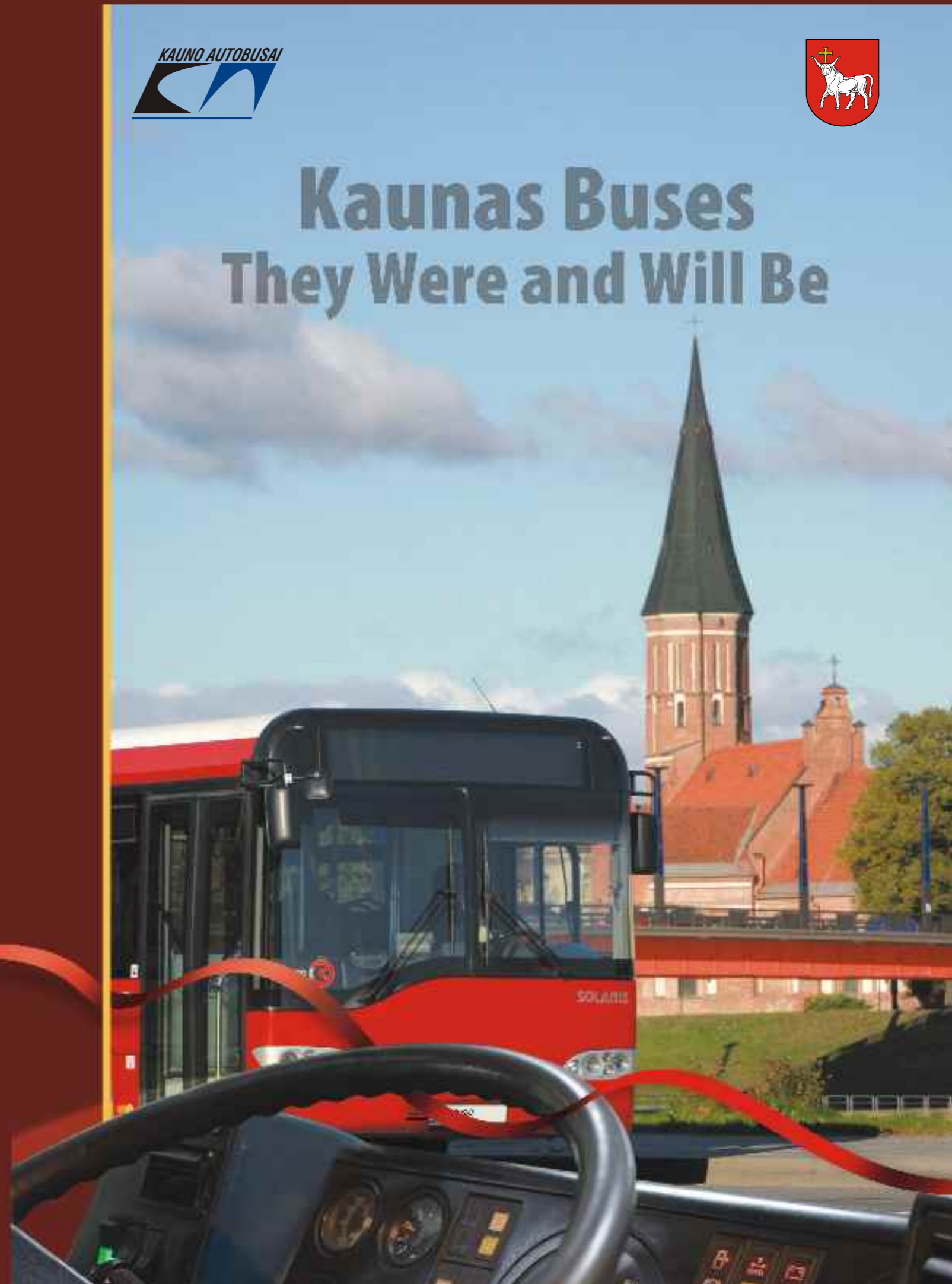




# Kaunas Buses They Were and Will Be

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JSC "Kauno autobusai"  
Raudondvario pl. 105, Kaunas, Lithuania  
Ph. +370 37 362509, fax. +370 37 362737  
e-mail: info@kaunoautobusai.lt  
www.kaunoautobusai.lt





## History

### About the Enterprise

JSC "Kauno autobusai" is an inseparable part of Kaunas city, necessary to and appreciated by public transport users and customers taking advantage of other services provided by the enterprise.

