



## Press Information

# Volvo Trucks' Customer Saia Takes Delivery of Two Volvo VNR Electrics

Saia LTL Freight, a leading national transportation and logistics provider founded in 1924, recently took delivery of two Volvo VNR Electric trucks at its facility in Los Angeles, California. The VNR Electrics from Volvo Trucks North America are the first zero tailpipe emission, battery-electric Class 8 trucks to be deployed in Saia's fleet, which provides regional freight distribution services throughout Southern California, as well as logistics services across the U.S., Canada, Puerto Rico, and Mexico.

The Volvo VNR Electric trucks being leased to Saia by Volvo Financial Services (VFS) are part of the Volvo LIGHTS project, an innovative collaboration between Volvo Trucks North America, the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD), and 12 other organizations, to develop a blueprint to successfully introduce battery-electric trucks and equipment into the North American transport industry at scale. The project includes a total of 17 leased VNR Electrics being placed into Southern California fleet operations.

"Volvo Trucks is pleased that Saia has chosen the VNR Electric as its first battery-electric model for regional freight transportation. We are excited to partner with their team on this important first step toward fleet electrification and look forward to delivering the quality and reliability Saia requires to scale their zero-emission fleet in the future," said Peter Voorhoeve, president, Volvo Trucks North America. "Through the Volvo LIGHTS project and the commercial launch of the VNR Electric, we have developed a robust service model to provide our customers with full support—from funding and financing options from VFS to vehicle procurement, infrastructure planning and installation, and regular maintenance schedules to maximize uptime."

"Commercialization of these cleaner technologies is a big part of the solution for cleaner air," said Wayne Nastri, South Coast AQMD's executive officer. "Saia's deployment of zero-emission trucks provides a real-world example of how fleet operators can help reduce air pollution in our local communities, while still meeting business demands."

Across the U.S., Saia has a fleet of nearly 5,000 trucks, including 350 in Southern California, that operate out of 170 terminals and transport more than 30,000 daily shipments to customers in a myriad of industrial and manufacturing sectors. Saia will leverage the firsthand insight gained by operating its two Volvo VNR Electrics to identify the ideal routes in which to integrate additional battery-electric trucks for its future operations.

As a less-than-truckload provider with a long history in innovation, Saia embraces its responsibility to the environment and to helping preserve and protect the world for future generations. Saia is making substantial investments in sustainable business practices and has been honored as a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency SmartWay Excellence Award recipient.



“Being a good corporate citizen is an important principle of our core values, so it’s imperative that we are managing our operations in a responsible and sustainable manner,” said Fritz Holzgreffe, Saia president and chief executive officer. “Partnering with Volvo Trucks to deploy the VNR Electrics into our Southern California freight routes will allow us to explore and fully utilize zero-emission technology to reduce our fleet’s carbon footprint.”

In addition to its dedication as an environmental steward, Saia is committed to providing a safe environment for its drivers and the communities in which they operate. The company has been repeatedly recognized by the American Trucking Associations’ Safety Management Council for its outstanding safety record, which is supported by a variety of training programs, robust employee recognition programs, and investments in the latest safety technologies.

Saia professional driver Keny Cano noted, “When I first drove the Volvo VNR Electric, I was surprised by how quiet and responsive it was and how much more relaxing the entire driving experience was. I felt very safe behind the wheel, and I look forward to driving this truck on my routes.”

To help Saia maximize vehicle uptime, TEC Equipment, Volvo Trucks’ largest West Coast dealership and a Volvo LIGHTS project partner, will provide contracted maintenance and repairs through the premier Volvo Gold Contract service offering at its location in Fontana, California.

Volvo LIGHTS (Low Impact Green Heavy Transport Solutions) is part of [California Climate Investments](#), a statewide initiative that puts billions of Cap-and-Trade dollars to work reducing greenhouse gas emissions, strengthening the economy, and improving public health and the environment—particularly in disadvantaged communities.

To learn more about the Volvo LIGHTS project, visit [www.lightsproject.com](http://www.lightsproject.com).

For information on how fleets can apply for Volvo VNR Electric funding and incentive opportunities in North America, please email [support.VNRElectric@volvo.com](mailto:support.VNRElectric@volvo.com).



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**CAPTION:** Saia LTL Freight, a leading transportation and logistics provider, recently took delivery of two Volvo VNR Electric trucks at its facility in Los Angeles, California. Saia representatives pictured from left to right: Kevin Szydel, vice president of operations, west; Patrick Sugar, executive vice president of operations; Fritz Holzgreffe, president and chief executive officer; Cris Burgum, vice president of maintenance and properties; and Brandon Bruton, director of maintenance and administration.

**NOTE TO EDITORS:**

**High-resolution images associated with this press release and others are available at [www.volvomediabank.com](http://www.volvomediabank.com).**

Volvo Trucks provides complete transport solutions for professional and demanding customers, offering a full range of medium to heavy duty trucks. Customer support is secured via a global network of dealers with 2,300 service points in more than 130 countries. Volvo trucks are assembled in 13 countries across the globe. In 2020 approximately 94,000 Volvo trucks were delivered worldwide. Volvo Trucks is part of 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.

**April 21, 2021**

**For further information, please contact Jennifer Edwards, Volvo Trucks, phone 336-392-9396, email [Jennifer.Edwards@volvo.com](mailto:Jennifer.Edwards@volvo.com)**

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