



PRESS RELEASE 2009-01-20

The new generation instrument cluster allows drivers to concentrate on driving

On commission from Scania, Stoneridge has developed a new generation of instrument cluster for all of the company's trucks and buses. The new instrument unit is easier for the driver to use thanks to a newly developed graphical interface. At the same time the appearance has been significantly upgraded using new material options and 3D design. The instrument cluster is available in three different versions, with a variety of advanced functionality. The most advanced variant is called Colour Plus by Scania and has a 6.5 inch TFT screen. It is the largest screen on the market in an instrument cluster for commercial vehicles

Ease of use and design in focus

– We have worked hard to establish an improved instrument unit with an exclusive appearance and we are very proud of the result says Kristofer Wik, Strategic Marketing Director at Stoneridge Electronics. The new instrument unit is the most modern on the market in terms of both appearance and functionality states Kristofer Wik.

The menu system for the screen has been simplified and the driver can now choose which information is displayed on the screen thanks to the programmable fields in the menu. Another new feature is that the brake pressure is displayed in the menu and not in a separate gauge as in previous instrument units. This means that the brake pressure is shown automatically when the vehicle is started and in the main menu if the pressure drops to a critical point.

New technology offers unique features

In developing the new instrument cluster Stoneridge has used the latest technology on the market. Two of the three versions have TFT type high resolution colour screens, where the content can be adapted to the driver's needs. The new graphical interface supports both the advanced TFT screens as well as simpler types of matrix displays. The mechanical structure of the instrument unit is also new, which means improvements in ergonomics and appearance amongst other things. The gauge faces for the speedometer and tachometer have been lowered slightly and equipped with silver rings to give a more exclusive appearance. Work has also been carried out on developing an even and pleasant background lighting for the instrument unit.

– We are very pleased with the cooperation with Stoneridge. The project has gone according to plan and the result is an easily manageable and attractive instrument unit that makes it easier for our drivers to concentrate on driving. This gives us an edge on the market, says Anders Wikman, Head of Information Systems at Scania.

Incorporated in all Scania vehicles in 2009

The project was launched in spring 2006 and the first instrument units were fitted in vehicles in October 2008. In 2009 the instrument unit will be incorporated in all newly manufactured trucks and buses from Scania.

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