

BodyBuilder News

Profile: Aluvan Truck & Trailer Bodies



MD Philippe Vanlander

At the recent IAA exhibition in Hanover, Aluvan (whose group name is International Van) had some interesting news. MD **Philippe Vanlander** explained how the company had altered and grown since their MBO

in 1995. In 1998 the company set up a new manufacturing facility in Poland, where they now employ 150 people in 22000m². In 1999 PolyPan began, and now offers a wide range of composite panels together with a range of insulated panel body kits for light commercial vehicles. This spin-off led to the birth of the Aluvan division, PolyVan in 2000. At the beginning of this year, the company acquired the roller shutter manufacturing activities of James and Bloom, which will be known as International Van UK Ltd.

Mr Vanlander summarised the company's achievement with some statistics - 800 customers in 40 countries; turnover this year of more than €25mn; 400 employees at 3 sites.

PolyPan Launches PiraPano

PolyPan has launched a new lightweight composite panel called PiraPano. Available in two weights, it has a pyramid-shaped synthetic blend core and the outer surfaces can be a variety of laminate materials. The new panel material has good compression strength, high deformation resistance, excellent stiffness and it's lightweight, 50%

lighter than plywood. It is compatible with all known bodybuilding profile systems.



One of the first users of the new panel was German bodybuilder Wecon, who use it for the construction of rear doors.

PolyStar Dry Freight Assembly

PolyStar is a multi-panel dry freight body with aerodynamically designed profiles in 3 finishes - mill finished aluminium, anodised or factory painted in a wide range of colours. PolyStar is free of rivets and in standard version is supplied with plywood panels. Panels of 13 - 30 mm thickness can be specified.



PolyStar makes dry freight body assembly easy and rapid due to its EasyFix connection system, which makes incorrect assembly impossible.

RS 21A

Briefing...

Transfrigoroute UK, the trade association for the temperature controlled transport industry has redesigned its logo to update their look. At the same time they have revamped their website.



Following the appointment of administrators to the **Mayflower Corporation** earlier this year, **TransBus International** is now **Alexander Dennis Limited**. Business is operating as usual. All other Mayflower divisions have new owners.

ABS has created a UK **commercial vehicle repairer network** with 58 participating businesses, from their established network of 240 repairers. The network is aimed at fleet business.

BRS Rental has contracted the Ray Smith Group to carry out their tail lift inspections. BRS has a fleet with 700 tail-lifts and each lift will be inspected 3 times a year by one of RSG's 60 agents.

Following the recent announcement made by **Heil Trailer International** regarding the imminent wind down and closure of the Bilston manufacturing plant, business is continuing as usual. **Chris Dalton**, European Director of Heil Trailer International said: "The actual location of the manufacturing plant of the product is not important, no-one asks where their car or TV is made. Heil will grow its business by meeting the challenges of the future, by innovative thinking and not living in yesteryear!"

RS 21B

Do You Need the VBRA Loler Programme?



The VBRA has put together a LOLER scheme of training and documentation to enable you to offer the statutory 6 monthly inspection service to all operators or users of tail-lifts. These inspections are important and your customers need your help to comply.

The VBRA LOLER Familiarisation Scheme includes a 1 day training session at a cost of £75 + VAT (booked via our training partner, MANCAT contact Jeanette Leach 0161 953 5995 ext 3472) and the necessary inspection documents. For sample documentation (Starter Pack available at a cost of £20 + VAT) or further information, please contact VBRA Membership Services Dept on 0113 2538333 fax 0113 238 0496 www.vbra.co.uk or email gerryb@vbra.co.uk