

WINTER/SPRING 2022

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IN ACTION



XF XG XG+

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**“A NEW INDUSTRY
BENCHMARK IN EFFICIENCY,
SAFETY AND COMFORT”**

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED FAITH IN US!

It is with great pride that we introduce what can safely be regarded as a milestone in the history of road transport: the launch of the 'New Generation DAF' XF, XG and XG+.

The trucks have been developed in line with the new European regulations for vehicle masses and dimensions which have given manufacturers literally more room to improve the aerodynamics of their trucks. All this to allow new standards to be set for efficiency, safety and driver comfort.

The jury of the 'International Truck of the Year 2022' was clearly convinced of DAF's ability to rise to the challenge, as our efforts led to DAF being awarded the most prestigious prize in the truck industry. "The DAF XF, XG and XG+ are ushering in a completely new era," was the conclusion of jury chairman Gianenrico Griffini. And we couldn't agree more.

The 'International Truck of the Year 2022' award is not only meant for the DAF company, our staff of over 12,000 proud employees and our professional DAF dealer organisation. I wish to dedicate the prize also to you, our business partners, who have been using our trucks and services as the driving force behind your own success.

I want to thank you for your continued faith in us. That is something we cherish and are very proud of. Your faith in us inspires us to be even better tomorrow than we were today. And speaking of tomorrow: our New Generation XF Innovation Truck with hydrogen combustion engine has received the '2022 Truck Innovation Award' from the same jury. Further proof, if needed, that DAF is truly starting the future with its new generation of trucks.



Warm regards,
Harry Wolters,
President DAF Trucks N.V.

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Gianenrico Griffini, chairman of the jury 'International Truck of the Year':

“THE BEGINNING OF A NEW ERA”

‘International Truck of the Year’ - it is without doubt the most prestigious accolade a truck manufacturer can receive in Europe. “As the first trucks to be developed according to the new European regulations for masses and dimensions, the DAF XF, XG and XG+ herald a completely new era,” said jury chairman Gianenrico Griffini. “They deserved to win.”

By: Rob van Tilburg



The award 'International Truck of the Year 2022' was presented by jury chairman Gianenrico Griffini to Harry Wolters, president of DAF Trucks, during the Solutrans commercial vehicle exhibition in Lyon, France.

Every year, the announcement of the 'International Truck of the Year' is an exciting moment that the entire truck industry looks forward to. And what makes the title so valuable is that the choice of the ultimate winner is determined by the opinions of no less than 24 leading trade journalists and trade magazines from across Europe.

CONTRIBUTION TO TRANSPORT EFFICIENCY

“According to the rules, the award is given to the individual truck or model range introduced to the market in the past year that makes the greatest contribution to transport efficiency. Because that's what it's all about in current road transport,” says Italian Gianenrico Griffini. “A long list of criteria is taken into account, such as technological innovation, driver comfort, safety, driving characteristics, fuel consumption, the steps taken in terms of care for the environment and of course 'Total Cost of Ownership'.”

MORE APPRECIATION FOR TRUCK INDUSTRY

The award was presented for the 36th time. “It is impressive to see the enormous technological developments that have been made, especially in the past five or ten years, to make trucks even more economical, even cleaner and, above all, even more efficient,” Griffini outlines. “As far as I'm concerned, there should be more attention and appreciation for that.” The jury chairman does not only refer to the efforts in the field of engine development, but also to the many electronic systems that help the driver to get the most out of every drop of fuel. “Predictive Cruise Control, EcoRoll, Preview Down-Hill Speed Control, these are all state-of-the-art technologies that make the driver's work easier and at the same time improve fuel efficiency. A modern truck is a high-tech machine and the New Generation DAF is a great example of this.”

IT STARTED IN 1976....

The 'International Truck of the Year' phenomenon began in 1976 in Great Britain, when the editor-in-chief of Truck Magazine, the late Pat Kennett, tested the then-new Seddon Atkinson SA200. He thought it was a very innovative truck, far ahead of the competition in terms of comfort and safety. Then the idea was born for an award in recognition of the latest technical developments in commercial vehicles that benefit the entrepreneur and the driver. Pat Kennett's idea was received enthusiastically by Andrew Frankl, the publisher of Truck Magazine. Together they decided to create the 'Truck of the Year' award. In 1977, Seddon Atkinson was the first truck manufacturer to receive the trophy. The step to 'International Truck of the Year' was quickly made when in the following year Kennett and Frankl started looking for European colleagues who shared their vision. Today, the jury consists of 24 members, who represent the main European truck magazines. In recent years, the ITOY group has further increased its sphere of influence by appointing 'associate members' in expanding truck markets such as China, India, South Africa, Australia, Brazil, Japan and Iran.

1988 DAF 95



1998 DAF 95XF



2002 DAF LF



2007 DAF XF105



2018 DAF New CF & XF



2022 New Generation XF, XG and XG+



CONNECTING TO EUROPEAN REGULATIONS

According to Gianenrico Griffini, the fact that the new DAF XF, XG and XG+ have been awarded 'International Truck of the Year 2022' has to do with the way in which DAF has translated the new European regulations in the field of vehicle dimensions. “In any case, DAF is the first truck manufacturer to launch an entirely new series of trucks that have been developed against the background of these new guidelines,” he explains. “And let's be honest: we also expected that these would lead to a truck design with a more prominent, rounded nose. But it is clear that such a design entails a higher weight and would make it much more difficult to negotiate roundabouts or to maneuver for example. The fact that DAF has managed to improve the aerodynamics by almost 20% is to be commended. Together with optimizations of the powertrain and, for example, further weight reductions, higher fuel efficiency has been achieved, together with a sizeable reduction in CO₂ emissions. And of course those are results that stand out to us as a jury.”

NEW BENCHMARK IN DIRECT VIEW

With the new regulations, the European Commission had more in mind than further increasing efficiency and improving the CO₂ footprint. “By allowing longer cabs, road safety can be taken to the next level,” continues Griffini. “And DAF has translated that into a larger glass surface, among other things, with the window belt lines extended far down. In terms of direct vision, it really sets a new benchmark. New technologies such as digital cameras and the so-called 'corner eye' also contribute significantly to safety. DAF is not the first on the market with these, but has taken extra time for further development. And it shows.”

HIGH LEVEL

Griffini indicates that the New Generation DAF also comes at the right time in terms of driver comfort. “Europe is facing a major shortage of drivers,” he says. “For transport companies it's very difficult to attract and retain good drivers! The new XF, XG and XG+”



can definitely convince candidates. The impressive adjustment range for seat and steering wheel, the advanced digital instrument panel that can be tuned entirely according to the driver's preference, the spaciousness, the fit and finish, not to forget the extremely low noise levels, it is all of a very high standard. And let's not forget the sleeping comfort for which DAF has been known for years, thanks to a bed with a width of 80 centimeters. And I haven't even mentioned the excellent driving characteristics of the DAFs".

