



# Sizing up the Six MCI's First Wide-Body Bus



**By Ed Stauss**

**Editor's Note:** This article appeared in the May 1979 issue of Bus World magazine. It is reprinted and updated here as there is a lot of interest in this model bus, even though there were only 100 of them built. Note, one reason they decided to build wider buses was because of the increasing width of passengers so they could be more comfortable on long trips. There are still a few of these buses out there on the road that have been converted and the owners love them.

The intercity bus designer is up against some basic facts of human anatomy. Hips, the widest part of the body, aren't getting any narrower over the years and need to be cradled in a bulky cushion for comfort during long trips.

To be economical, the designer needs to install seats four abreast and then he must leave space for an aisle just wide enough for a senior citizen to squeeze through with an overnight case while carrying several overcoats and an umbrella.

Allocation of space across the 96-inch width of a standard intercity bus has been an art of carefully considering each quarter-inch.

The agony can be eased considerably with the addition of just six more inches and that's what Greyhound had in mind in 1967 when



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