

environmental star rating system



The Oxford Bus Company (OBC) has introduced a star rating system on all its buses to show just how environmentally friendly each one is. The ratings are based on independent standards set by the European Environment Agency¹ and clearly show what OBC is doing to help the environment. The European Environment Agency sets demanding benchmark criteria for transport operators. Our policy is simple: we buy new vehicles to the highest emission standard at the time and add to these emission suppression equipment to ensure that we operate the cleanest vehicles affordable.

All the company's buses have been fitted with particulate traps (CRT) and this has dramatically reduced particulate hydrocarbon and carbon monoxide emissions from the fleet.² The system awards no stars for a pre-Euro engine, one for a Euro I, rising to three for a Euro III, with an additional star for vehicles fitted with a CRT trap.

pre-Euro	–
Euro I	★
Euro II	★★
Euro III	★★★
CRT	plus ★

At the beginning of December 2005 we took delivery of a new fleet of Mercedes Citaro buses with the best available anti-pollution measures fitted. Now all our buses are three or four star...an achievement we are very proud of.

But all that investment in new, environmentally friendly buses is only part of the story. In September 2004 we moved to a new £3 million headquarters and depot on Watlington Road equipped with the latest technology and facilities to check, monitor and maintain the highest standards and the lowest possible emissions.

The Oxford Bus Company is proud of its commitment to quality of life in Oxford but it doesn't intend to rest on its laurels. We will continue to take every possible step to make an even bigger contribution to Oxford's air quality.

¹ http://reports.eea.eu.int/technical_report_2002_74/en/Technical%20report%2074%20high%20for%20the%20www.pdf

² <http://www.eminox.com/products/crt.shtml>