



PRESS RELEASE



Amtrak double deckers boost efficiency

Bristol, UK, 09 June 2005 – Amtrak Express Parcels has boosted its fleet of trunking vehicles with six state-of-the-art double deck trailers that will boost efficiency and cut costs. The trailers will enable savings of £400,000 in driver and fuel costs alone on 4 consolidated routes, where the fleet size is being halved thanks to the added capacity of the trailers.

Supplied by Lawrence David of Peterborough, the 13.6m long 4.7m high step frame GRP trailers have a DHOLLANDIA two-tier tail lift serving the upper deck. With 33 roll cages on the upper deck and 23 roll cages on the lower deck, the extra capacity allows each vehicle to collect and deliver to many more locations.

Amtrak has seen rapid expansion in the last two years after winning a series of major home delivery contracts including Laura Ashley, Tiny.com, Comet and Kleeneze. Earlier this year, Amtrak took delivery of 50 new tractor units as part of a £2million new fleet investment. As well as 180 distribution vehicles, over 1000 vans are in use for local deliveries by the Amtrak franchised network.

The trailers carry parcel consignments between customer warehouses and Amtrak's 100-strong depot network, with overnight sorting at the company's two hubs in the West Midlands. Despite an increasing numbers of nightly consignments, the new double deck trailers have allowed routes to be optimised to the extent that 6 vehicles are no longer required.

“The double deck trailers will provide significant gains in fleet efficiency allowing us to transport more with less vehicles on the road. As well as the substantial cost savings, it also means we have a more environmentally friendly operation” says Tony Jones, Amtrak's Transport Manager.