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Attention Business Editors:

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MISSISSAUGA, ON, April 24 /CNW/ - Orion Bus Industries, a division of Western Star Trucks Inc., is pleased to announce it has been awarded a bus purchase contract from The Greater Vancouver Transportation Authority/TransLink (GVTA) for a total value of over \$31 Million Cdn.

The GVTA will purchase seventy-six (76) Orion V high-floor suburban diesel express buses with production planned to commence in early summer 2001.

``Orion is pleased to be working with the GVTA again and looks forward to a long and productive relationship" stated John Bryant, Chief Executive Officer at Orion Bus Industries.

Orion Bus Industries has recently received bus purchase contract awards from San Francisco, California; Schoharie County, New York; Durham, North Carolina; Gastonia, North Carolina; Barrow Alaska; Roseville California and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma all of which totaling over \$10 Million Cdn.

Western Star manufactures heavy duty trucks for world markets through its Western Star Trucks subsidiary in Kelowna, British Columbia and North Charleston, South Carolina and supplies transit buses for the North American market through its Orion subsidiary in Mississauga, Ontario and Oriskany, New York. The shares of Western Star trade on the Toronto and American stock exchanges.

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