

## New trailer solves hi-cube over-height conundrum

The country's first 1400-millimetre flatdeck semi-trailer, capable of carrying both containerised and breakbulk cargoes, has just entered the market.

And according to Kevin Martin, MD of Freightliner Transport, one of its big advantages is that it can carry a hi-cube container legally.

This, he added, meant that the current moratorium on carrying 2896mm hi-cubes on standard 1550mm trailers and exceeding the legal

height on public roads of 4300mm by 146mm, and the arguments whether the over-height issue should be legalised or not, now fell by the wayside.

The designer and builder of this new trailer, Barton Bennett, MD of TPI Truck and Trailer, told FTW that the trailer neck had to be specially designed for the reduced height required, while remaining strong enough for a gross kingpin mass (GKM) of 16 000 kilograms. And this has been achieved using highly

specialised steel for the neck.

"And the 1400mm trailer can still carry a payload of 32 tonnes," Bennett added.

This trailer will comply with the new legal height regulation which is deadlined for January 1, 2019, Martin told FTW.

"After this the standard trailer will be a no-go," he added. "Although, with these standard trailers comprising most of the fleet currently on the roads, operators are keen to see a 'grandfather clause' being introduced.



The new 1400mm flatdeck semi-trailer.

"That's where the new ruling states that anything after such-and-such a date must comply, but anything

built before that can still be run until it wears out and needs to be replaced."

– Alan Peat



An aerial view of the warehouse with the weighing equipment.

## Warehouse facility now offers VGM weighing equipment

Identifying a gap in the market, Woods Warehousing has introduced a weighing service to help its clients comply with the International Maritime Organisation's (IMO) new Safety of Life at Sea (Solas) verified gross mass (VGM) regulations which kicked in at the beginning of this month.

"Many shippers and freight forwarders do not have weighing facilities available for the Method 1 weighing procedure and we have therefore invested in the necessary equipment to help them verify the gross mass of their containers and to produce a weight ticket in accordance with the regulations prescribed by the Solas regulation," said Woods Warehousing managing director, Pieter Joubert.

Method 1 is one of two weighing methods prescribed by the VGM regulation and it requires weighing the container after it has been packed, said Joubert.

He told FTW that this service could be offered on

an ad-hoc basis or as an additional, ongoing service to its clients.

"Our facilities are equipped to accurately weigh containers of up to 30 tonnes. The ticket will reflect the VGM and will be signed by the person duly authorised by Woods Warehousing to perform the procedure," he explained, pointing out that shippers could then incorporate the ticket with their other official documentation.

Woods Warehousing – which offers 30 000 sqm of storage space, including a 10 000-sqm bonded warehouse – offers a wide variety of specialised warehousing, weighing, rigging and heavy lifting services.

"We are also equipped to do the complicated and high-risk work which includes rigging

and heavy lifting, packing and unpacking, as well as trans loading shipments," he said. The company has lifting

capacity up to 50 tonnes.

He said the facility was "strategically located" within Zone 1 of City Deep in Johannesburg and offered easy access from the highways. "This, coupled

with our large capacity cranes and heavy-duty forklifts, means a quick turnaround time even on major projects," said Joubert.

He added that since the successful implementation of its integrated warehousing system earlier this year, the company was now also able to offer its clients a barcoding system that would "ensure an effective and accurate stocktaking process".

– Adele Mackenzie

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– PIETER JOUBERT



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#### Four trucks impounded after crackdown

Four trucks were impounded by the Mpumalanga provincial government in Malelane last Wednesday for various un-roadworthy and fraudulent offences.

#### BEITBRIDGE UPDATE - Heavy police presence as roads are cleared

While Zimbabwean riot police and the military have been deployed in full force in the border town of Beitbridge, transporters told FTW Online that the roads on both sides of the SA/Zim border had been "pretty peaceful".

#### No VGM drama after more than a week into the regulation

The start of the Safety of Life at Sea (Solas) regulations demanding a verified gross mass (VGM) document to accompany every export container as it enters the container terminals at SA ports went smoothly in the main port of Durban.

#### Zim's revenue authority tackles transit fraud

The Zimbabwe Revenue Authority (Zimra) plans to launch a cargo tracking system soon, with development at "an advanced stage", according to Zimra acting commissioner general, Happpias Kuzvinzwa.

#### Petrol/diesel increase

The petrol and diesel price increased again last week Wednesday, following a 52 cent increase per litre in June.

#### Logistics major starts construction of new pharma warehouse

The Imperial Logistics group is investing in a new, multimillion-rand warehouse and additional office space for Imperial Health Sciences at its Centurion head office.

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