



PRESS RELEASE

AMTRAK ORDERS 50 ECT TRACTORS



10 March 2005... Home delivery specialist Amtrak Express Parcels has expanded its UK distribution fleet with a £1million investment in 50 new vehicles from MAN ERF. The 50 ERF ECT tractor units form part of a fleet of articulated vehicles that carry nightly parcel consignments between Amtrak's hubs, depots and customer sites.

Amtrak has been expanding operations after winning some major home delivery contracts with retailers such as Laura Ashley, Simply Computers and Comet. Amtrak trailers are loaded during the day at customer distribution centres and Amtrak depot locations. These are then transported in the evening to Amtrak's 2 hubs in the West Midlands, where parcels are sorted overnight for delivery the next day.

As well as 180 distribution vehicles, Amtrak runs over a thousand of vans for local deliveries operated via a 100-strong franchised depot network. The investment in the new vehicles follows Amtrak's return to profit last year and the opening of a new manual sorting hub for handling delicate items such as wine and flowers.

The Cummins-powered 11.39MT tractor units join existing ERF units that are serviced by Amtrak's local MAN ERF Truck Centre, Aquila Truck Centres in Aldridge. "If the ECT unit has inherited the same attributes of reliability and productivity achieved with our existing ERF units, we will be very pleased. I've no reason to doubt that they will, given the truck is now well-established amongst UK hauliers and proving itself to be an excellent all-rounder." said Amtrak Transport Manager, Tony Jones.