READY FOR THE FUTURE

"Of course, as a jury we also look to the future", concludes Griffini. "DAF has made it very clear that the new generation of long-haul vehicles is based on a new platform that is ready for alternative powertrains. A fully electric version is in development and as members of the jury we have already been able to drive a New Generation XF that runs on hydrogen. DAF is investigating the potential of hydrogen as a fuel for an internal combustion engine. And from what I got to experience during a short test drive, that option seems promising. Just like the future of the New Generation DAF. Once again: rightly elected 'International Truck of the Year 2022'." ■



DAF ALSO RECEIVES TRUCK INNOVATION AWARD 2022

Next to the New Generation XF, XG and XG+ being honored 'International Truck of the Year 2022', the New Generation XF Innovation Truck with hydrogen internal combustion engine received the 'Truck Innovation Award 2022'.



The Truck Innovation Award is also an initiative of the International Truck of the Year (IToY) jury and acknowledges the enormous technological changes and energy transition taking place within the automotive sector.

"This specific award underlines our philosophy that we need to explore the full suite of technologies on the road of decarbonisation of transport and mobility in the next decade", commented Ron Borsboom, DAF executive director product development. "Hydrogen technology will become a very interesting option for the future, next to battery electric solutions which we already offer today and hybrid trucks which we have under development. Being honoured with the 'Truck Innovation Award 2022' also demonstrates that there is still a promising future for the internal combustion engine (ICE) for which new generations of carbon neutral fuels are on the horizon. It is important to understand that bringing an end to the use of fossil fuels should by no means automatically result in a ban on internal combustion engines, especially in the heavy duty long haul transport segment."

Ron Borsboom added: "Using hydrogen as a fuel means that in many areas use can be made of an existing distribution network: from green electric power generation to the location where it is needed. In addition, one should not forget that we in Europe have extensive knowledge and a comprehensive manufacturing footprint in the combustion engine technology."

According to IToY rules, a Truck Innovation Award nominee must be a vehicle with a gross vehicle weight of over 3.5-tonnes, fitted with an alternative driveline. Or it could feature specific high-tech solutions with regard to connectivity (whether semi or fully-autonomous driving systems), a 'platooning' capability, or 'over the air' remote diagnostics.

Richard Zink, director Marketing & Sales:

“EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS”

With the launch of the New Generation DAF XF, XG and XG+ - recently voted ‘International Truck of the Year 2022’ - DAF is ushering in a new era in road transport. The new flagship represents the largest investment project ever made in the company’s history. Not only in terms of product development and new production facilities but also in terms of services, an aspect in which DAF continues to invest, according to Richard Zink, director Marketing & Sales.

By: Henk de Lange

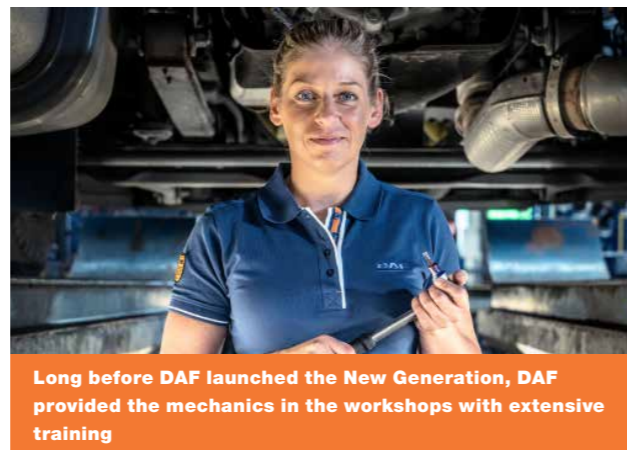


Richard Zink



The New Generation DAF XF, XG and XG+ represent the largest investment project in DAF's history

“The truck is actually only one part of the total logistics package that we can offer our customers,” says Zink. “We deliver not only trucks but added value as well.” And according to the Marketing & Sales director, this all starts with the DAF dealer. “Long before we launched the New Generation DAF we provided our dealers with extensive training,” he explains. “And not only the dealers themselves but also the mechanics in the workshops.” Speaking of dealers, DAF has also invested heavily in this aspect in recent years and customers can now avail of its services at more than 1,000 locations worldwide. “Almost every DAF dealer operates as an independent business,” says Zink. “As a result they all have the kind of entrepreneurial spirit that makes them go the extra mile for the customer.”



Long before DAF launched the New Generation, DAF provided the mechanics in the workshops with extensive training

PREMIUM

“DAF is a premium brand and a premium brand deserves a premium dealer network,” continues Zink. “This means that quality, service and customer experience have to meet the highest standards. We want to be able to deliver the same quality all over the world.” How do you do that? “In 2020 we redrafted our dealer standards,” explains Zink. “Because the needs and demands of the customer have changed down through the years. The new dealer standards encourage dealers to invest more in their business to enhance their customer experience, and to improve on a continuous basis. This results in a win-win situation: the quality of the dealer organisation goes up and this in turn leads to greater customer satisfaction. Which is the ultimate goal, of course: happy DAF customers.”



Customers can now avail of DAF's services at more than 1,000 locations worldwide

CONNECTING

Simultaneously with the launch of the XF, XG and XG+, important steps were taken with regard to the services that accompany this new generation of trucks. The list of innovations is long, says Zink. One example is the DAF Connect on-line fleet management system. “A platform that provides continuous updates on a fleet’s performance,” he explains. “This helps the customer to maintain a clear picture of the logistic processes and to get the best out of their people and vehicles. For instance, DAF Connect enables the navigation system to display real-time traffic information and allows the home base to provide drivers with the best routes. Imagine how much fuel, time and frustration that can save.”



DAF Connect helps the customer to maintain a clear picture of the logistic processes and to get the best out of their people and vehicles

UNIQUE IN THE INDUSTRY

With the introduction of the New Generation XF, XG and XG+, DAF introduces over-the-air updates for the engine and EAS systems, the vehicle ECU, the Central Security Gateway (CSG) and DAF Connect. A completely new infrastructure for vehicle diagnostics was also developed for the ‘New Generation DAF’. Zink: “An extended service interval of up to 200,000 kilometres means that maintenance is often required only once a year. That’s five times around the world before the truck has to come in for a service. Unique in the industry.”

PAN-EUROPEAN

And speaking of maintenance, DAF MultiSupport offers packages for maintenance and repairs on a Pan-European basis. “This helps to keep the fleet perfectly maintained and always ready to move. Ideal for the customer, who can then focus on their core activities.”

PEACE OF MIND

Peace of mind – that is the common theme in the conversation with Richard Zink. “Yes, that’s what we want to give our customers,” he confirms. “And that goes for financing, too. When you finalise a financing deal with PACCAR Financial after acquiring a vehicle you only have to sign one contract for the whole package and your truck is ready to drive straight away. You can’t get faster than that.” He concludes by saying, “We have embarked on a new era of increased integration between vehicles and their accompanying services. And in that regard our ambition remains the same: to exceed the expectations of our customers.” ■



