

Turkish bus builder could create at least 80 jobs in Miami with natural gas deal

Brian Bandell

South Florida Business Journal

One of the largest bus builders in Turkey plans to open a manufacturing facility in Miami-Dade County and create at least 80 jobs, if its team wins a compressed natural gas (CNG) contract with the county.

Founded in 1966, Karsan has made more than 113,000 buses and provides a fleet of 550 buses serving Istanbul and its millions of riders, said Vice Chairman [Claude Nahum](#). It also has operations in Italy. He'd like the company to open a plant in Miami-Dade to build CNG-powered buses for the county, and then for other customers in North America.



This would be only the second major bus manufacturing facility in the United States, Nahum said.

"Our intention is too be part of the change in the urban transportation industry" Nahum said. "We are considering Miami as a stepping place to enter the U.S. for manufacturing."

Karsan has teamed with Coral Gables-based CNG fueling provider Nopetro to bid on two request for proposals (RFPs) from the county. One RFP is to manufacture 300 CNG-powered buses along with the stations to service them and the other is for a CNG station to serve waste management trucks.

Two other companies are competing with Karsan and Nopetro for the RFPs. The county staff has yet to rank the competitors' bids.

<http://www.bizjournals.com/southflorida/news/2015/03/13/turkish-bus-builder-could-create-at-least-80-jobs.html>