The 28th meeting of the Trolleybus committee of UITP took place in Plzeň (Czech Republic) on May 23–26, 2018. The meeting was hosted by the public transport operator of Pilsen, the company Plzeňské Městské Dopravní Podniky, a.s. (PMDP).

This time the discussion was devoted to the systems of cordless hybrid trolleybuses and their infrastructure. New technologies provide good opportunities to replace diesel buses or traditional trolleybuses with trolleys equipped with a set of batteries. It will allow to expand a trolleybus network, extending lines on the routes not equipped with a contact network. Solutions for the combination of power supply from the electric network and batteries are currently being considered, and the first experience of implementation is mostly positive.

Jiri Kohut, head of PMDP Transport Department, noted: «trolleybuses have become very flexible, it is an excellent solution for electric mobility, especially for large, mountainous cities. For example, the city of Plzeň has committed to increase the share of electric transport in public transport from 64 % to 85 % until 2030. Trolleybuses and devices for mobile charging will help us in this».

All members and guests were invited to visit the PMDP maintenance facilities, the trolleybus control system and the depot. Members of the Committee also visited a new storage buffer station, which compensates for the low and high peaks of voltage in the trolleybus network during the day.

Czech companies-Suppliers Elektroline, Škoda Electric, Cegelec And ESKO also took an active part in the 28th meeting of the Trolleybus Committee of UITP, presenting their developments, achievements and plans in Plzeň and Prague.

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