

SCHOOL BUS REVIEW 2021 SUBMISSION

My husband and I have been school bus contractors since 1974. One of our daughters is now driving for us.

It as a job we have always undertaken with pride, care and diligence- with a keen sense of safety for the children on the bus and when entering and alighting.

1. Many orange buses operate in areas that are somewhat remote from mechanical assistance and other industry support services. This involves the contractor having to often travel long distances for the needed repair or service on the bus to be undertaken. The Evergreen Contract has been a great stabilizing mechanism that has enabled contractors to undertake their role in the knowledge of security and confidence which has resulted in a second to none safety record.
2. In many small communities and remote locales the Orange bus is seen as a "to be trusted institution" that safely transports that most precious of commodities – their children.
3. Often the conditions experienced in rural areas can be challenging- rough and unsealed roads that can become tricky to negotiate and result in additional wear and tear on buses and hence increased repairs.
4. Communications are another challenge. Quite a lot of areas do not have sustained mobile coverage. The old rural standby – the twoway system- is in many orange buses as additional peace of mind.
5. We personally have always found PTA school bus staff to be approachable and aware of how valued the Evergreen Contract buses are viewed in rural WA.

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