



Reeling in the benefits

WITH A PATENT PENDING FRONT OF TANKER MOUNTED HOSE REEL, THE 'FREE REELER' BULK MILK COLLECTION TANKER BY TIEMAN COMBINES HIGH PUMPING SPEEDS WITH EASE OF USE. HAVING JUST PURCHASED THE FIRST OF THESE UNITS, PETER STOITSE TRANSPORT COULDN'T BE HAPPIER WITH THIS INNOVATIVE NEW DESIGN.

Peter Stoitse Transport started off hauling timber products with just one truck over 50 years ago before expanding into a range of other industries including petrol, fish and of course – milk. Today, it runs almost 65 trucks and trailers all over Australia with milk accounting for around 70 per cent of the business. The milk fleet is made up of nine 25 metre B doubles, six 19 metre B doubles and 30 farm collection tankers. With a head office in Welshpool, Victoria, Peter Stoitse Transport has a timber transfer

depot in Hallam, a fish depot in Portland and tanker depots in Leongatha, Tatura, Longwarry and Maffra, as well as in Allansford where the milk is delivered. The association with Tieman began very early on, with its founder Peter Stoitse, purchasing his very first milk tanker from the company. The vast majority of milk tankers used by the business have remained Tieman. "The first milk tanker we bought was in Sydney and that was a Tieman tanker," says Peter. "We have found their tankers to be

really good, they are very well built. Like us, Tieman is a family owned business and the family relationship also goes back a long way." Peter explains that the concept of the 'Free Reeler' tanker is just what the milk collection transport industry needs. "We had been talking about building a new type of tanker with higher pumping speeds for some time, so this design is exactly what we were looking for. There was always a dream to have it pump like this one. We were actually

thinking of going back to the rear boot pump, but then of course there is the tare penalty – it just adds too much extra weight. We are thankful and really pleased that Tieman has asked us to be the first company to put this innovative design to work."

Fast flowing

The main point of difference in Tieman's 'Free Reeler' tanker is the design and position of the hose reel, pump and metering or milk sample equipment. Mounted on the front of the tanker, the ferris type hose reel is complete with dual controls that slews to either side of the tanker allowing for flexibility no matter which side the milk vat is to the tanker. Through a 100mm fill line, milk is fed into a centrifugal pump with minimal bends. A disc brake keeps the hose reel secure whilst travelling thus reducing maintenance, while a hose filter prevents foreign objects from entering the pump with no adverse affect on the flow rate. The hose



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reel operates from shoulder height in order to minimise back strain caused by bending. "Pumping times are very important," says Peter. "The Tieman 'Free Reeler' is pumping at 1350 litres a minute. Some of the older tankers are running at about 700-800 litres a minute so this will really save a lot of time. As an operator, you're always looking for something that's going to pump a bit harder and faster," says Peter. "This means we are spending less time on

the farms waiting for the tanker to reach capacity so that both we and the farmers can get on with what needs to be done. I spent 18 years as a farmer and I think that you really do need to understand the farmer's point of view too. Service is what brings the work. With the new tanker, we were getting such great feedback about the tanker. It's so simple to use, with everything externally mounted in clear sight for ease of maintenance as well."

MODERN ROAD TANKERS



Front L-R: Terry Stoitse, Peter Stoitse and Steven Stoitse.
Back L-R: Drivers Ian Turner, Roger Naylor and Ian Bowman, Operations Manager Matt Gage.



and once the driver exits the cabin, the hose reel is within metres of reach.

The design is also quite short and compact. Peter says, "For a 30,000 litre capacity tanker, it's not very long. In Gippsland, a lot of the farms we pick up from are quite tight. The drivers have told me that with some of the other tankers, they had to drive in, turn around and back in – which often proves difficult. With this tanker they can just drive in, pump the milk and drive out, which again will save a lot of time. This tanker has a bigger cross section that eliminates that extra length and gives you access to a lot of the farms where you can't fit a 19 metre B double. And with that capacity of 30,000 litres, you're only 7000 litres short in payload compared to a typical 19 metre B-double payload – you're not only saving on the length, but you're also saving on an axle and there's only one tanker to wash rather than two. There's a lot of efficiency in there for us."

Greater flexibility

Truck chassis are designed to twist, and truck mounted pump, reel and meter systems are renowned for their high ongoing maintenance costs as well as costing up to \$30k plus for relocation of truck mounted equipment when trucks

In addition to the fast flow rates, the 3 inch hose is significantly more cost effective and has a more flexible bend radius than the commonly used heavy blue milk hose. Due to the nature of the product, cutting of hose ends can be done on site, eliminating the need to send the hose away to be cuffed.

Smart shape for easier access

With a low tare weight of 7.5 tonne and capacity of 30,000 litres, the 'Free Reeler' tanker offers higher payloads than most tankers that use truck mounted and rear boot canopy hose reel systems. Access to difficult milk vats is kept simple, as the combination only needs to 'nose' in

are upgraded. As the pump, reel and meter systems are located on the actual 'Free Reeler', there is only the one initial investment cost. This gives companies the option to use contractors with standard trucks in lieu of extra company trucks that have pumps and reels fitted. Any truck with a PTO drive can tow a Tieman 'Free Reeler'. It provides the flexibility of swapping trucks easily and without fuss to allow for things like servicing and repair, breakdowns and trialing of new trucks – therefore keeping the tanker on the road when it needs to be. "With this new tanker, if we don't have a truck for one reason or another and need a sub-contractor, we can find one much more easily. It's a definite advantage. Trucks are replaced much more frequently than our tankers, as tankers have a very long life. With a truck mounted hose reel, everything needs to be pulled off in order to swap trucks and that in itself is probably two weeks work at least. We have had cases where we've had a problem with the truck so the whole unit is out of action because it is just too complicated and costly to move the pump to another truck," explains Peter. The tanker also has the rear outlet discharge and front filling operations both interconnected with fail safe top pressure and vacuum vents – one located at each end of the tanker. Selection of one vent depending on whether the tanker is sloping up or down, gives maximum flexibility to handle all types of terrain when picking up milk. The vent also has a CIP cleaning nozzle facing down from the top to eliminate the caustic wash spraying up over the tanker. "The 'Free Reeler' will work well for us. It is



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just so efficient. It will enable us to pick up an extra load during the day and another at night because of the time we are saving in pumping the milk and its ease of use," says Peter.

Tieman states that the 'Free Reeler' tanker without question offers the 'lowest whole of lifetime operating cost' with greater payloads compared to any other design ever

seen in the milk collection transport industry in Australia. The 'Free Reeler' frees up your truck. 🇦🇺

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