



MaxiTRANS Australia Pty Ltd

346 Boundary Road

Derrimut Victoria 3030

Telephone (03) 8368 1177

Facsimile (03) 8368 1178

For immediate release 14 October 2008

Freighter's Curtain Call

Freighter's new Load Hold load restraining curtain is turning a few heads across the country at the moment. Visy Logistics has just bought four Freighter trailers complete with the new curtain, and it's a case of so far, so good.

Making its first appearance at the ITTE Show in May this year, the Load Hold curtain from Freighter is designed to eliminate the need for traditional load restraint devices. Aimed at companies that transport a variety of loads, the system functions by having the restraint built into the curtain. As it operates in much the same manner as a conventional T-Liner, the Load Hold suits all route types, including local distribution, interstate and linehaul.

Visy Logistics recently ordered four new Freighter trailers for its Melbourne–Brisbane–Melbourne run, complete with the Load Hold curtain. The trailers were designed specifically to carry a wide range of products for Visy, including palletised cardboard, plastic bottles, preforms and paper reels. According to Brendon Gordon, National Operations Manager at Visy, the reason for spec'ing the Load Hold curtain was mainly down to driver safety.

"Adding the Load Hold on our trailers was a conscious decision we made through our safety initiatives, to move away from gates wherever possible," Brendon explains.

"We'd trialled quite a few types of load restraint systems – it's very high on our agenda – and brought in independent advisers to inform us about the best way to restrain products and the best systems on the market. After Freighter recommended the Load Hold curtain, it was an easy decision to go with them."

"The main advantage for us is safety and removing driver injury. The ratings fall within what the gates were, plus they're so easy to use, you just close them up and you're right to go. Not having gates reduces the tare weight of vehicles as well, so it's helped our bottom line."

Freighter says that a reduction in overall tare weight of up to 170 kg is possible for trailers without gates or a gate carrier, offering greater payload opportunity.

Advanced technology

The Load Hold was developed through a unique mixture of composite technology and Freighter's renowned buckles and straps. Supported at the top and bottom by Freighter's heavy-duty curtain track and coaming rail, extra high strength fibreglass pultrusions run within the curtain and are huck-bolted to conventional curtain buckles. Shorter, reinforced tensioning straps add durability and performance.

Load Hold is patent pending and is certified to meet the National Transport Commission Load Restraint Guidelines, providing sideways load restraint for unitised loads up to 1,200 kg per pallet space. Higher approved load levels up to two tonnes are possible on a case-by-case basis with certification by Freighter Engineering.

Benefits of the Freighter Load Hold curtain

- By eliminating the need to remove and replace gates, load/unload cycles are shortened, improving operations efficiency. Recent field trials have shown the Load Hold to save up to 10–15 minutes per drop compared to a standard T-Liner using standard gates.
- Increased productivity opens the door to more drops per day.
- Reduction in overall tare weight of up to 170 kg.
- OH&S benefits including a reduction in the risk of injuries and strains associated with lifting and use of gates.
- Can be matched with existing customer fleet specifications and suits multiple load types. Gates and winches can also be specified to cover non-approved loads.
- Freighter Load Hold decal specifying approved loads is fitted on each curtain, facilitating quick and easy inspections.



Above Left: Load Hold provides sideways load restraint for unitised loads of 1,200 kg per pallet space and up to two tonnes per pallet space with case specific approval
Above Right: The use of fibreglass pultrusion technology prevents stretching, corrosion and decay.

Note: This news item has been republished with kind permission from Trailer Magazine.

Contact:

Visy

Head Office

Level 11, 2 Southbank Boulevard

Southbank VIC 3006

Ph: 1800 550 132

Fax: 03 9247 4747

Web: www.visy.com.au

Freighter:

Rod Cunningham

MaxiTRANS Australia Pty Ltd

Tel: 03 8368 1171

Mob: 0419 755 363

Email: rod.cunningham@maxitrans.com.au

Jozef Horvat

MaxiTRANS Australia Pty Ltd

Tel: 03 8368 1117

Mob: 0409 501 443

Email: jozef.horvat@maxitrans.com.au