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Press Release – for immediate release

MaltaPost Rolls Out Historical Mobile Post Office

Charming 1965 Scammell Tractor has been expertly restored and purposely rebuilt for use as a vintage mobile post office

Drivers, passengers and pedestrians can shortly expect to see a bright new addition grace Malta's roads – MaltaPost's beautifully-converted 1965 Scammell Tractor will begin its new life as a vintage mobile post office on 30 May.

Following on from 24 months of dedicated restoration works, this vehicle is now in tip-top condition and has been purposely re-built – inside and out – to reflect the needs of MaltaPost's clients. It will be a one-stop-shop for the company's services, and will be scheduled to visit various locations throughout the week, including high-visibility tourist areas.

"This was an exciting project for MaltaPost," explains Joseph Gafá, CEO at MaltaPost plc. "As a company we are always looking at new ways to give our customers more, and this vintage mobile post office promises to do just that – providing a convenient service in a pleasant and historical setting."

The 1965 Scammell previously belonged to Simonds Farsons Cisk Ltd. Over the years this company used the tractor towing a variety of trailers for inner zone transport and local deliveries. The tractors were a popular and familiar sight in the 70s and 80s, and well-cared for by Farsons, but they eventually became less viable thanks to the more modern vehicles that became available.

With this in mind, MaltaPost took the opportunity and secured one of these attractive tractors. The transformation process was in the hands of experienced restorer and bus body builder Manuel Cutajar of Zinnu Bus & Coach Works. "We stayed very true to the original design," he says. "We took the structure and re-built it as new, giving it a beautiful bright red paint job to reflect its new role as a post office. Internally we made it as practical as possible, both for being driven around and for use as an office. It is kitted out with all the necessary facilities, including air-conditioning, lighting and computer points," Mr Cutajar adds.

Now, with the transformation complete, the 1965 Scammell is ready to start its new career. MaltaPost's Vintage Mobile Post Office will be officially inaugurated on 30 May 2012 outside the Law Courts in Valletta, as part of a ceremony attended by the Hon. Minister Austin Gatt and MaltaPost Chairman Joseph Said.

To further mark this occasion, MaltaPost's Philatelic Bureau will be issuing a personalised stamp/cover featuring the restored 1965 Scammell, and a Special hand postmark that will be used on 30th May at the Vintage Mobile PostOffice. Orders for this Special Hand Postmark may be placed online at www.maltaphilately.com or by mail from the Philatelic Bureau, MaltaPost p.l.c. 305, Triq Ħal Qormi, Marsa, MTP 1001 - Telephone 2596 1740 - e-mail: info@maltaphilately.com

MaltaPost tirrestawra Mobile Post Office Storiku

Scammell Tractor tal-1965 kien restawrat b'mod espert u rega' nbena mill-gdid biex jintuza bhala mobile post office

Sewwieqa, passiggiera u kull min ikun miexi fit-triq issa dalwaqt se jibda' jara zieda gdida ta' trasport fit-toroq Maltin – L-Scammell Tractor tal-1965 li gie rinovat mill-MaltaPost u se jibda l-hajja tieghu bhala mobile post office fit-30 ta' Mejju.

Wara 24 xahar ta' xoghol ta' restawr minn persuni dedikati, din il-vettura issa tinsab f'kundizzjoni tajba u regghet gie mibnija apposta – kemm minn barra kif ukoll minn gewwa biex taqdi l-bzonnijiet tal-klijenti tal-MaltaPost. Din il-vettura ser isservi bhala hanut fejn tista' tixtri s-servizzi kollha tal-MaltaPost u se zzur bosta postijiet matul il-gimgha kollha, inkluzi postijiet li jkun hemm hafna turisti.

“Dan kien progett importanti hafna ghal MaltaPost,” qal Joseph Gafá, CEO ta' MaltaPost plc. “Bhala kumpanija ahna dejjem infittxu modi godda biex naghtu lill-klijenti taghna dak li jixtiequ u l-mobile post office qed iwieghed dan – li jipprovi servizz tajjeb u storiku lil kull min juzah.”

L-Scammell Tractor tal-1965 kien ta' Simonds Farsons Cisk Ltd. Tul is-snin, din il-kumpanija uzat dan it-tractor bhala mezz mekkaniku ghax-xoghol billi kien jigbed numru ta' trailers fil-fabbrika u kien jintuza ghad-deliveries. It-tractors kienu xena popolari u familjari fis-sebghinijiet u t-tmeninijiet u Farsons kienu jiehdu hsiebhom sew, izda biz-zmien ma tantx baqghu jintuzaw grazzi ghal trasport aktar modern.

Minhabba dan il-fatt, MaltaPost hadet din l-opportunita' li tbiddel wiehed min dawn it-tractors ferm sbieh. Il-process tat-trasformazzjoni kien f'idejn Manuel Cutajar ta' Zinnu Bus & Coach Works, espert fir-restawr u l-bini tax-xarabanks. “Zammejna kemm jista' jkun id-disinn originali,” qal Cutajar. “Hadna l-istruttura u ergajna bdejna mill-gdid, tajniha zebgha hamra biex tirrifletti r-rwol il-gdid ta' ufficju postali. Minn gewwa ghamilniha kemm jista' jkun semplici, kemm ghal waqt li tkun miexja kif ukoll biex tintuza bhala ufficju. Ghandha l-facilitajiet kollha, kemm arja kundizzjonata, dawl u computers,” kompli Cutajar.

Issa li tlestiet it-trasformazzjoni, l-iScammell tal-1965 lest biex jibda l-karriera gdida tieghu. Il-Mobile Post Office ta' MaltaPost se jkun inawgurat ufficjalment fit-30 ta' Mejju barra l-Qorti il-Belt Valletta, bhala parti minn cerimonja li se jattendi ghaliha, il-Ministru Austin Gatt u c-Chairman tal-MaltaPost Joseph Said.

Biex tfakkar din l-okkazjoni, il-Bureau Filateliku tal-MaltaPost se johrog Personalised Cover tal-iScammell Tractor tal-1965. Dan jista' jinkiseb mill-Ufficji tal-MaltaPost nhar it-30 ta' Mejju jew mill-Bureau Filateliku tal-MaltaPost, 305, Triq Hal Qormi, Marsa MTP 1001 jew online fuq www.maltapost.com, Telephone 2596 1740 – u e-mail: info@maltaphilately.com