

A humble industry icon

Industry icon Neil Tieman was recently awarded the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in recognition for his contribution to the road transport and manufacturing industries and to the community.

"I was very surprised, but none the less honoured and proud to accept the award, and in doing so I must give due credit to the many people, past and present, who have contributed to the growth and success of the company over the past 57 years," said Neil. Starting out in 1939 at 14 years of age as a sheet metal worker for the Daniel Scott Company, Neil worked six days a week while also going to night school to complete his apprenticeship. With a union dispute in 1946 locking down the business, Neil found himself unemployed – and so he went 'bush' becoming a jack-of-all-trades on a cattle station 30 kilometres west of Canberra. It was during this time that Neil met his wife Jean at a Saturday night dance. Returning to Melbourne, Neil and Jean got married and built a house in the suburb of Preston. "In 1953, we decided to build a small factory at the front of the house to provide local welding and machine repair services and that's how it all started," says Neil. The original tanker order was for a 10,000-gallon milk trailer, the first of many bulk liquid tankers, with over 4000 to date, that the Tieman company has engineered and manufactured.

In 1961, Neil opened a manufacturing facility in Keon Park where the business still continues today under the joint directorship of Neil's sons, Colin and Dale Tieman. Neil says that the success and consequent growth of the company, now with over 300 employees, additional factories in

Campbellfield and Somerton in Melbourne and divisions in every mainland state, can be attributed to the design innovation and production quality of their products, the company's strategic overseas supply partnerships, as well as the dedicated team work that has gone on behind the scenes.



Neil Tieman (left), founder of Tieman receiving his Order of Australia Medal at the Government House, presented by The Honourable Alex Chernov, AO, QC, Governor of Victoria.

Air-Weigh's new trailer scale

Air-Weigh is expanding the QuickLoad on-board scale product line with the addition of a standalone trailer scale. The new QuickLoad Trailer Scale uses Air-Weigh's proven electronics, software and sensor technology all packaged in an environmentally sealed enclosure. The scale is designed to be mounted on the outside of any trailer, and can be installed in about 90 minutes with either permanent adhesive or hidden through-bolts. The new QuickLoad Trailer Scale features

an advanced graphics display with touch screen technology and molded electrical and air connections. The new design eliminates any openings in the enclosure for buttons, switches, panels, connectors or air fittings. Other features of the new scale include an icon based touch screen user interface for quick setup and simple operation. In set up mode, easy to understand icons guide the user through initial installation and factory calibration. All of the scale's other features and options are also accessed through the

icon interface. The QuickLoad Trailer Scale also features built-in warning weight and overweight alarm LEDs that shine forward, rearward and outward. The alarm LEDs can be set to flash at any warning weight, and then go solid at a programmable overweight threshold. More new features include built-in weight sensors for single and dual applications, a low-power battery mode for untethered applications, and an industry standard serial data interface that can be set to J1939 or RS485 protocols.