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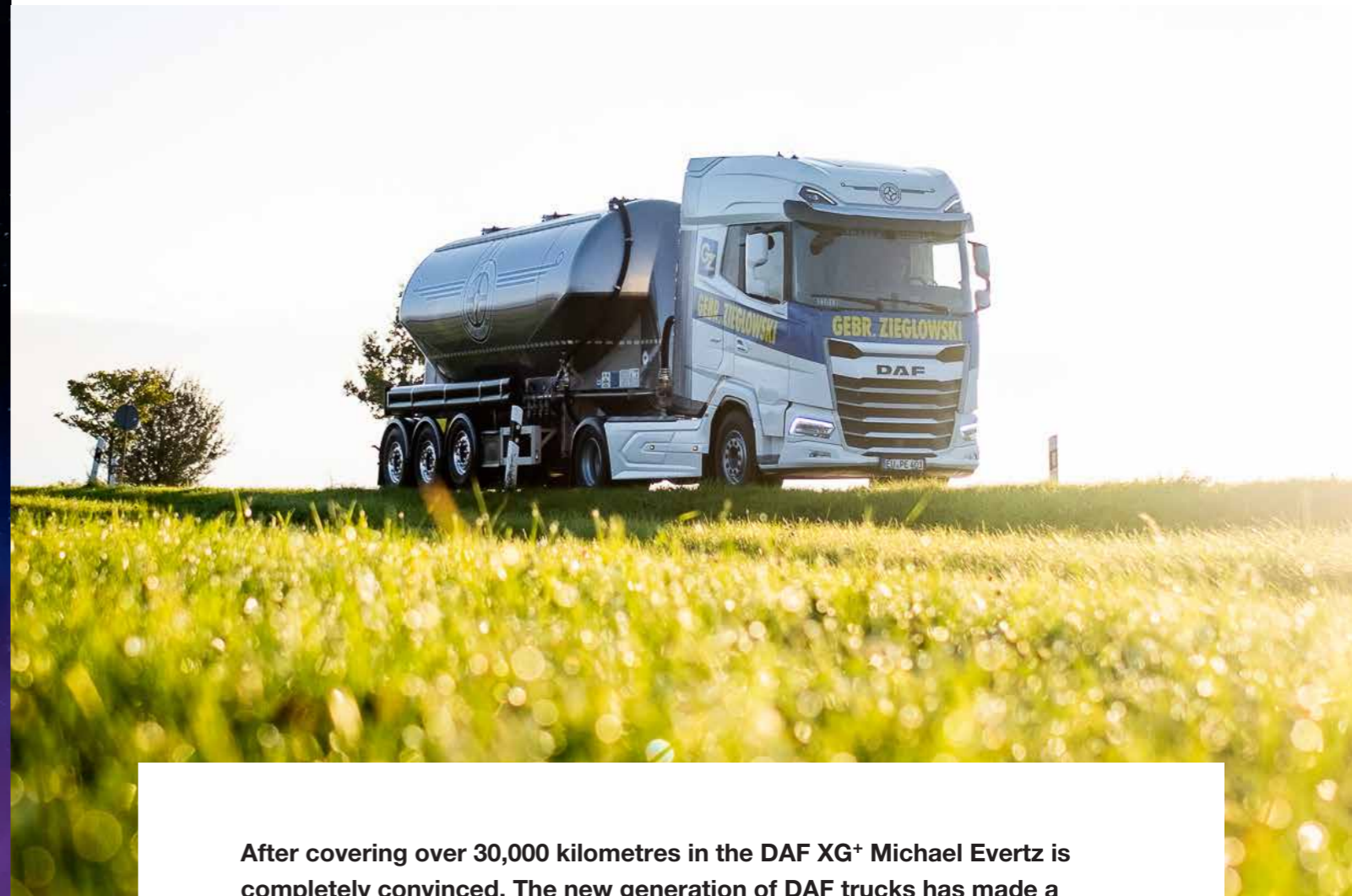


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Transporte Evertz GmbH

TEST THE BEST

By: Frank Hausmann
Photography: Steffen Löffler



After covering over 30,000 kilometres in the DAF XG+ Michael Evertz is completely convinced. The new generation of DAF trucks has made a terrific impression on this German transport operator whose company carries out field tests for the Dutch truck manufacturer. The truck impresses not only with regard to space, comfort and performance but particularly in relation to fuel consumption.

Michael Evertz is the managing director and owner of Transporte Evertz in Mechernich in Eifel, Germany. He was lucky enough to be able to try out the new generation of DAF vehicles before almost all of his colleagues. His company was also one of the very few that were given the opportunity to test DAF's new flagship on the road as part of a major field test before the official launch of the truck.



CEMENT AND LIME

With a fleet of silo semi-trailers and a tipper truck, Evertz transports cement and lime for his clients in the concrete industry. One of them is Ziegłowski, which explains the striping on his truck. He does most of his work in the area around Aachen, Cologne and Koblenz but also transports goods to the Münster and Saarland regions as well as to the Benelux. His company transports raw materials for businesses specialised in soil stabilisation and the treatment of wastewater in sewage plants.

STEADY GROWTH

15 years ago, Michael Evertz and his wife decided to take the plunge and start out as an independent transporter with one truck. Within twelve months they had acquired a second tractor trailer and since then the fleet has grown steadily thanks to a continuous increase in the number of orders. Their fleet currently consists of 15 silo semi-trailers, one tipper truck and 13 tractors.

NO BAD LUCK

The fact that Evertz operates 13 tractors has not brought him any bad luck. Especially when you consider that not everyone gets the chance to test the new XG+ extensively before the official launch of DAF's new flagship. The relationship between Evertz and DAF began four years ago when the firm was looking for tractors that were both fuel efficient and readily available. Michael Evertz eventually found his way to the DAF service and sales partner Loven in Eschweiler. They set him up with his first DAF, a XF 530, and today there are four of these DAF vehicles equipped with the most powerful PACCAR engine available in the fleet of this bulk transporter.

EXCELLENT RELATIONSHIP

This is all down to the excellent relationship that Evertz enjoys with the Loven team. "Naturally, purchase price, total cost of ownership, quality, performance and reliability are the most important factors for us when acquiring a new truck. And DAF ticks

all the boxes. We also place great value on our relationship with the dealer behind the product, and everything runs so smoothly between our company and Loven that we are 100% sure we have chosen the right brand of truck," says Michael Evertz.

INPUT

Evertz is very generous when it comes to giving his drivers the opportunity to have their say regarding the truck's interior. They are fully involved every time a new truck is ordered and this translates into a high level of driver loyalty to both the employer and the brand. Michael Evertz also knows exactly what he's talking about with regard to his trucks. "I still drive them regularly myself and I really appreciate the comfort of a DAF each time I take one out, especially for a long drive. This is all because of the enormous amount of space in the cab, the comfortable seats, the superbly designed dashboard and the power of the engine. The kind of things I want my drivers to have, too, as they are often out on the road for several days at a time," according to Evertz.

"I am very happy with the amazing mirror configuration and the perfect all-round visibility it offers."



One of Evertz' largest customers is Ziegłowski, which explains the striping on his truck

HEART

The 55-year-old transport operator was also involved in defining the specifications of the DAF XG+ for the field test. "I wanted a truck with the largest cab and the most powerful engine. The DAF XG+ 530 offers everything a trucker's heart could desire. The longer cab boasts an enormous amount of space. No other truck cab can offer 2.20 m of standing room, endless storage space and 80 cm-wide beds across the full breadth of the truck that can be operated electrically," says Evertz with great enthusiasm.

HIGH QUALITY

He is also very impressed by the high-quality materials used and the seats that can be swivelled during rest periods to give the cab the feel of a living room. No to mention the digital cockpit, the adjustable steering column that can be parked far forward for optimal ease of access and the fully integrated Park Airco.

