



42kl 'Fuel Shifter'.

A 'Shift' to greater efficiency

CALTEX SOUTH EAST HAS ADDED YET ANOTHER TIEMAN 'FUEL SHIFTER' TO ITS DIVERSE FLEET. THE NEW 42,000 LITRE, FIVE COMPARTMENT ALUMINIUM TANKER REPLACES A SMALLER UNIT AT THE WODONGA DEPOT, PROVIDING INCREASED EFFICIENCY AND EASE OF USE.

This latest tanker was received and put to work in mid December and has since been carting petroleum and diesel throughout Wodonga, southern New South Wales and Victoria.

With 16 depots located across Australia's south eastern states, Caltex South East operates a fleet of 35 tankers, including 8x4 rigids, 6x4 rigids, tandem and tri axle trailers, many of which have been designed and manufactured by Tieman.

This latest addition to the fleet is the fourth 'Fuel Shifter' purchased by the company in 2 years.

The work of Caltex South East is as diverse as its range of tankers. A large part of its daily tasks involve delivering fuel to farms, industrial and commercial customers, as well as factories and Caltex service stations.

Caltex South East's Operations and Logistics Manager, Joe Ferguson, has been in the industry for over 30 years and

has been using Tieman equipment for many years.

"Tieman builds fantastic pieces of equipment. The Tieman quality, workmanship and reliability is terrific, along with Liquip International which supplies all of the pumping equipment. All four of the last tankers have been built in the same way with Tieman and Liquip's partnership – they

“What sets the 'Fuel Shifter' apart from other fuel tanker designs, is that all the hose reels are mounted at the front of the tanker barrel...”

have a really good synergy,” explains Joe. The new unit is one of the highest capacity tankers in the fleet and is towed by a brand new Kenworth T402 prime mover. “We were using a smaller tanker for our Wodonga operations but because of the workload, we decided we could achieve

greater efficiency by using a larger barrel. And in doing so, we have been able to service more customer deliveries each day.” What sets the 'Fuel Shifter' apart from other fuel tanker designs, is that all the hose reels are mounted at the front of the tanker barrel, thus allowing drivers to easily drive into tight spaces without the need to reverse. “This is great when the drivers

need to go onto farms. By having the hose reels at the front, drivers can pull right up to the customer's tank and deliver the product with ease,” adds Joe. “This is something we now look at when we purchase new tankers. Future tankers will have this feature too if there is a



L-R: Joe Ferguson, Caltex South East Operations & Logistics Manager and Mark Dunning, Hampton Park Depot Manager.

need for it, and at this point the need is certainly there.”
“Ergonomically it is much more suitable also. With many of the older style pumps, you would have to bend down to access the hose, resulting in far more manual handling. With the 'Fuel Shifter' everything is at shoulder height, so drivers can easily access the hose with less risk of injury as there is no back bending. The drivers love these tankers because they are so user friendly and easy to operate.”
In fact, safety was very high on the priority

list when Tieman developed the innovative 'Fuel Shifter' design, and as such it has been fitted with the latest safety equipment including diptronic and overfill protection.
As all pumping equipment is located on the tanker itself rather than the prime mover, there are no future changeover costs associated with the 'Fuel Shifter' if the prime mover needs to be repaired or replaced. According to Caltex South East, this is a major benefit as tankers are kept for up to twice as long as prime



Hose reels mounted off front of tanker, operated from shoulder height.

movers before replacement.
“Tieman has a very good product and a lot of time and effort has gone into designing the concept of the 'Fuel Shifter' – the quality is terrific,” says Joe. “I guess reliability is one of the big things I look for, as everyone in the transport industry does. From the point of view of our fleet, all of our tankers are second to none. The service from Tieman is equally as impressive. For Joint Managing Director, Colin Tieman, and his team, nothing is ever too much trouble.”

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