Established on 8 February 1934, passenger transport company has been operating already for more than 75 years. Currently, the enterprise employs more than 552 employees; every day 146 buses run in Kaunas city and its vicinity, even 30 different routes are operated.

Enterprise employees are happy to serve many people, daily. Long experience of enterprise existence allows stating that even in the presence of complicated life circumstances in the country, demand for passenger transport in Kaunas city remains. At present the company carries more than 108 thousand passengers every day.

The company provides minibus rental services, technical servicing and repairs, as well as bus advertising services (outside and inside the buses).

JSC "Kauno autobusai" organisational structure includes the Board, the Administration, Marketing and Sales Service, Technical and Transport Maintenance Service, and Accounting Service.

The period of company existence covers more than 75 years. In the run of time, the company has gone through both pleasant and difficult stages of its development. Responsible attitude and persistent work of the company staff allowed moving on. All this gives the reason to feel happy about present-day results of the company activity.

The official establishment day of JSC "Kauno autobusai" is considered the 8th February 1934, the day Kaunas City Municipality adopted Decision No 444 „On the Establishment of the Enterprise to Carry Passengers in Kaunas City“. Up to that date, since 1924 twelve (later – sixteen) buses owned by private carriers had been running in Kaunas city. Unfortunately, neither Kaunas residents nor authorities of Kaunas City Municipality were satisfied with the work of private carriers; therefore, the Municipality had to take over passenger carriage in to their own hands.

In the first years of its existence, a young company had a small number of buses, which has gradually increased; in 1937 the company already owned 44 buses. After two years, with a staff of 454 employees, the company started to manufacture its own buses in a newly-build repair workshop in Šančiai. Later, bus manufacturing as well as all company activities was ceased by Word War II.

In 1945 the buses resumed running on the route "Rotušė – Panemunė" (Eng. "City Hall – Panemunė"), and after two years the first intercity route "Kaunas – Šiauliai" was launched.

In 1950 the enterprise was renamed into "Kaunas Buses – Taximotor Depot" and after six years it was reorganised into two separate enterprises: Kaunas Taxi Depot and Kaunas Bus Depot.

The bus fleet grew alongside a rising demand for public transport in Kaunas; gradually, the company got the bus fleet modernised and increased the number of buses, routes, and employees. In 1984 the company employed more than 2,300 employees, maintained 465 buses, and operated 41 city routes, 10 suburban routes and 30 intercity routes.

With development of the bus depot activities, the company started considering of a strategically more convenient enterprise location. JSC "Kauno autobusai" moved into present premises in 1989, when the branch of Kaunas State Bus Depot was established in Vilijampolė.

From 1947 to 1992, intercity and city buses used to travel from and to bus depot, when finally two different transport usage directions decided the appearance of the two enterprises, i.e. Kaunas State Suburb Bus Depot and Kaunas State City Bus Depot. The latter was reorganised into a special-purpose joint stock company, and in the following year it was renamed into JSC "Kauno autobusai". The one and only shareholder of the company is Kaunas City Municipality.





## About Employees

Responsible and competent employees make the basis for successful activity of JSC "Kauno autobusai", one of the first passenger transport enterprises in Lithuania. Appreciating each staff member's work and effort to serve the city residents, the enterprise takes care of its employees' qualification, favourable working conditions, staff cohesion, and provides possibilities to meaningfully spend leisure time.

Striving for irreproachable results of its activity, JSC "Kauno autobusai" devotes special attention to vocational training of its employees. The staff is encouraged to participate in public seminars organised by the enterprise; training courses provide information about the ways to interact with customers, deal with conflict situations, cope with stress, or deepen professional expertise. Employees get acquainted with technology innovations in "Voith" representative office in Poland.

The enterprise operates on the grounds of both long-lasting experience of JSC "Kauno autobusai" and the experience of foreign bus depots and enterprises operating in other spheres of transport industry. Company representatives attended modern technologies exhibition in Munich (Germany). In the Czech Republic and Slovakia, employees got acquainted with maintenance and manufacturing of the new SGD buses. In Moscow (Russia) they deepened their knowledge in the seminar on public city transport, visiting the 14th Moscow bus depot. Knowledge gained during vocational training courses and on business trips is successfully applied in practice; therefore, employees' work is improving and becomes even more valuable.

