

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Contact:

Gina Douthat
TANK
859/814-2125
gdouthat@tankbus.org

TANK Rolls Out First Hybrid Buses

January 2008 – The Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky recently placed its first hybrid electric buses into service. TANK purchased four hybrid-electric buses primarily for use on the downtown circulator, the Southbank Shuttle route. For these buses, TANK altered the already eye-catching graphics for the Southbank Shuttle to feature the fact that these buses are Hybrid-Electric vehicles. PHOTO is ATTACHED.

Hybrid-electric vehicles are powered by a battery-powered electric motor that provides most of the vehicles power at slower speeds. A smaller clean diesel engine takes over only when the bus reaches higher speeds. The advantage of a hybrid vehicle is most noticeable when driving in stop and go traffic (as on downtown streets).

TANK funded the purchase of these buses partially through a Clean Fuels federal grant, secured by Senator Bunning. The federal Clean Fuels program funds projects that will assist nonattainment areas in achieving air quality standards/goals. The program supports the advancement of new clean fuels technologies in the transit industry.

The Gillig Hybrid-Electric buses will offer TANK the ability to see 20% or greater fuel savings, when compared to the buses they replaced (regular diesel buses). Over the twelve year life of the four buses, this could mean fuel savings of more than \$200,000. In addition, brake repair and replacement savings will be significant since the energy to slow the bus generates electrical power to charge the batteries for propulsion.

The Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky is an integral part of the Northern Kentucky community, providing public transit service to Boone, Campbell, and Kenton Counties as well as downtown Cincinnati for more than 30 years. Close to 4 million passengers each year rely on the more than 100 TANK buses throughout the region to get them where they need to be. TANK is committed to providing safe, reliable, customer-oriented transportation for the people of our community. TANK's commitment extends to addressing current and future needs of the community. A major component of this commitment involves keeping abreast of advanced technologies and to providing services which will improve traffic flow, protect the environment and assist in the economic development of the Northern Kentucky region.

TANK is on the web at www.tankbus.org

###