



'Gaming Transit' supports Charities with accessible fun for young gamers

- Team Fordzilla Ford's own esports team will tour Europe with a specially-equipped
 Gaming Transit to bring entertainment to children in hospices and schools across Europe
- Transit's interior includes games, consoles and adaptable controllers for up to three players. Lift, wheelchair ramp and accessibility features help make experience inclusive
- Road trip will also include further surprise appearances at events across Europe to be confirmed

COLOGNE, Germany, June 11, 2021 – Team Fordzilla is this summer hitting Europe's road to bring fun to children with disabilities and support local charities using a specially-modified Gaming Transit van.

Members of Team Fordzilla – Ford's own esports gaming team – will drive a unique Ford Transit equipped with accessibility features and the latest high-tech gaming technology to visit charities, care providers and alternative provision schools that support children. For children with limited mobility, the van includes items like adaptive controllers that allow external buttons, switches or joysticks to be connected to create specific custom set-ups.

The marathon road trip will include stops in France, Germany, Italy, Spain and the UK helping to bring fun and exciting new experiences to young people who will be able to play a variety of family-friendly games.

"Team Fordzilla believes that gaming is for everyone and that laughs are more important than high scores," said Emmanuel Lubrani, senior manager, Brand Communications and Content Development, Ford of Europe. "Our Gaming Transit - which we nicknamed 'Vanzilla' during development - road trip will take that fun directly to children across Europe, and will include a few surprises to help the wonderful organisations who support them every day."

The Vanzilla road trip begins at Rosa Llácer school in Valencia, Spain, on June 14-15, where approximately 100 young people aged between six and 21 will be able to join the fun before the tour continues to other cities in Spain.

It has been designed to deliver an exciting and engaging experience for children with disabilities as part of Team Fordzilla's drive to share accessibility, inclusivity and competition with gamers. The van's eye-catching design includes styling features by MS-RT, who produce race-inspired versions of Ford's Transit Custom and Connect vans, as well as the striking Ranger MS-RT pick-up.

Gaming Transit is designed to be safe and accessible for players. Ford's partner vehicle modifier Allied Mobility have added a wheelchair lift and folding ramp to make entering and

exiting easy, while adaptive game controllers can be configured to meet players' individual needs.

Inside, the three gaming suites are separated by dividers and feature easily-cleaned surfaces. Gaming Transit also features a pop-up event space and two racing game rigs with steering wheels, pedals, racing seats and a dual-screen setup to create an even more immersive experience for gamers at each leg of the tour.

"I cannot wait to be part of the Gaming Transit road trip and see how much fun we can bring to children across Europe," said Angelo Bülow, Team Fordzilla Germany captain. "Team Fordzilla is all about grassroots talent, so who knows – maybe the road trip will help us find our next star signing."

Team Fordzilla

Ford launched Team Fordzilla – its first ever esports team – in 2019 with individual teams in France, Germany, Italy, Spain and the UK. Each team competes in national competitions with dedicated team captains, with the best drivers representing Team Fordzilla at a European level.

The Gaming Transit initiative follows Team Fordzilla's recent inclusivity campaign "Women to the Track", which seeks to improve the representation of women in sim racing. For further updates, follow them on Twitter (@TeamFordzilla), Instagram (@teamfordzilla) and Twitch (@TeamFordzilla).

Gaming Transit

Ford created Vanzilla in collaboration with established partners from previous vehicles. The exterior style and in-cab upgrades were carried out by MS-RT, while accessibility experts Allied Mobility – a Ford Qualified Vehicle Modifier – fitted the wheelchair ramp for easy access, without sacrificing interior space. Envy Create were responsible for developing the gaming station fit-out to the ideal specification. The full specification of the vehicle can be found below:

Base vehicle		
Base vehicle	Ford Transit 350E 2.0-litre EcoBlue 185 PS RWD L4H3 ¹	
Max power PS (kW)	185 (136)	
Max Torque Nm	415	
Exterior		
Styling	Full exterior wrap in bespoke Team Fordzilla livery, chunky Raptor-style FORD grille	
Wheels	16-inch Trail 10-spoke black alloy wheels	
Interior		
Cab upgrades	MS-RT Nappa leather and suede interior, sculpted steering wheel	
Gamer capacity	3, at separate stations inside the vehicle	

Construction	Built-in tech cabinets and ventilation ducts. Fingerprint- and germ-resistant medical grade laminate finish. Thermal healing helps repairs minor scratches.	
Interior design	Illuminated Team Fordzilla graphics, livery covering floor, sides and roof. Leather seats and foldaway sneeze screens with Team Fordzilla logo.	
Consoles	Xbox Series S, up to 1440p resolution and 120 FPS	
Controllers	Xbox Wireless and Xbox Adaptive controllers enabling plug-in assistive devices for maximum accessibility	
Peripherals	BenQ 32-inch screens, B&O headsets for each player	
Racing game rigs	2x Next Level Racing cockpits with BenQ 55-inch all-weather screens, 34-inch secondary screens	
Accessibility		
Vehicle entry	Allied Mobility rear underfloor wheelchair lift conversion, designed to avoid intrusion into gaming area or rear door access	
Interior	Folding leather seats for full wheelchair access, Xbox adaptive controllers	
Weights and dimensions		
Kerb weight (kg)	3289	
Wheelbase (mm)	4522	
Vehicle length (mm)	6704	
Vehicle height (mm)	2769 (unladen)	
Vehicle width (mm) with/without mirrors	2059/2126	

###

The declared WLTP fuel/energy consumptions, CO₂-Emissions and electric range are determined according to the technical requirements and specifications of the European Regulations (EC) 715/2007 and (EU) 2017/1151 as last amended. The applied standard test procedures enable comparison between different vehicle types and different manufacturers.

###

¹ Ford Transit 350E 2.0-litre EcoBlue 185 PS RWD L4H3 fuel efficiency from 9.4 I/100 km, CO₂ emissions from 246 g/km WLTP

About Ford Motor Company

Ford Motor Company is a global company based in Dearborn, Michigan. The company designs, manufactures, markets and services a full line of Ford cars, trucks, SUVs, electrified vehicles and Lincoln luxury vehicles, provides financial services through Ford Motor Credit Company and is pursuing leadership positions in electrification; mobility solutions, including self-driving services; and connected services. Ford employs approximately 188,000 people worldwide. For more information regarding Ford, its products and Ford Motor Credit Company, please visit www.corporate.ford.com.

Ford of Europe is responsible for producing, selling and servicing Ford brand vehicles in 50 individual markets and employs approximately 43,000 employees at its wholly owned facilities and consolidated joint ventures and approximately 55,000 people when unconsolidated businesses are included. In addition to Ford Motor Credit Company, Ford Europe operations include Ford Customer Service Division and 14 manufacturing facilities (10 wholly owned facilities and four unconsolidated joint venture facilities). The first Ford cars were shipped to Europe in 1903 – the same year Ford Motor Company was founded. European production started in 1911.

Ford in Belgium & Luxemburg

Ford Belgium distributes Ford vehicles and Ford original parts in Belgium & Luxemburg, since 1922. Ford Lommel Proving Ground is the lead test facility for validation of all Ford models in Europe, with approximately 390 employees.

###

Contact:

Jo Declercq – Directeur Communications & Public Affairs – 02.482.21.03 – <u>jdecler2@ford.com</u> Julien Libioul – Press Officer – 02.482.21.05 – <u>jlibioul@ford.com</u>