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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**SMRT BUSES INTRODUCES 10 NEW FULL LOW FLOOR MERCEDES-BENZ CITARO BUSES FOR PASSENGER SERVICE FROM MARCH 2011**

***- Two new environmentally-friendly buses on trial -***

1. As part of its fleet renewal programme, SMRT Buses have purchased 10 new Mercedes-Benz Citaro O530 with full low floor that is safer and more convenient for passengers. The decision comes following SMRT's trial of a Citaro bus, which began in March 2010.

**Southeast Asia's first full low floor bus SMRT Euro 5 Mercedes-Benz Citaro well-received by passengers**

2. SMRT has received very positive feedback from passengers about the trial bus. In particular, more than 71% of the 3,329 respondents to a survey strongly agreed and agreed that the bus's full low floor has made it a safer ride for them. In addition, about 75% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed that they enjoyed their travel experience on board the bus and shared that they liked the comfortable seats, smoother ride, quieter interior and modular design featuring a fully-integrated, light-weight body, which causes lesser vibration.
3. Said Vice President of SMRT Buses Ms Kang Huey Ling: "We would like to thank our customers for sharing with us their views of the trial bus. We are very heartened with the positive response to the customer survey of the Citaro. Many respondents have asked when SMRT will deploy more Citaro buses on the road. We are pleased to announce that we have purchased another 10 units. These additional 10 buses will help to enhance the travel experience of more customers and will be deployed for passenger service from March 2011." SMRT continues to welcome feedback from passengers of the bus at [www.smrt.com.sg/citaro](http://www.smrt.com.sg/citaro).

**Two environmentally-friendly trial buses on the roads**

4. Continuing its focus on customers, SMRT Buses has put on trial two environmentally-friendly buses. It will introduce its first diesel-electric hybrid bus made by Zhong Tong, one of China's premier bus manufacturers. This

new environmental-friendly bus runs on both diesel and electricity - using up to 30% less fuel and emitting up to 30% less greenhouse gases, making travel on public transport even greener. SMRT's first hybrid bus also emits less noise, making it a more pleasant journey for passengers and road users. The hybrid Zhong Tong bus will be put on a six-month trial starting 19 January 2011 and will ply on Service 106 first, before being put on Service 945 from April 2011.

5. Encouraged by the positive experience of our passengers on the low-floor Citaro trial bus, SMRT introduced on trial another full low-floor bus on 29 December 2010 - the MAN A22 by German manufacturer MAN AG - for the convenience of passenger movement within the bus. On top of its state-of-the-art low floor configuration, the MAN A22 bus is Euro 5 compliant without additives. This is made possible because of an additional maintenance-free PM-Kat© filter in the engine. This patented technology does not increase fuel consumption, making it a cost efficient yet environmentally-friendly bus. The MAN A22 also has a first of its kind Sliding Plug Exit Door. This unique door swings out from the bus body then slides open, enhancing passenger safety as it prevents passengers from accidentally being hit by the door as it closes.
6. The MAN A22 will be on trial for one year, and has started serving commuters on Service 961 from Woodlands Regional Interchange, plying through Upper Bukit Timah, Queensway, Eu Tong Seng Street and Raffles Boulevard. It will move on to serve Service 902 from middle of the year.

SMRT welcomes feedback from passengers on the two new buses at [http://www.smrt.com.sg/contact\\_us/contact\\_us.asp](http://www.smrt.com.sg/contact_us/contact_us.asp).

Please refer to the Annex for pictures of the Citaro and MAN buses.

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The new MAN A22 Bus



The new MAN bus features a full low floor for the convenience of passenger movement within the bus.



**SMRT's Citaro bus on the move**