ZF Electrifies London: New Contract for Electric Portal Axle AxTrax AVE

- **ZF technology for emission free city transportation: Tower Transit orders thirty-seven electric buses from Optare**
- **Second London bus company contract for Optare model incorporating ZF's electric portal axle, AxTrax AVE**

Friedrichshafen. ZF has again achieved market success with its zero-emission drive technologies: London bus operator, Tower Transit, has ordered thirty-seven Metrodecker EVs from British bus manufacturer Optare. The battery-electric version of the typical red double-decker bus is propelled by the proven ZF electric portal axle, AxTrax AVE. ZF is now enabling two bus operators in London to offer clean mobility. Optare expects that one hundred electric double-decker buses will be on the roads of British city centers by the end of the year.

With the AxTrax AVE electric portal axle, ZF is providing a successful model for achieving sustainable local public transportation. Globally, more than 2,200 electric buses equipped with the AxTrax AVE have already covered 150 million local, emission free kilometers. Tower Transit is now the second bus operator in London to decide in favor of the proven electric portal axle. Over the course of the year, thirty-seven Optare Metrodecker EVs, battery-electric versions of the iconic red double-decker buses, are to begin serving both the No.23 bus route, running past Hyde Park and Buckingham Palace and route C3, which serves south-eastern London. Operator Metroline has already been running thirty-one Metrodecker EVs since last summer. "Central London has one of the world's strictest regimes for regulating emissions. The multiple contracts awarded by the city, demonstrate that the AxTrax AVE is a technology which allows our customer, Optare, to meet the most demanding standards for clean and attractive local public transportation", says Andreas Moser, Head of ZF's Commercial Vehicle Technology division.

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A versatile all-rounder

The electric axle can be combined with numerous drive configurations – ranging from hybrid and fuel cell drive systems to battery-electric solutions. The low-profile design also provides manufacturers with a great deal of latitude in the design of the passenger area, enabling layouts such as full low-floor buses. As a systems supplier, ZF delivers the appropriate hardware and software to optimally tune performance, efficiency and service life of the drive.

Caption:

1) ZF electrifies London: New contract for electric portal axle AxTrax AVE.
2) Powerful and environmentally friendly, ZF's AxTrax AVE electric drive axle drives low-floor buses up to a maximum axle load of 13,000 kilograms. The electric motors integrated into the wheel heads have a total output of 250 kilowatts.

Photo: Metroline (1), ZF (2)

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ZF is a global technology company and supplies systems for passenger cars, commercial vehicles and industrial technology, enabling the next generation of mobility. With its comprehensive technology portfolio, the company offers integrated solutions for established vehicle manufacturers, mobility providers and start-up companies in the

fields of transportation and mobility. ZF continually enhances its systems in the areas of digital connectivity and automation in order to allow vehicles to see, think and act.

In 2019, ZF achieved sales of €36.5 billion. The company has a global workforce of 148,000 with approximately 240 locations in 41 countries. ZF invested seven percent of its sales in research and development.

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