

HÜBNER and AIRDAL join forces to offer antiviral surface protection in the mobility sector

# For more protection in public transport

**Kassel, Germany (10 March 2021).** Working together to stop viral spread in buses and trains: The HÜBNER Group has entered into a cooperation agreement with AIRDAL for the distribution of the AIRDAL antiviral surface protection products in the mobility sector. "Regional transit companies are encountering major challenges as a result of the corona pandemic. Since the beginning of the pandemic, passenger numbers have been below the levels of last year – even though buses and trains have not been identified as a particular source of infection spread," says Helge Förster, General Manager of the HÜBNER Group and responsible for the company's mobility business segment. "We have been looking for solutions to support our customers in the current difficult period – and with AIRDAL we have found one." As a leading supplier of the mobility industry, HÜBNER is now offering AIRDAL's antiviral surface protection product (Coating) for all relevant areas in local transport vehicles.

"We are very pleased to have found a strong partner in the bus and rail market who we can work together with to offer our products in this market segment," comments Marice Sevecke, Head of Business Development Airdal-Retail. The product makes it impossible for viruses or bacteria to survive on holding bars, in seating areas, in the vehicle entrances and gangways and in the driver's cockpit – everywhere that persons have direct skin contact with surfaces in the vehicles.

"In providing this protection, AIRDAL works entirely through its physical properties: After application, an ultra-thin protective film made of amorphous glass is formed on the surface. Ultra-miniature barbs in this film destroy the cell wall of viruses and bacteria. Pathogens are eliminated in this way and cannot be spread further," explains Tim Dortans, Head of Bus Service at HÜBNER. The advantages: The treated surfaces don't need to be cleaned and disinfected so frequently – while still achieving the same level of infection protection. After just a short period following application, the quantity of microorganisms on surfaces is reduced by approximately 99.9 percent, as shown in independent testing. And this effect is achieved without any negative impact on the coated materials.

## Cost savings in cleaning and disinfection

The invisible surface protection remains effective for up to twelve months after application. With this long-lasting protection, vehicles don't need to be



disinfected so frequently – which allows for local transit companies to save on costs. In addition, the surface protection can make for a new feeling of safety for passengers," points out Christoph Steinbach, Head of Sales After Sales & Service for rail vehicles. The application of AIRDAL is simple and easy: "After a pre-cleaning, AIRDAL can simply be applied to surfaces without any additional preparation. Two persons can thus disinfect an entire vehicle in a short period of time." On surfaces where AIRDAL has been applied, an additional chemical disinfection is not necessary. These surfaces should simply be cleaned at the regular intervals.

# The HÜBNER Group

#### **Mobility. Materials. Photonics.** | united by passion.

As a global system supplier for the mobility industry, for manufacturing and for life sciences and research applications, the HÜBNER Group is the worldwide leader in gangway systems for buses and railway vehicles (**Mobility**), a well-recognized specialist for sophisticated elastomer solutions and products, insulation and composite materials (**Material Solutions**), as well as a supplier for applications in the field of laser, terahertz and high frequency technologies (**Photonics**). The HÜBNER Group employs more than 3,500 persons worldwide. In addition to the headquarters in Kassel, Germany, HÜBNER has established more than 30 locations around the world over the preceding years.

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#### AIRDAL RETAIL THE NEW INDUSTRY STANDARD FOR BACTERIAL AND VIRAL PREVENTION

It is our mission to improve our daily life and health significantly with intelligent, easy-to-use and sustainable protection against viruses and bacteria.

With our product AIRDAL® Coating we have found a visionary solution to reduce the risk of infection by viruses, bacteria or germs substantially.

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