

Press Information

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FIRST VOLVO FE ELECTRIC SKIPLOADER FOR BIFFA, AS PART OF SIGNIFICANT FLEET INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

Biffa, the UK's leading sustainable waste management company, is to put its first electric skiploader into service, with a new 18-tonne Volvo FE Electric 4x2 rigid bringing zero tailpipe emission operation to the Isle of Wight.

The arrival of the FE Electric forms part of an order for 104 new Biffa vehicles from Volvo Trucks, being deployed across the UK as part of a major fleet modernisation programme – with all trucks supplied through Abdi Ali, Key Account Manager, Volvo Trucks UK & Ireland.

Anthony Holley, Fleet & Facilities Director at Biffa, says: “As a business we have more than a century's worth of experience in helping our customers keep their environment clean, and are committed to reducing our carbon footprint. Central to this is the transition of our fleet to alternative fuels and naturally we wanted to be amongst the first fleets to gain real-world experience of operating an electric truck.

“The support from Volvo Trucks has been fantastic: they've had the answers for us at every stage and the suitability and performance of the FE Electric for this application is already clear to see. It offers significant potential for us, as we look to transition more of the fleet to electric in line with our ‘Resourceful, Responsible’ sustainability strategy.”

The Volvo FE Electric has been mounted with Boughton Engineering skiploader bodywork and is powered by two electric motors, generating a peak torque of 850 Nm and driven by a two-speed transmission, offering a very smooth driving experience. This power is handled by a unique traction control system developed to master even slippery surfaces, while different drive modes are available to set the desired performance, comfort, and energy usage levels.

Equipped with four batteries, it offers a range of approximately 190km and can be recharged in just 2.3 hours with the use of a 150kW DC charger. The Biffa team can also take advantage of top-up charges mid-shift, as the battery can be charged more quickly up to 80% capacity.

Hannah Burgess, Director of New Vehicles Sales at Volvo Trucks UK & Ireland, adds: “The Biffa team have incredibly high standards for what they require from any vehicle entering their fleet, and the FE Electric ticked all the boxes and is ideally suited to this application. It's great to see another Volvo electric truck entering service with a major fleet.”

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V O L V O

Founded in 1912, Biffa operates a 4,000 strong commercial vehicle fleet spread across more than 100 depots in the UK.

In addition to the new FE Electric, the order also comprises 48 Volvo FM 8x4 hookloaders, 34 Volvo FM 8x2 front-end loaders, 7 Volvo FH 6x2 tractor units, 3 Volvo FE 6x2 food and glass collection vehicles and an additional 11 Volvo FL 4x2 skiploaders. All these vehicles benefit from the latest generation Euro-6 Step E diesel engine technology, for optimum fuel efficiency and sustainability.

- ENDS -

Caption for photograph:

Leading sustainable waste management company Biffa has taken delivery of a Volvo FE Electric 18-tonne rigid skip loader as part of its ongoing ambitions to improve its fleet sustainability.

For more information, please contact:

Martin Tomlinson, Head of Media, Volvo Trucks UK & Ireland

Mobile: +44 (0) 7775 938063

E-mail: martin.tomlinson@volvo.com

Volvo Trucks supplies complete transport solutions for discerning professional customers with its full range of medium- and heavy-duty trucks. Customer support is provided via a global network of dealers with 2,300 service points in about 130 countries. Volvo trucks are assembled in 12 countries across the globe. In 2022 approximately 145,000 Volvo trucks were delivered worldwide. Volvo Trucks is part of the Volvo Group, one of the world's leading manufacturers of trucks, buses, construction equipment and marine and industrial engines. The group also provides complete solutions for financing and service. Volvo Trucks' work is based on the core values of quality, safety and environmental care.