

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Ulsterbus Cross Channel Express launches free Wi-Fi from FleetConnect on their inter-city services**

**Dublin, Ireland February 2010** – FleetConnect, Ireland's leading provider of cellular broadband gateways, has announced that Translink has selected FleetConnect to provide the award-winning Moovbox M200 Mobile Broadband Gateway to provide Wi-Fi connectivity for their Cross Channel Express service. The free Wi-Fi hotspot service will provide passengers with Internet access at speeds up to several megabits per second, using a 3G HSPA network connection from Vodafone.

Launching the new service, Sean Mc Greevy, Business Manager at Ulsterbus Travel Centre said "It's an exciting time for the company. Providing internet connectivity to our fleet introduces a technology platform on which we can build new and innovative services that not only benefit our passengers but also improve the way our fleet operates". "Wi-Fi is becoming increasingly popular on public transport – indeed our research suggests that that Internet connectivity is a high priority for our customers.

The Moovbox M200 Mobile Broadband Gateway acts as a bridge between a vehicle and high-speed cellular data networks including 3G/HSPA, EV-DO and WiMAX, providing Wi-Fi access and an Ethernet-based local area network (LAN) for connecting on-board systems such as CCTV and passenger information systems. The M200 also has integrated GPS receiver for real-time automatic vehicle location (AVL) via the web-based MoovManage service.

"We're delighted that Ulsterbus Cross Channel Express has selected Fleetconnect to provide the on-board Internet technology for its coaches," said Patrick Cotter, Director at Fleetconnect. "Despite the growth of 3G coverage, passengers will take advantage of free Wi-Fi where it's available, to avoid eating into monthly bandwidth allowances and to reduce the very high costs of data roaming outside the home cellular network."

With the proliferation of Wi-Fi enabled portable devices such as the iPhone, iPod Touch, Blackberry and netbooks, free on-board Wi-Fi is rapidly becoming expected by rail, bus and coach passengers, especially on commuter routes and inter-city transport services. Other major Private Coach operators in Ireland – Aircoach, Matthews, Citylink, Go Bus, Wexford Bus and Airporter – have deployed FleetConnect's Internet systems on key routes favoured by commuters, students and international travellers.

## **About FleetConnect**

Established in 2008 - FleetConnect is the leading Irish provider of award-winning wireless communications products and services, with a specific focus on passenger transport, public safety, and indoor and outdoor network applications. The company has already established itself as the leading provider of industrial-grade in-vehicle systems for fast broadband access, delivering passengers WiFi (free internet access) and GPS vehicle tracking - as well as connectivity to enable live CCTV and e-ticketing. FleetConnect is headquartered in Dublin, with offices in the United Kingdom. FleetConnect also offer their rental model in the UK, Holland and Germany.

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## **About Translink**

Translink is the brand name of the integrated public transport operation of Citybus (now Metro), NI Railways and Ulsterbus. The three operating companies have retained their legal status. Translink is one of the largest companies in Northern Ireland with approximately 4,000 employees and a turnover in excess of £168m. Translink provides bus and rail services for Northern Ireland. We now deliver over 81 million passenger journeys a year on bus and rail services - a rise of more than 8 million in the last 4 years. More people are choosing to use public transport in Northern Ireland, as the result of the customer focused and quality public transport services we have worked hard to deliver.