

## **MERCEDES-BENZ DE MÉXICO**

*Mercedes-Benz de México* manufactures urban and intercity buses. The company has built two new plants, one near Toluca and the other in Monterrey. These plants are expected to become fully operational in 1995. In 1993, *Mercedes-Benz de México* sold about 1,000 imported buses in Mexico.

## **BODY MANUFACTURERS**

The major bus producers buy bodies and other components from a variety of Mexican companies, including the following:

- *Grupo Industrial Casa*, a major supplier of transit and intercity style bodies for conventional body-on-chassis type buses. Capacity is 3,500 bodies per year, but production is much lower.
- *Carrocercías Capre*, a leading manufacturer of urban and suburban transit bus bodies. Capacity is 3,500 bodies per year.
- *Carrocercías Toluca* is one of the oldest companies in the industry. They build 2,500 units per year.
- *Minibuses Alfa* manufactures mainly 15- to 20-passenger minibus bodies for use on Chrysler, GMC and Ford chassis. It also manufactures larger designs. Capacity is 4,500 bodies per year.
- *Eurocar México* manufactures intermediate size 30- to 40-passenger suburban-type bodies. Capacity is 2,200 bodies per year.

Two American bus body manufacturers, Thomas Built Buses and Bluebird, have recently decided to establish plants in Monterrey. Both firms manufacture conventional school type of bus bodies for modified truck chassis as well as a range of body-on-chassis urban transit buses. These plants are scheduled to open in 1995.

According to news reports, the Blue Bird Mexico plant, near Monterrey, will have a capacity of 3,000 units per year. The US \$10 million plant will produce intercity buses for sale in Mexico and Latin America.