

AL-KO VTE: High participation in the retrofitting course held in Verona

On February 10, 2026, the first stop of the Retrofitting Training organized by AL-KO Vehicle Technology Electronics took place in Verona, with the participation of AL-KO Vehicle Technology for the mechanical part.

The event, hosted not far from the Premium Service Center in Castel D'Azzano, welcomed more than 80 professionals and over 50 dealers from Central and Northern Italy. This confirms the strong interest in one of the most strategic topics currently shaping the RV industry: retrofitting. This term means far more than a simple technical upgrade – it represents bringing vehicles into the present by integrating intelligent technologies capable of improving safety, efficiency, comfort, and sustainability.

The training organized by AL-KO Vehicle Technology Electronics was not merely a technical course, but a comprehensive overview of how the concept of the electrical system in recreational vehicles is evolving. The key takeaway was simple: retrofit today does not mean replacing a faulty component, but upgrading the vehicle and bringing it into the digital era. The starting point is the modernization of traditional systems – distribution panels and control panels – through new digital solutions.

By replacing legacy components with advanced systems (new distribution unit, color display panel, and communication gateway), even a camper with many years behind it can be transformed into a connected smart home hub.

At the heart of the system is the ONDA Connectivity platform: an IoT infrastructure that allows users to manage and monitor key onboard functions via smartphone (through Bluetooth or Wi-Fi). Not only lights and utilities, but also battery status, tank levels, interior and exterior temperature, geolocation, and vehicle inclination. What was previously fragmented across different devices is now centralized in a single interface – both on the control panel and within the app.

One of the most appreciated aspects of the training was its practical approach: the retrofit system was designed to be installed without drastically modifying the existing system. Dedicated adaptive wiring harnesses allow the distribution unit to be replaced with minimal intervention, mainly limited to connector adjustments. The objective is clear: to make the operation economically sustainable for workshops and accessible for end customers, turning the intervention into a high value-added technological upgrade.

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AL-KO Vehicle Technology Electronics (VTE) is a leading European company for electrical and electronic systems in the caravan sector and was born from the merger of CBE, Nordelettronica and Toptron. <https://www.cbe.it/en>

The AL-KO Vehicle Technology Group is a swiftly growing global technology group and a business unit of DexKo Global. With high-quality chassis and suspension components for trailers, leisure and commercial vehicles, construction and agricultural vehicles, the group represents the best in functionality and comfort as well as innovations to ensure greater driving safety. Founded in 1931 the group today has around 3,000 employees at more than 40 locations worldwide. Find out more at www.alkotech.com

DexKo Global Inc. is one of the world's leading manufacturers of high-quality chassis technology, chassis assemblies, accessories and hydraulic brake components. DexKo Global was founded in 2016 through the merger of Dexter and AL-KO Vehicle Technology. Headquartered in Novi, Michigan/USA, the company employs around 6,000 people in more than 100 production facilities and distribution centers. For more information, please go to www.dexko.com

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The system is not limited to proprietary devices: through the CI-BUS port, it is also possible to integrate the most common heating and air-conditioning systems, refrigerators, and batteries from various brands. AL-KO VTE also intends to progressively expand this ecosystem.

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Onboard Energy Management

Significant attention was also given to energy management: new compact, fanless battery chargers, DC-DC converters for vehicles equipped with smart alternators, pure sine wave inverters, and a complete range of high-efficiency photovoltaic modules, including the latest BackContact panels.

On the storage side, the partnership with Varta introduces high-performance lithium batteries featuring high peak currents, integrated Bluetooth, and readiness for integration into the connected system. The message is clear: digitalization cannot exist without advanced and consistent energy management.

The training highlighted how retrofit today represents a strategic lever for the market. It is not merely about upgrading a system, but about extending the vehicle's service life, increasing its perceived value, and bringing it into a smart dimension.

AL-KO VT: Suspension, Chassis and Stability

The meeting concluded outdoors aboard a Carthago motorhome, where all participants were able to observe the professional installation of AL-KO Vehicle Technology and AL-KO Vehicle Technology Electronics branded accessories, test the ONDA Connectivity App, the control panel, and the HY4 jacks, and directly experience their features and performance.

The day demonstrated that the future of the motorhome can also be built in the workshop through retrofit interventions that involve the vehicle's overall balance: from the electrical system and energy management to suspension, vehicle setup, and stabilization. It is the integration of digital solutions with mechanical components that makes the difference, transforming a traditional vehicle into an advanced system—more stable on the road, more comfortable when parked, and smarter in resource management.

For the end user, this means driving a safer, more efficient, and connected motorhome that is also more balanced and enjoyable to use. Ultimately, the motorhome of the future can also be yesterday's vehicle—it simply requires an upgrade capable of uniting technology and engineering in a single vision.