SAFETY AND SUSTAINABILITY

"Safety and sustainability are very important to us," explains Evertz. "And that's why I am very happy with the amazing mirror configuration and the perfect all-round visibility it offers. This is down to the beautifully slim design of the mirror housing," adds Evertz, who has already driven over 30,000 kilometres in the new DAF. "During the night-time trips I really enjoyed the full LED headlights that together with the LED Skylights offer superb illumination on the road. I'm also very happy that DAF has installed the full range of its driver assistance and safety systems in this truck."

CAMOUFLAGED

Evertz still has to smile when he thinks back on the surprised looks he encountered when making deliveries in the new DAF. At first, his fellow drivers were unable to identify the truck he was driving.

This was because the new truck had been heavily camouflaged and even had its logos and grilles hidden. As a result, the vehicle was unrecognisable as a DAF. What couldn't be hidden from view, however, was the enormous size of the cab, a feature that resulted in many curious and admiring looks in Michael Evertz' direction.

IMPRESSED

In addition to the vehicle's outward appearance, spacious interior and superb finishing, Evertz is also highly impressed by the new DAF's roadholding, steering and driveline. "DAF has managed to make the PACCAR MX-13 engine even more efficient," he says. "In the new XG+ we use up to five litres less diesel per 100 kilometres compared with our current generation of DAF XF's. Just imagine how much that is going to save us on a truck that drives up to 120.000 kilometres a year! It will mean a significant reduction in our fuel costs."

IMPORTANT DECISION

The new generation of DAFs has helped Evertz to make an important decision. "From now on I am only going to expand my fleet with the newest generation of DAFs. This test has convinced me of the excellence of the driving performance, fuel efficiency and comfort of the DAF XG+." It is a decision that will be warmly welcomed by his drivers because they all want to drive the truck with the biggest cab on the market. And the sooner, the better, too. Some of them will have to wait a little longer, but the first two trucks have already been ordered and will be delivered to Transporte Evertz soon. ■



Shortage of truck drivers

'UK STYLE' CHALLENGES IN EUROPE?

In recent months the shortage of truck drivers led to dramatic newspaper headlines in the United Kingdom. However, the British are not the only ones suffering from a lack of drivers. While the problem may not have reached 'Crisis Britannica' proportions yet in the EU, without a shift in policy a similar situation may arise on the continent within a few short years, including long queues at service stations and empty shelves in the super-markets. The pool of truck drivers is rapidly getting older and there is very little fresh blood coming in.

By: Bert Roozendaal and Richard Simpson

This is nothing new, of course. There has been a shortage of drivers for many years. In 2016 the shortage was almost as bad as it is now and three years later the International Road Transport Union (IRU) once again warned that the problem was getting steadily worse all across Europe. Covid brought some temporary relief, as the demand for transport fell and the shortage of chauffeurs also fell to only 7 per cent. However, as a result of the fast rate of economic recovery, this figure is expected to rise to 17 per cent very soon. It is clear that action is required, something that both employer organisations and politicians have been saying for years. But despite the implementation of some measures – including at the European level – it appears that little progress has been made.

AN AGEING SECTOR

From a global perspective there is no shortage of young people, as the IRU has already pointed out. But the situation is different in Western Europe, where the population is ageing fast and the pool of truck drivers faster still. Out of the entire pool of European drivers only 5 per cent are under the age of twenty-five. There are a number of reasons for this. In some European countries transporters lay the blame on financial and legal restrictions. Getting your truck driver's license can cost up to €10,000 and in some countries employers also have to grapple with high insurance costs and legislation that makes it difficult for those under the age of 21 to become a truck driver. However, this is not the whole story, as other countries where these restrictions are not as severe are still facing the same problem: a shortage of good drivers. And all this in the knowledge that the large group of drivers aged fifty and over will be retiring within the next ten years.

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

Since the 1990s, many West European transport companies have been able to employ drivers from other countries within the EU thanks to the free labour market in Europe. In the short term this provides a solution to the problem of driver shortage and is also less expensive for the transport operator. However, the lower costs have a price tag, too. According to the unions, by providing transport at an increasingly lower price the sector has weakened its own negotiating position with respect to its clients. And lower revenue is a poor position from which to propose higher wages, which puts the wage structure in the transport operator's own country under pressure as well. Ultimately, none of this facilitates the effort to recruit new drivers and retain those still under contract.



The large group of drivers aged fifty and over will be retiring within the next ten years

EU DRIVERS NOT RETURNING

While this problem is becoming more worrying in Europe, in Britain it has already precipitated a crisis. Foreign drivers were responsible for driving a large share of British trucks until Brexit became a reality and they left the UK. The Covid pandemic only made things worse and there is now a structural shortage. There are serious doubts as to whether the tide can be turned by the British government's announcement of a temporary easing of restrictions for workers from countries outside the United Kingdom. Most of these workers have since found work closer to home, as drivers are now in great demand in almost every country in Europe.

Crisis over truck driver shortage in UK spreads to manufacturing, food and energy sectors

Inadequate number of truck drivers versus demand has caused serious disruptions in logistics sector

Major reasons why number of truck drivers does not meet demand:

- Increased age of drivers
- Lower wages in other sectors
- Number of drivers in other sectors
- Low entry
- COVID-19 pandemic

UK FACING CATASTROPHIC HGV DRIVER SHORTAGE & WE MUST BRACE FOR IMPACT

A PERFECT STORM OF SUBSIDIZED DEMAND AND REDUCED SUPPLY IN THE UK HGV SECTOR

Investigating HGV Driver Shortage & Energy

NEW REPORT RELEASED

HGV DRIVER SHORTAGE THINK TANK

The shortage of truck drivers led to dramatic newspaper headlines in the United Kingdom

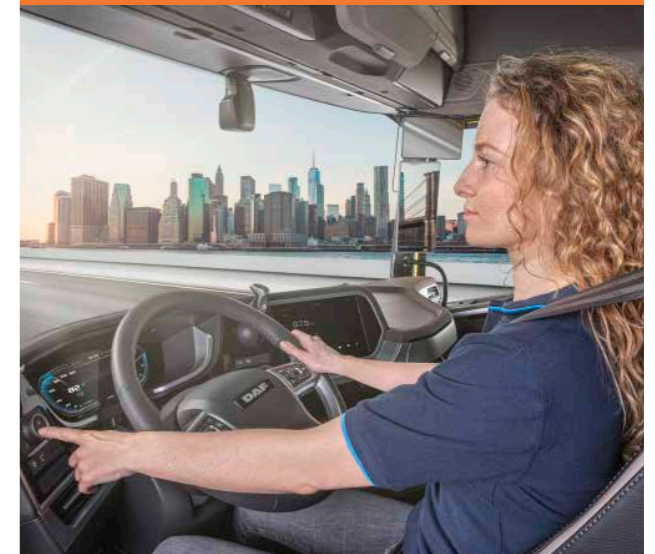
BETTER WAGES

Better wages could also be a solution. The cry for higher wages rings out in every sector every time there is a shortage of workers. But every employer knows that the appeal of a higher salary is quickly forgotten if the working conditions do not improve as well. As a result, the EU is working on both aspects, with a mandatory minimum wage and measures to tackle wage dumping on the one hand and efforts to deal with the social aspect on the other. However, despite the good intentions behind such measures, the question remains whether they will really solve anything. It's all well and good when you decide that a driver who has worked 14 days in a row must stay out of their cab for at least 24 hours. But where is he or she supposed to go then? Thankfully, trucks are becoming more and more comfortable. And while it will never be possible to fit a cab with a shower unit, just one look at the new series of DAFs reveals the unprecedented level of luxury that is helping to make the driver's life and working conditions a whole lot better.

