Designing a survey of Long Distance Transportation by Busses and Coaches: The Swedish approach

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When does a “bus” become a “coach”? 
How long is “long distance”?
Definition of long distance in our survey

Long distance bus transportation is defined as a privately or county traffic principal run route by bus that crosses at least one county border and its final destination is a major dwelling in the destination county.
Traffic rights in Sweden

Local and intraregional (within a county):
County traffic principal monopoly

Interregional and International:
Liberalized market (anyone with a license could run traffic)
The Swedish market historically

• Strictly regulated until 1999 in order to protect the state owned monopoly railways

• The deregulation resulted in an expansion of the number of lines as well as in the total number of passengers. The industry has now stabilized at a high level.
The Swedish market today

- Approximately 60 companies
- 4 of the companies account for 90% of the market
- 400 buses
- Turnover 500-600 Million SEK annually
- 2 million journeys a year

Currently there is no coherent statistical information
The survey

Aim

• In the short term to build up a basis upon which continuous annual follow up can take place
• In the long run the survey should be augmented in order to provide necessary statistical information for various purposes

• Driving forces: SIKA and the industry association
The survey

Areas that will be covered

• The industry
• Supply
• Consumption
• Finance
The industry

• Actors
  – Private
  – County traffic principals

• Identification of routes

• Transport equipment
  – Number of buses
    • Capacity
    • Age

• Availability for disabled
Supply

- Number of seat kilometres
Consumption

- Number of journeys

- Passenger transport performance
  - Passenger kilometres
Finance

• Operating revenue

• Operating cost
Timetable for the survey

- Sent out 10 November
- Deadline for replies 30 November
- Final report January 2007
What comes next at the European level?

• Establishment of fora for cross-border cooperation?

• Elaboration of common definitions?

• European standards?

• Common European survey?
Questions & answers

Thank you for your attention!