is to offer attractive alternatives to vehicle ownership, in a responsible and sustainable manner. With this in mind, the Group offers a wide range of car and van rental services – be it for a few hours, a few days, a week, a month or more – with a fleet that is already "CO2 light" and equipped with the latest engines, and which will be increasingly "green" in the years to come (more than 1/3 electric and hybrid vehicles by 2023).

Customers' satisfaction is at the heart of the Group's ambition and that of its employees. It also fuels the ongoing development of new offerings in the Group's three service lines - Professional, Leisure and Proximity - which respond to the specific needs and use cases of both businesses and individuals. The Group's 4 major brands are: Europcar® - the European leader of car rental and light commercial vehicle rental, Goldcar® - the low-cost car-rental Leader in Europe, InterRent® – 'mid-tier' car rental and Ubeeqo® – one of the European leaders of round-trip car-sharing (BtoB, BtoC).

Europcar Mobility Group delivers its mobility solutions worldwide through an extensive network in over 140 countries (including wholly owned subsidiaries – 18 in Europe, 1 in the USA, 2 in Australia and New Zealand – completed by franchises and partners).

Further details on our website: [www.europcar-mobility-group.com](http://www.europcar-mobility-group.com)

### **About LEVC**

LEVC's history began in 1908 when the first dedicated black cab was specially designed and commissioned for use in London. With its unmistakable silhouette and classic design cues, this iconic British vehicle has defined the company for over a century. In 2018, LEVC introduced its latest taxi model, the electric TX. TX is world's cleanest, most advanced taxi ever, powered by LEVC's revolutionary eCity technology.

LEVC manufactures its purpose-built, range extended electric TX taxi and TX shuttle models at a state-of-the-art factory in Ansty, Coventry. Since 2014, Geely has invested more than £500m into LEVC, allowing it to build an entirely new eco-friendly manufacturing facility, the UK's first dedicated to the production of electric vehicles.

In November 2019, LEVC started production of its first non-taxi model with the launch of VN5, a medium-sized electric van. Utilising the same eCity technology as TX, VN5 offers both zero-emission capability and zero range anxiety, a critical combination for commercial vehicle operators.

A new central European sales office in Frankfurt was established in 2019 to increase LEVC's presence across Europe and further new markets such as Middle East, New Zealand and Australia will continue to increase the company's export footprint. This strategy will see LEVC move from 90% domestic sales to 60% export in 2024.