INTERMODAL

With regard to facilities on the road: despite the fact that Europe has 300,000 parking spaces along its main transport routes, the number still falls short by 100,000 in terms of actual requirements. As a result, the European Commission has made an urgent plea to its member countries to provide more (and most importantly secure) parking spaces. This would also encourage more women to consider a career as a truck driver. In addition, the call for more intermodal transport is becoming louder in the European parliament. However, most of the rail network is already close to full capacity and building more railways can take years. This kind of transport must also be able to meet the specific requirements of the industry, which often employs just-in-time models, an area where intermodal transport is less effective. There is still a considerable gap to be bridged to meet the needs of the transporter, who ultimately prefers to solve problems today and not tomorrow.

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION HAS MADE AN URGENT PLEA TO ITS MEMBER COUNTRIES TO PROVIDE MORE (AND MOST IMPORTANTLY SECURE) PARKING SPACES. THIS WOULD ALSO ENCOURAGE MORE WOMEN TO CONSIDER A CAREER AS A TRUCK DRIVER.



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Part 1547033

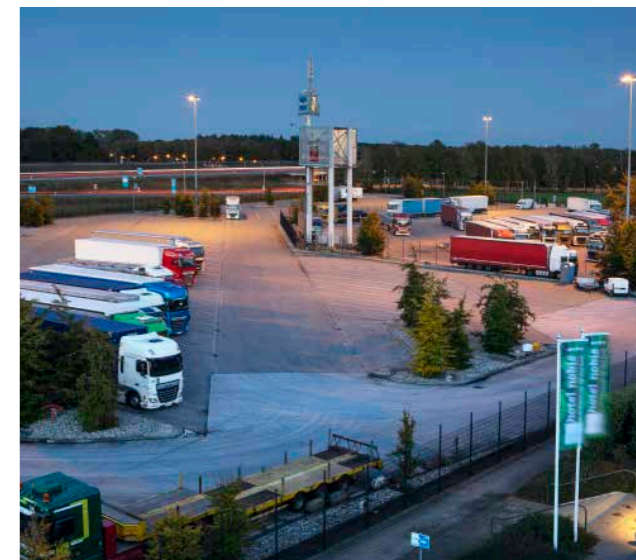
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SHORTAGE OF TRUCK DRIVERS

RE-THINKING

While higher wages may provide a short-term solution and encourage more young people to become truck drivers and remain in the profession for the long term, it appears that improved working conditions actually hold the key to lasting success. And this requires some serious re-thinking within the sector. With regard to international transport, it may be possible to improve the conditions for drivers in terms of social isolation by allowing them to decouple their vehicle more often than is currently the case. This would allow drivers to make shorter journeys and be at home more often. Advances in IT mean this should be possible. However, decoupling is not always an option for domestic distribution, which makes up the lion's share of all transportation. Again, we will have to turn to IT for the required solutions and this is an area where improvements can be made in many countries in Europe. Together with a good and spacious road infrastructure and sufficient facilities on the road, this can help to ensure that the domestic driver will know not only what time they will be setting out in the morning but also when they can expect to return home again. And this is a very important aspect particularly for young people nowadays.



A good and spacious road infrastructure can help make the profession more attractive.



“NEW STANDARD IN DRIVER COMFORT”

The series production of the 'New Generation DAF', the XF, XG and XG+ has officially started at DAF in Eindhoven. The 'Job One' truck – a red XG+ with a 12.9 litre PACCAR MX-13 engine – was handed over in a festive ceremony by John Jorritsma on the right, mayor of Eindhoven, where DAF has its head office) and Harry Wolters (DAF President) to André Verbeek, director/owner of Verbeek Agra Vision, and his son Niels. The milestone XG+ is now driving for its subsidiary company Hennentransport Hooijer. "In addition to unrivalled reliability and the low costs per kilometre, the superb level of driver comfort is also an important reason for our decision to choose DAF," explains André Verbeek. "And with the new top model XG+, DAF has once again set a new standard. A very important factor in these times of high drivershortages." ■

Taiwan loves driving trucks from 'Hélán'

A TRUCK IS A LIVING THING



It is perhaps a little-known fact, but DAF has been the best-selling European truck brand in Taiwan for many years. The economy of this highly developed island relies heavily on logistics, an aspect in which DAF has played an important role thanks to its state-of-the-art, efficient and very clean Euro 6 commercial vehicles.

By: Bert Roozendaal

The clean technology of DAF's trucks dovetails perfectly with the deep attachment of the Taiwanese people to their island's history, culture, scientific heritage and natural beauty, a fact that is brought home to us when we meet up with Tom Wu Xinjun, director of YI SIAN Transport Inc. to talk about 'his' Taiwan. "I live on a beautiful island that was once called Formosa and that has a rich history. It doesn't matter where you go on the island – the mountains, the coast, the cities – it is equally beautiful everywhere. The Taiwanese are a friendly people and completely at one with their environment."

THE PURSUIT OF PROSPERITY

There is one thing above all else that the Taiwanese people have in common: their pursuit of prosperity. They have worked extremely hard over the past few decades on the development of the economy. It is a very densely populated country, with 23.5 million people living in an area of only 36,192 km². In addition to their respect for traditional values, the Taiwanese also possess a tremendous entrepreneurial spirit. There is a well-known Taiwanese proverb that says, 'If you want God's blessing, you must first learn to stand on your own two feet and move forward.'



For Tom Wu Xinjun trucks are a way of life

MADE IN TAIWAN

This firm belief in one's own ability has been very beneficial for the island. In 2020 Taiwan was ranked 19th in the list of richest economies in the world, ahead of Australia. 'Made in Taiwan' is a much-used phrase around the world, regardless of where the goods are made; at the start of the 21st century, domestic production in Taiwan began to grow so rapidly that much of the actual production had to be performed on the Chinese mainland, which lies only 97 miles away across the sea.

HEALTHY SURPLUS

In 2020 Taiwan's export of goods and services was valued at 304 billion euros while imports were valued at 252 billion. This resulted in a very healthy trade surplus. The enormous extent of Taiwan's economic activity means that transport and logistics are crucial to the island's success. In fact, they are the lubricant of the economic engine. In 2019 transport contributed no less than 7 per cent to the country's Gross Domestic Product. The sector is one of Taiwan's biggest employers because the country only has one railroad and the vast majority of goods have to be transported over the roads of this 400-kilometre-long island. Much of that transport is between the island's ports, of which Kaohsiung in the south is by far the largest.



Taiwan has many ports, of which Kaohsiung in the south is by far the largest

→ **A TRUCK IS A LIVING THING**



YI SIAN Transport Inc. transports automotive parts, chemicals, water and beverages for its customers in Central and South Taiwan

TRUCKS FROM HÉLÁN

Formosa Plastics Group has benefited from the island's predominant use of its road network for the transport of goods. The company introduced DAF to the island and it was not long before it had been established as the 'leading European brand' in Taiwan. Every week DAF Trucks ships a new consignment of parts and components from its factories in Eindhoven and Leyland to Taiwan, where they are assembled by Formosa Plastics at an ultramodern plant in Dadu. Taiwanese transporters are always keen to drive the modern trucks from faraway Netherlands, or 'Hélán' as they call it themselves. One of those transporters is the 43-year-old Tom Wu Xinjun. His company, YI SIAN Transport Inc., transports automotive parts, chemicals, water and beverages for its customers in Central and South Taiwan. "We have 10 trucks weighing between 18.5 and 46 tonnes. The DAF CF tractor makes up most of our fleet but we also have a number of rigids."