The enterprise pays much attention not only to improvement of specialist

qualification but also to creation of favourable working conditions for its employees. The company, aiming at strengthening employees' inter-relationship and providing them with opportunities to spend their leisure time well, are traditionally organising various celebrations and events. Each year, the company employees go to Rumšiškės to celebrate Mardi Grass Day (Lith. "Užgavėnės"), participate in competition for long-distance route freight drivers and intercity bus drivers organised by "Linava", take part in a festive for transport workers "The Autumn of Carriers" (Lith. "Vežėjų ruduo") organised by JSC "Kauno autobusai". Every April employees clean up the company's environment, on 16 February celebrate the Independence Day of Lithuania as well as celebrate Christmas Eve and enjoy New Year parties. For its employees, the company arranges trips to various Lithuanian cities and towns to visit museums, historical and cultural monuments.

Sport lovers are also given opportunities for purposeful leisure time. Enterprise employees are successfully playing in "Kauno autobusai" basketball team. Since 2003, the company has won 3 gold, 2 silver and 3 bronze medals in various basketball matches.

Two trade unions take care of JSC "Kauno autobusai" employees: Passenger Transport Trade Union and Trade Union of Employees. Unions also organise different seminars and

special meetings.

The state of employees' health is examined by nurses of the company community.





## About Routes

To effectively satisfy the needs of residents, the enterprise buses operate even 30 different routes whose total length is 1071.5 km.

The longest route, approximately 59 km, is No 3 "2 – oji ligoninė – Onkologijos ligoninė" (Eng. "2nd Hospital – Oncology Hospital"). During rush hours, passengers are carried on this route in 3 hours. Meanwhile, the shortest route, i.e. route No 11 "2 – oji ligoninė – S. Dariaus ir S. Girėno g." (Eng. "2nd Hospital – S. Dariaus and S. Girėno Str."), 16.2 km long, is done in less than one hour.

Although city panorama and travelling needs of the residents are constantly changing, JSC "Kauno autobusai" can boast of keeping long-existing routes, well known to Kaunas residents. Route No 15 "Kauno apskrities ligoninė – Palemonas" (Eng. "Kaunas District Hospital – Palemonas") is more than 25 years.





# About Vehicles



Technical Service is thoroughly taking care of the company's transport: it constantly examines technical status of vehicles, periodically conducts bus technical inspection, and in case of any breakdowns, performs all repair works.



At present the enterprise has a fleet of 208 buses, 55 of them are "Solaris" models, purchased in 2004. JSC "Kauno autobusai" owns a number of other western models of vehicles: KAROSA, VOLVO, SCANIA, DAF, VAN HOOL. Durable "Ikarus" buses, which served the company since 1975, officially retired and were removed on 19 December 2008. From 1992, these buses made 94 million km and carried approximately 330 million passengers.

Being proud of its long experience, the



enterprise has a positive attitude towards the future and aims at even better passenger servicing results; therefore, it keeps modernising, upgrading, and replacing old bus models with the new ones.





## Our partners



### About Partnership, Contribution and Attitude

The activity of JSC "Kauno autobusai" is dedicated to cater for people's demands; that is why the enterprise tries to broaden its views, highly values various social activities, and contributes to cultural and social projects.

Approving of the idea of clean nature and reasonable use of resources, JSC "Kauno autobusai" pays a great deal of its attention to saving of energy resources.

The company has launched the implementation of clean city project – new, more ecological compressed natural gas stations are being build.

The company appreciates valuable partnership, and is proud of having a possibility to cooperate with different Lithuanian and foreign enterprises.

The main JSC "Kauno autobusai" partners are as follows: Lithuanian national carrier association "Linava"; European Bank for Reconstruction and Development; Solaris Bus & Coach S.A., PLC "Autrolis"; drivers training school JSC "ARV – AUTO"; security service "Argus"; JSC "Merakas", which designed route planning software; electronic devices manufacturer JSC "Empirija"; regular gas providers JSC "Ekolita"; a producer of gastronomic, culinary food products JSC "Seduja"; construction and repair, heating and plumbing accessories, garden and environment design material and equipment store "Santera".

The company maintains close cooperation with insurance companies PLC "If draudimas" and JSC "Aon Lietuva". JSC "Kauno autobusai" also expresses its gratitude to TEO LT, AB, the largest telecommunication enterprise in Lithuania, for taking care of the company's telecommunications as well as for contribution to issuing this anniversary publication.

