

# Truck & Bus Builder **INDIA**

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## Contract

### *Telma wins contract for electro-magnetic retarder with Volvo Buses India*

**Chennai** - Coaches for intercity applications built by **Volvo Buses India Pvt Ltd** (VBI) of Hosakote, Bangalore are now to be equipped with retarders from electromagnetic retarder specialist, **Telma Retarder India Pvt Ltd**, which is based Purasawalkam, Chennai.

Telma India (established in October 2012), a wholly-owned subsidiary of France's, Telma SA, is to provide the gear box mounting variant of its retarders for the new rear-engine powered Volvo 'Asia' buses. (Volvo has developed a new range of lower cost buses, which it calls its Asia bus range, which it is to begin manufacturing, shortly). Telma's electromagnetic retarders are to replace the hydraulic retarders used in earlier versions of Volvo's bus range. Telma said that the change was due to the harsh sub-tropical climate and the irregular traffic conditions in India, where electromagnetic retarders fare well compared with its competition.

M Sriram, managing director, Telma Retarders India, remarked. "We have already secured orders for around 200 units for the year 2013-14, which we believe will grow to more than 1000 during the year 2014-15."

Telma retarders are fitted already by **Ashok Leyland**. Telma says that its retarders are currently undergoing testing with **Tata Motors, AMW, SML** and **Isuzu**.

Telma, which says that its electro-magnetic retarders are already being used in India by **Daimler** in the Mercedes Actros 4841 tipper (Telma claims it is the first time a tipper is fitted with a retarder in India), for mining applications and suggests that the vehicles brake life can be extended up to seven times by fitting its electro-magnetic retarder. Telma also says its retarders are predominantly used for stop and go operations, with 85% of its brake power capable of acting at just three km/h, which, Telma points out makes it ideal for slow moving traffic in India.

'Asia' bus represents the low-cost, localized versions of its rear-engine powered buses (9100 4x2 intercity coach) made by Volvo for India and other Asian markets.

Specification: 12m rear engine, 45 seats, intercity coach with 240hp EUR III Volvo D7E 240 CRDI Engine, 6DS 100 TA 6-speed 1000 N-m torque transmission and ABS fitted as standard.