TRANSPORT IN THE BLOOD

Tom Wu Xinjun has transport in his blood. "Our family has been in the road transport business for many generations. I learned how to drive a truck before I had even left high school. I can drive every kind of vehicle actually, except perhaps a railway locomotive", he says, displaying none of his usual shyness as he gets to talk about his favourite subject.

A TRUCK IS A LIVING THING

"Our family was very poor. But thanks to the income our truck generated we could buy enough food and clothes and I was able to go to school. I am very attached to my trucks. To me a truck is a living thing". In Taiwan it is not unusual for transport operators to offer up a prayer for the safety of a truck when taking possession of a new vehicle.



SAFETY FIRST

Tom does not put all his faith in the wisdom of the gods, however. "It costs 100 drops of sweat to produce one grain of rice," he says. "If I want to be successful, my trucks must drive not only often and far but safely, too. So I make sure that each vehicle is serviced on time and checked by the driver before they go out on the road. The maintenance service that Formosa Automobile Sale Corporation provides is worth its weight in gold. And that's why DAF is definitely my favourite brand, alongside its excellent performance and fuel efficiency."



Tom Wu Xinjun still likes to take a truck out on the road himself whenever his job as company director allows

AT THE TOP OF OUR GAME

Proper maintenance, good training for drivers and excellent aftersales are the cornerstones of YI SIAN Transport Inc. "We can only earn and retain the trust of the customer when we deliver their goods safely and on time. We must always be at the top of our game," explains Tom Wu Xinjun, who still likes to take a truck out on the road himself whenever his job as company director allows. As he says himself, while he may also have a passion for things like good food, to him transport is 'a way of life'. ■



To see the video, just scan the QR code



25 years 'a PACCAR company'

DAF CONTINUES TO GROW WORLDWIDE



An important element in the development of the New Generation DAF is the construction of new, ultramodern cab factories in Westerlo

IN 1996 DAF BECAME THE THIRD PACCAR BRAND AFTER KENWORTH AND PETERBILT.

Exactly a quarter of a century ago DAF Trucks became a subsidiary of PACCAR, one of the largest and most successful truck manufacturers in the world. It marked the start of a genuine success story in which both partners continue to enhance each other.

Founded in 1905 as a manufacturer of railway carriages and logging equipment, PACCAR switched its focus to the market for heavy trucks in 1945. In that year the company purchased the Kenworth Motor Truck Company, followed in 1958 by the acquisition of the Peterbilt Motors Company. Both brands grew to become icons on the North American, South American and Australian truck markets and leaders in their field in terms of quality. In 1996 DAF became the third PACCAR truck brand.

'CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE'

Under the umbrella of PACCAR, DAF has chalked up an impressive list of investments over the past twenty-five years. These investments include a completely new engine test centre in Eindhoven, which has enabled DAF to strengthen its leading position in the development of clean, reliable and extremely efficient engines and even attain the status of 'Centre of Excellence' within the PACCAR group. The 12.9 litre PACCAR MX-13 and later the 10.8 litre PACCAR MX-11 engines have won praise all around the world and no less than 45% of all Kenworth and Peterbilt trucks are now fitted with a PACCAR MX engine.

CONTINUED INVESTMENT

Major investments are also being made in new PACCAR Parts Distribution centres in Eindhoven, Budapest, Madrid, Leyland and Moscow in order to guarantee the customer a first-class parts service. In Westerlo, Belgium – where axles and cabs are produced – DAF recently opened a brand new cab painting facility, the most advanced and environment-friendly of its kind in the world. The largest investment, however, was in the development of a completely new generation of trucks for long-distance transport: the XF, XG and XG+. With these new trucks DAF has become the first manufacturer to apply the new European regulations for masses and dimensions and has set new standards in the industry for efficiency, safety and driver comfort. An important element in the development of these innovative trucks is the construction of new, ultramodern cab factories in Westerlo. The new XF, XG and XG+ represent a brand new and extremely energy-efficient vehicle platform, one that is fully prepared for the drivelines of the future, including the requirements of e-engines, plug-in hybrids, fuel cells and hydrogen combustion engines. DAF is also a world leader in the development of alternative driveline concepts.



DAF is also a world leader in the development of alternative driveline concepts, as this LF Electric shows

MOST SUCCESSFUL TRUCK MANUFACTURER

DAF's current and future investments are proof of its commitment to continued growth in the global market. In Europe, DAF has become the fastest-growing and most successful truck manufacturer on the continent, where its market share in the heavy segment has grown from 9% in 1996 to more than 16% in 2020. DAF is the market leader in the United Kingdom, The Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Hungary and Bulgaria and the number one player in the tractor segment in Europe.

GLOBAL GROWTH

At the same time, DAF continues to grow outside of Europe, too, particularly in South America, Russia, Africa and Asia, where the European truck concept dominates the market and the quality and efficiency of DAF trucks is very highly regarded. For instance, DAF is now the largest European truck brand in Taiwan, where DAF's trucks are assembled locally. And in 2013 a completely new DAF assembly plant was opened in Brazil. In 2021 DAF was voted 'Brand of the Year' in Brazil for the fourth time by the vehicle industry group FENABRAVE. DAF has also established a firm foothold in Australia, Chile, Peru, Ecuador and Colombia, partly thanks to the leading position already occupied in these territories by Kenworth.

DRIVEN BY QUALITY

With a superb range of trucks and services and a dense network of professional and independent dealers, DAF is perfectly positioned to achieve further growth on a global scale. A proud PACCAR company driven by quality! ■



Significant investments were also made in completely new PACCAR Parts Distribution Centers, such as here in Ponta Grossa, Brazil.

PERFECT SILENCE. IN THE CAB AND IN THE STREET

By: Guus Peters
Photos: Marieke van Grinsven

Electric vehicles are quietly taking over the streets on two fronts, with electric cars stealthily establishing their place in society on the one hand and going about their work in perfect silence on the other. The results of a pilot project that Rotterdam City Council is running with electric refuse disposal vehicles have been very positive. The council's refuse collection division has not only begun using the DAF CF Electric, but the employees were also involved in its development. "The reactions have been very positive."



THE MOST REMARKABLE FEATURE OF THE WHOLE OPERATION IS HOW QUIETLY IT ALL HAPPENS.

The slogan on the sides of the white and green DAF CF refuse collection truck approaching silently along the Spartastraat in Rotterdam translates as "I am positively charged". The truck stops directly opposite the stadium of Sparta FC – or 'The Castle', as it is known locally. Driver Paul Keijzer gets out and straps on the truck's remote control. The enormous arm on the HIAB XS 211 W crane springs into action and it only needs a few seconds to lift a large refuse container up out of its underground location. The container hovers above the truck and empties its contents before Keijzer replaces it neatly in the square cavity in the pavement. Keijzer then gets back into his truck and drives off.

