

Southern Cross Transport Equipment Group

SINCE THE **SOUTHERN CROSS TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT GROUP** ANNOUNCED A VENTURE WITH UK COMPANY **MONTRACON** TO INTRODUCE A NEW SERIES OF REFRIGERATED TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT IN AUSTRALIA, THE LOCAL TRANSPORT SECTOR HAS BEEN EAGER TO TAKE A CLOSER AT THE PRODUCT. NOW, VISITORS TO THE 2012 ITTES HAD THE CHANCE TO EXPERIENCE THE NOVICE FIRST-HAND.



Manufactured near Manchester, the new series has been designed in co-operation with Southern Cross's local engineering team to meet the requirements of the Australian market and specific Australian Design Rules. "The new Australian designed refrigerated and dry vans are manufactured by Montracon and shipped to Australia as a finished trailer ensuring ADR compliance, with minor options being completed in Australia," says Alf De Fazio, General Manager of Southern Cross Vans. "It is equipped with a Full Main Rail Chassis, as well as 60kg/m³ density RTM Styrofoam

insulation side walls which will give us the opportunity to place them anywhere in Australia under varied operating and temperature conditions."

Southern Cross Vans has partnered with renowned local suppliers to ensure the new series will be equipped with Australian spec axles, brakes, LED lights and refrigeration systems.

The new Montracon series – featuring full freezer (-28°C) specification, stainless rear frame and hardware, B-double compliance, Southern Cross' double loader system, side intrusion underrun protection and

EBS Brake System as standard fitment – compliment Southern Cross's existing Arctic Star Refrigerated product range and enable the company to supply large orders in a timely manner.

Since the product was released in Australia in May last year, three 22 pallet refrigerated semi units and four 14 pallet refrigerated rigid units have gone into service across the country under varied conditions. Bobbins Refrigerated Transport, Geoff Richards Transport and Toll Logistics are currently running these units and all have reported positive feedback that includes great road handling with minimal body roll due to the full main rail chassis, improved fuel consumption due to the aerodynamic side skirting and safer braking control due to the standard EBS brake system. According to Alf, they have also reported excellent temperature control, equating to reduced refrigeration fuel consumption.

At the ITTES, Alf also revealed that the company is currently expanding its 'Arctic Star – Montracon' product range to include FRP-Dry Freight semi trailers and rigid bodies. The first units will arrive in Australia at the end of April 2012. To add, Montracon Lead Roll Back trailers in both refrigerated and FRP are currently in the design phase, with the Australian release anticipated in the second half of 2012.

Contact

Southern Cross Transport Equipment Group
27-31 Thomas Murrell Crescent
Dandenong South VIC 3175
Ph: 03 9706 6080
Web: www.vans.scteg.com.au