

# Press Release

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## **St Vincent's Sydney has patient transport covered with new IVECO Daily's**

*As one of Australia's largest and busiest hospitals, Sydney's St Vincent's is responsible for up to 60 patient transfers per day, as clients are discharged after treatment or moved to other facilities to continue rehabilitation or alternative treatments.*

Three new IVECO Daily 35S180 vans were recently acquired by St Vincent's to help with this transportation, joining a further two Daily vans already on fleet which have now achieved over 300,000 kilometres of trouble-free running.

St Vincent's Hospital Transport and Fleet Manager, Bob Morris, said the excellent performance of the earlier vans was a strong driver of his latest purchase decision.

"The reliability of the first vans has been outstanding; given the nature of what we do, we can't afford any breakdowns or issues, because it's just not inconvenient, it could also affect the welfare of our patients," Bob said.

It would be difficult for St Vincent's to find a better or more suitably experienced person to manage the hospital's fleet. A paramedic with 34 years' experience, Bob retired for a couple of years before becoming restless and deciding to return to the workforce, but rather than rejoining at the frontline, he became involved in fleet management. Twelve years on, he's still going strong.

Bob's title doesn't totally reflect the breadth of his work responsibilities though, because he's also regularly involved in hands on patient transfers, and it provides him with an intimate understand of how the fleet he oversees operates and performs.

"I try to participate in at least one patient transfer per month, but it ends up being a lot more than that," Bob explained.

“A recent trip saw me take one of our patients about 300 kilometres in one of the new Daily vans, it was so comfortable both for me and for the patient – initially they were a little worried about the length of the travel but slept all the way, such is the quality of the ride.”

The three new IVECO Daily vans all share the same drivetrain: IVECO's mid spec 180hp Euro6 engine and smooth shifting 8-speed fully automatic transmission. Two of the vans have volume of 12m<sup>3</sup>, the third is a larger 16m<sup>3</sup> unit that sits on a longer wheelbase and also features rear airbag suspension.

All three vans feature IVECO's high roof option which provides a generous 1900mm internal standing height. The vans are also well equipped with safety features, according to Bob.

“The high roof allows plenty of room to stand-up straight in the van when assisting patients to get in and out, it reduces the risk of any of our staff hurting their backs during transfers,” Bob said.

“Safety is another important aspect we consider when choosing vans for our fleet and the standard safety equipment in the Dailys goes well beyond what we require.”

As impressive as the IVECO Dailys are as an 'off the shelf' vehicle, the interior fit out by Amtek, takes the vans to the next level.

The vans feature adjustable rear seating permitting a variety of configurations depending on patient requirements, as well as anchor points for wheelchairs and medical equipment. One of the vans is also fitted with a wheelchair hoist for easy ingress and egress. Other equipment includes Hovermatts for easy lateral patient transfers and fully electric stretchers.

The ample space in the back of the vans also allows patient-specific medical equipment to be moved from the ward and secured for the journey. To handle the electrical requirements of the equipment, all vans are fitted with pure sine wave inverters that mimic mains power. Additionally the vans carry what is known in the industry as 'senior first aid equipment', which includes defibrillator and oxygen tanks.

To ensure more comfortable travel, the rear of the vans are air conditioned, while internal cameras allow the patient transport officers to better monitor their clients while on the road.

The three new IVECO Daily vans were purchased from IVECO Sydney with Bob also using the dealership for the service and maintenance of all five vans.

“The team at IVECO Sydney have been fantastic to deal with, both during the purchase of the vans and for servicing. They’re very open and honest – I would highly recommend them,” Bob said.

**ends**

## Iveco Australia

*IVECO is a brand of Iveco Group N.V. (EXM: IVG). IVECO designs, manufactures and markets a wide range of light, medium and heavy commercial vehicles for both on and off-road applications.*

*The brand’s wide range of products include the Daily, a vehicle that covers the 3.3 – 7.2 tonne vehicle weight segment, the Eurocargo from 6 – 19 tonnes and, in the heavy segment above 16 tonnes, the ACCO and S-Way. Off-road IVECO offers T-Way and ASTRA models.*

*IVECO employs close to 21,000 individuals globally. It manages production sites in 7 countries throughout Europe, Asia, Africa, Oceania and Latin America where it produces vehicles featuring the latest advanced technologies. 4,200 sales and service outlets in over 160 countries guarantee technical support wherever an IVECO vehicle is at work.*

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