EMISSION-FREE

The most remarkable feature of the whole operation is how quietly it all happens, with nothing but the gentle zoom of the truck breaking the silence in the street. This is because the DAF CF in question is an electric model. For its pilot project, the Rotterdam City Council has acquired four fully electric refuse collection vehicles that have been used on a daily basis for the past eighteen months. "The European Union has decreed that we all need to cut down on our CO₂ emissions. EU commissioner Frans Timmermans has set a number of goals to which we at Rotterdam City Council are fully committed," says Paul van Emmerik, manager of sales at the council's transport and materials department. "Our fleet consists of around 1,500 vehicles, all of which need to be emission-free by 2050 and that is why we have started a number of pilot projects with electric vehicles. This DAF CF Electric is our first fully electric refuse collection truck."

SILENT

We meet Van Emmerik for a chat at Rotterdam City Council's service location on the Kleinpolderplein. Diesel vehicles come and go in the background, but those with their eyes (and ears) peeled can't fail to notice the silent passage of fully electric vehicles as well. Road sweepers and the e-scooters of the parking management service whizz silently past as the council's fully electric Nissan LEAF scan cars wait their turn at the charging stations. The DAF CF Electric has its own on-site fast charger and it is in constant use. "This vehicle has been specially acquired for emptying hopper containers. We also have a number of rear loader garbage trucks for emptying mini containers, such as the ones you find in public spaces," explains Van Emmerik.

CAPACITY

During our conversation with Van Emmerik, the word 'capacity' is used more than once in reference to two separate things: firstly to indicate the maximum load that a vehicle can carry and secondly in reference to the charging of the battery in electric vehicles. Van Emmerik: "This truck can transport up to five and a half tons of refuse. With an electrically driven truck, the weight of the battery means you have to sacrifice some of the loading capacity. It's a compromise you have to make. We are hoping for major improvements in battery technology, a process that is already underway, in fact. In the development of this truck, for example, the capacity of the batteries was doubled for the same mass and volume."

ROTTERDAM CITY COUNCIL HAS ITS OWN CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE VEHICLES.

SPARE BATTERY

Obviously, an electric truck has to recharge more often than a diesel needs to fill up. "One of the biggest challenges in the development of electric trucks is the charging of the battery," says Van Emmerik. "On the one hand because you need a certain amount of kilowatts – charging capacity – and on the other because the charging process takes time. The driver is the most expensive part of a truck, so we want the greatest charging capacity possible in the shortest space of time. And that can be a problem for us here in Rotterdam. We have a spare battery in a container that can be used when things get very busy. However, they don't have that kind of problem at the HVC Group in Alkmaar, for example, where they also use electric DAFs. The HVC waste disposal company has its own power station right next door: the incineration plant in Alkmaar. We don't have that luxury."

Paul van Emmerik:

"DURING THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS THE BATTERIES HAVE ACQUIRED TWICE THE AMOUNT OF CAPACITY USING THE SAME MASS AND VOLUME."





Why PSQL 2.1E Oil?

The specifications of the New DAF Oil Standard have been developed and tested in 7 performance areas together with Chevron Lubricants, one of the biggest manufacturers of quality lubricants in the world. The PSQL 2.1E oil exceeds ACEA standards in every area. The New Standard:

- Reduces operating costs
- Reduces fuel consumption
- Advanced wear protection
- Clean performance
- Backwards compatible

Every truck deserves the best engine oil. Therefore, use the New DAF Oil Standard for optimum performance of your truck.



DAF

DRIVEN BY QUALITY



ELECTRIC GARBAGE COLLECTION

DEVELOPMENT

It is no coincidence that Van Emmerik refers to HVC because the Rotterdam City Council and HVC in the Dutch town of Alkmaar are working closely together with the waste management firms Cure in Eindhoven and Rova in Zwolle on the development of DAF's electric refuse collection vehicles, such as the ones in use here. "For this project a submission has been made for a subsidy that the RVO (Netherlands Enterprise Agency) makes available for innovative projects." So, do the parties involved share their experiences with each other? "Yes. We hold evaluation meetings and discuss our findings and possible areas of improvement. For instance, the regeneration energy from the brakes has been greatly improved over time," according to Van Emmerik.

PEACE & QUIET

Rotterdam handpicked a number of drivers for the e-trucks. "These are all people with a deep commitment to CO₂-neutral and emission-free trucks. Drivers who have long had a genuine interest in these kinds of vehicles. This is one of the reasons why we presented the truck as a prototype so that the driver is aware that not everything will always be as they expect it to be," says Van Emmerik, who adds that many drivers are very happy with the peace and quiet the cab offers and that makes their work even more enjoyable. "And they also appreciate the fact that they get zero complaints from residents about the noise when they have to set out early in the morning. On the flip side, drivers do have to stop more often to recharge and get used to using energy in a different way. That takes some time and effort. Accordingly, a greater battery capacity is desirable and the evolution of the technology is already making that possible. This is also one of the reasons why the truck will soon be returning to DAF."

NOISE

The CF Electric does produce some noise, partly for the sake of warning others in the vicinity, but the noise level is far below that of a diesel truck, according to Van Emmerik. "In addition, Rotterdam City Council has signed the 'Green Deal Zero Emission City Logistics' with the aim of establishing a zero-emission zone in the city centre by 2025, a hugely important project for Rotterdam. The council plans to



THE DAF CF ELECTRIC IN ACTION ON THE SPARTASTRAAT IN ROTTERDAM.

introduce an emission-free-vehicles-only policy in the centre of the city. The public transport buses are already fully electric, for example, and in addition to being emission-free also make no noise. That's a real breath of fresh air for the city."



To see the movie, just scan the QR-code

POSITIVE REACTION

Driver Paul Keijzer, who has been working for the council for 33 years, has also received a lot of positive reaction to his electric DAF. "Sometimes people come up to me in the street to ask me about the truck. Recently, another driver of a garbage truck came up to me in the city centre and was so interested he could hardly stop asking me questions," says Keijzer.

TAKING OVER

Paul van Emmerik has heard plenty of good reactions to the electric refuse collection trucks. "Most people say they look great before adding: 'must be very expensive though'. And that is true, these trucks are relatively expensive, which is why the Dutch government needs to support the development of the vehicles and promote their use. Individual transport companies won't see a business case in the truck, but if it becomes even cleaner and more efficient it won't be long before the electric garbage truck starts to take over from the diesel. It's really only a matter of time." ■

Paul Keijzer:

"SOMETIMES PEOPLE COME UP TO ME IN THE STREET TO ASK ME ABOUT THE TRUCK."



“Greater availability in addition to lower costs”

THE SECOND AND THIRD LIFE OF A DAF

One life, two lives, or even more. DAF trucks have in fact at least three lives, according to Marty van den Dungen, sales director Used Trucks at DAF. “More and more dealers are now offering Used Trucks to their customers in addition to new vehicles so that they can provide them with tailor-made solutions.”

By: Guus Peters

Actually, says Marty van den Dungen, ‘used’ is not even a good word for a truck from the DAF Used Trucks range. He prefers the term ‘almost new’. “Simply because the quality is so good. We know the maintenance record, we get the trucks back into tip-top shape and there is even a one-year guarantee available for a pre-owned DAF.”

