

Caravanning of the future: Innovative electromobility at CMT Stuttgart

AL-KO Vehicle Technology is presenting the Hybrid Power Chassis and Next Generation Caravan Platform at CMT Stuttgart 2020

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Page 1 of 2

Kötz – Environmentally-friendly, fuel-efficient, wide-coverage – are the new features of AL-KO Vehicle Technology from the E-Mobility range. Both the Hybrid Power Chassis and the Next Generation Caravan Platform are paragons of what is possible with state-of-the-art electrical drive technology and sensors. Along with its partner, Huber Automotive GmbH, AL-KO is presenting the two electromobility highlights from 11 to 19 January 2020 at the special area, EO 38, at CMT Stuttgart.

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Hybrid Power Chassis – Higher ranges, decreased CO₂

With the Hybrid Power Chassis, AL-KO along with Huber Automotive AG is demonstrating how E-mobility and an internal combustion engine can be optimally connected for motorhomes. The basis of the **hybrid concept** is the variable **AL-KO lightweight chassis**, which enables modular use of battery packs as well as E-drive components. At the same time, it offers optimum protection for the batteries. The electrical rear axle with a peak power of 90 kW is engaged, if required. The battery capacity is designed for an **all-electric range** between **50 and 100 km**. By the second half of 2020, the first configurations of the HPC® for motorhomes with Fiat Ducato end car should be available with approval for specific use.

The Hybrid Power Chassis fully meets or even exceeds the **high range** of a fuel-driven motorhome. For overland driving, the internal combustion engine of the vehicle is used without any restrictions. In the case of additional support by the E-drive, better acceleration values as well as a **saving in fuel and CO₂ reduction** of up to 30 percent can be achieved. A plug-in charging function guarantees flexible, fast charging. Indeed, the journey can be started immediately with fully charged batteries without any emissions. Motorhomes with the HPC® platform therefore meet the prerequisites for country-specific requirements and approval with **E-mark** in Germany. A further development for even greater comfort and more ecological driving is already underway: Using GPS, the system should be able to detect designated environmental zones in fully automatic mode and automatically switch to emission-free mode.

Page 2 of 2

Next Generation Caravan Platform – the trailer of the future

The range of electric vehicles when connected to a traditional caravan or trailer is greatly reduced – sometimes by up to 70%. The technical solution from AL-KO for range problems is an electrical 48 volt drive integrated in the chassis of the trailer. By actively supporting the towing vehicle, the **range** is increased – and this is regardless of whether a classic combustion engine or E-towing vehicle is used. The next generation trailer platform is designed for trailers and caravans up to 3.5 tons.

What's more, there are additional benefits. Thanks to **recuperation** in braking/overrun mode, driving with electric cars becomes more efficient and ecological. In fuel-driven vehicles, E-support in future caravan chassis offers a **reduction in fuel consumption and CO₂ emissions**. An intelligent system architecture ensures situation-specific, electronic **vehicle combination stabilization** in no time at all. Thanks to the recuperation, **brake support** is provided when driving on mountain passes, whereby continual braking is more comfortable and exerts lower wear on downhill sections. The driven trailer axle serves as additional **traction equipment** to move the vehicle combination on difficult camping terrain. What's more, the integrated energy storage ensures greater **autarky**: Fridge, air conditioning system and much more are "electrified" in the truest sense of the word. Additional functions, such as an integrated maneuvering system, intelligent charging functions, anti-theft protection and camera systems increase comfort. A smartphone can also be used to locate the caravan, view the kilometers driven and read out the battery charge level.

AL-KO Vehicle Technology Group GmbH

Founded in 1931, AL-KO Vehicle Technology is now a global technology company with over 30 sites in Europe, South America, Asia and Australia. As a supplier of high-quality chassis components for trailers, leisure vehicles and light commercial vehicles, AL-KO is synonymous with ergonomic and functional excellence, superb comfort as well as innovations to enhance driving safety. The company specializes in sophisticated innovation processes and has received many awards for this. The AL-KO Vehicle Technology Group is a full subsidiary of DexKo Global Inc., a portfolio company of KPS Capital Partners, LP.