

Tieman improves on safety and access to tight areas

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY CONCERNS IN THE INDUSTRY LEAD TIEMAN TO DEVELOP ITS FUEL SHIFTER AND DIRTE DOG TANKERS. FUEL COMPANIES LIBERTY OIL AND RELIANCE PETROLEUM ARE REAPING THE BENEFITS.

Reliance Petroleum (BP) recently purchased three 8x4 rigid and DirtE Dog combinations for its Queensland business. Tieman specifically developed a new extremely low profile tank shape to achieve the DirtE Dog characteristics, its lower centroid height giving enhanced lateral stability, hence increased safety to dog trailer operators.

"Compared to other dog trailers on the market, the DirtE Dog sits lower and drivers prefer to tow them. The DirtE Dog is without question the lowest profile fuel dog trailer on the market and was built for use on dirt roads," says Colin Tieman. This innovation is Tieman's practical response to safety concerns surrounding rollovers, an

issue that has been prevalent for many years. Rollover accidents not only have the potential for serious human injury, they can also bring with them massive clean up costs, as well as the significant expenses that are associated with the repair and replacement of rolled over equipment.



be quite difficult to get to. The truck is able to 'nose' in near the delivery area with the hose reels right next to the truck cabin, so there is no need to reverse the combination towards the fuel tank," adds Colin. So that the Fuel Shifter is also able to access smaller farms, Tieman has designed its bogie and tri-axle fuel tankers to be as short as possible. Aside from carrying much higher payloads, the great advantage of these short articulated tankers over rigid tanks is that there is no need to transfer pumping equipment from one truck to another.

Another Tieman tanker design addressing safety, the Fuel Shifter, is now part of the Liberty Oil fleet operating in Merredin near Perth. The Fuel Shifter is a single articulated tanker with front-mounted hose reels (fitted by Liquip Victoria) off the very front of the tanker and pumps mounted underneath the tanker, providing an easier way for fuel distributors to go about their jobs. "The front-mounted hose reels ensure there

is no back bending by the operator. OH&S is a major consideration for Liberty Oil and reducing the risk of back injuries by operating the hose reel from shoulder height is a major advantage with this design," says Brendan Waigh, Operations Manager for Liberty Oil, WA. "Another major advantage of this type of tanker is that it allows for much better access to farm and industry fuel tanks that can often

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