



# Ethanol electric hybrid bus for Reading

The world's first 'super green' double-decker to hit the roads in Reading

**T**he ethanol-electric hybrid bus is due to be fully operational and on the roads within the next 2 years and will have almost zero emissions.

The concept bus has been going through refinements since last year and is currently only a single-decker bus, but with very low fuel consumption it would be one of the world's most environmentally friendly buses. There are currently four single-decker buses on trial in Stockholm but currently no double-decker ethanol powered hybrids.

The new buses will go on trial in Reading in 2010 and it's hoped they will rival hydrogen buses for their green

status. The buses carry an ethanol engine that has exceptionally low tail pipe emissions, an estimated 40 per cent better than the newest diesel engine.

This will make the Reading bus just as good as a hydrogen bus with a fuel that is sourced in a much more environmentally friendly manner.

The ethanol that is used is a by-product of the sugar refining of sugar beet in Norfolk, so it produces very little carbon dioxide waste product.

With the successful trial of "Ethel" a double-decker bus that runs on ethanol, Reading Buses has installed an ethanol pump at the bus station in Great Knollys Street and will be introducing a further 14 ethanol buses to the 17 route from this month.

[www.businessinberkshire.co.uk](http://www.businessinberkshire.co.uk)