Van den Dungen has been sales director of DAF Used Trucks since 2016 and in those five years he has seen a dramatic increase in the availability of trucks that have already clocked up a few kilometres. “We now take back more than 12,000 vehicles each year through a variety of channels – rental fleets, lease contracts and the DAF Buy-Back residual value guarantee. To give you an indication of how things have changed: a few years ago that number was around 3,500. We oversee the process of reintroducing vehicles to the market through the central organisation in Eindhoven, together with the organisations in the countries where we have a Dedicated Used Trucks Sales centre.”

USED TRUCK RETAIL CENTERS

When we speak with Van den Dungen, an energetic 55-year-old Brabander with over thirty years’ experience at DAF, he has just returned after opening a new DAF Used Truck Center in Hungary. Over the past few years DAF has invested heavily in its own sales centres for used trucks, which are now to be found in locations like Lyon, Paris, Prague, Warsaw, Budapest, Nyíregyháza and Dieburg in Germany. “We sell at least half of all used DAFs through our own dealer network.”

READY TOMORROW

The quality of used trucks today is excellent, which makes them a very attractive alternative to a new vehicle. “Naturally, a used truck that is between one and three years young is less expensive than a new one,” says Van den Dungen. “But the truck’s availability is also an important factor, as delivery times for new trucks have been getting longer. If it’s simply a matter of acquiring a new truck,



Marty van den Dungen, sales director Used Trucks at DAF. “More and more dealers are now offering Used Trucks to their customers in addition to new vehicles so that they can provide them with tailor-made solutions.”

the customer is often prepared to wait another six months or so. But when your workload increases you need two things: a truck and a driver. While finding drivers is becoming a real challenge in Europe, we can at least look after the other side of the problem: the truck. Ideal in that case are our First Choice trucks, which are fully serviced and ready for another few hundred thousand trouble-free kilometres on the road. And in some cases those trucks are ready to drive tomorrow .”

GUARANTEE

“We have clear guidelines with regard to the optical and technical specifications that DAF used trucks have to meet in order to ensure that the second and third owner will be acquiring the kind of reliable truck they would expect from an organisation like DAF”, explains Van den Dungen. “And we also have our First Choice guarantee, of course, with which we can offer a full warranty for vehicles up to four years old with 500,000 kilometres on the clock. For trucks up to five years old and 600,000 kilometres we offer a year’s guarantee on the driveline.” When you add in the Multi-Support maintenance contracts and the option of financing or leasing through PACCAR Financial you can only come to one conclusion: the buyer runs no risk whatsoever with a DAF Used Truck.



IDEAL TRUCK

This is confirmed by Van den Dungen: “An XF is built to drive at least 1.6 million kilometres. So a vehicle with four or five hundred thousand on the clock has at least another two lives ahead of it. We have a lot of big customers all over Europe who send back trucks that were bought as new vehicles. Their specifications are perfect; Super Space Cab, side skirts, park airco, LED lights... in short, the ideal truck and one that we can sell anywhere in Europe. These vehicles often continue their lives in operational lease and are returned to us one more time after around three years. This means that we sell them twice, or three times actually: once new and twice as a used truck. The first time they come back they have between 250,00 and 400,000 kilometres on the clock and then around 700,000 when they return again after being on the road for another three years. At that stage a DAF hasn’t even reached the halfway point in its lifespan.”

DAF USED TRUCK CENTERS

DAF has a number of Used Truck centres in different countries in Europe with hundreds of pre-owned DAFs on offer. The centres are located in:

Germany	Dieburg
France	Lyon, Paris
Hungary	Budapest, Nyíregyháza
Poland	Warsaw
Spain	Madrid (under construction)
Czech Republic	Prague
Internet:	www.dafusedtrucks.com/daf-used-trucklocator



Aziz Uzunkaya: “My Turkish drivers are often away from home for weeks at a time. So they deserve the most spacious and most comfortable cab on the market.”

CHALLENGE

Adjusting a vehicle to match the specific needs of a customer is one of the most interesting challenges for a Used Truck dealer, according to Marty van den Dungen. “They always pick from whatever they have available on site, which is generally not a problem given the range of trucks we have to offer. But sometimes the cab colours have to be changed to meet the customer’s needs or the truck has to be equipped with extras like a PTO or a hydraulic unit. And sometimes the vehicle will have only one tank when the customer really wants two. Whatever is required, we are always up to the challenge.” He might not say it in so many words, but essentially the message is: what more could you want? “If you need a truck tomorrow, there is only one route to go: a used vehicle. Or, more accurately, an almost new truck with a bit of experience.” ■

AZIZ UZUNKAYA: “LITERALLY AS GOOD AS NEW”

Aziz Uzunkaya started in 1997 as a transport operator with one truck. Today he runs a fleet of 60 vehicles, 85% of which carry the DAF badge on their grill. His company UZUNKAYA SPEDITION & TRANSPORTE has its headquarters in Prague and its business is primarily the transport of automotive parts. The drivers at Aziz travel back and forth between Turkey, Belgium and Denmark. Aziz recently added 29 used DAF XF Super Space Cabs to the fleet. Why not new trucks? “Simple,” he says. “These trucks are literally as good as new, the operational costs are low and the service provided by DAF Used Trucks is excellent. I was able to finance 25 of the trucks through PACCAR Financial.” He also deliberately chose the largest cab that DAF builds: the Super Space Cab. “My Turkish drivers are often away from home for weeks at a time,” he explains. “So they deserve the most spacious and most comfortable cab on the market.”

DAF INTRODUCES PACCAR CHARGING STATIONS

In order to offer its customers a comprehensive service, DAF has introduced a full series of high-quality PACCAR charging stations for electric trucks and delivery vehicles.

The offer consists of a full programme of fixed charging stations with a capacity ranging from 20 kW to 360 kW. To ensure maximum flexibility, mobile chargers with a capacity of 24 kW to 40 kW are also available. The 120 kW and 180 kW chargers are designed for rapid charging and are therefore ideal for fleets that use electric vehicles on multiple routes or in multiple shifts. The most powerful unit is the PACCAR 360 kW charging station that can fully recharge a vehicle in less than two hours or rapid charge two vehicles at the same time.



ELECTRIC TRUCKS PILOT UNDERWAY

Leyland Trucks is taking part in a project aimed at helping transporters in the United Kingdom to make the switch to electric trucks. 20 DAF LF Electric vehicles, as well as the required charging infrastructure, will be fitted with data loggers to assist the government's Department for Transport in its efforts to promote the use of fully electric trucks.

During the pilot project Leyland Trucks will be working together with various end users in the public sector. The National Health Service will be using 11 DAF LF Electric trucks for general transport purposes across the UK. The remaining 9 vehicles will be made available to various local authorities for the collection of recyclable waste and deliveries to schools.



3 MILLION AXLES

Recently DAF Trucks Vlaanderen in Belgium produced its 3-millionth axle, a milestone that coincided with the 50th anniversary of the axle factory in Westerlo. To ensure optimal performance and guarantee the efficiency of its drivelines, DAF Trucks has been developing and building almost all of its own axles for much of its long history. In 1971 production was moved to a new factory in Westerlo, where DAF's high-quality cabs are also manufactured. Every day over 600 front and rear axles are produced in the factory on the A13 motorway between Liège and Antwerp. In addition to axles for trucks, DAF Trucks Vlaanderen also produces several thousand axles each year for bus and coach manufacturers, as well as for specialised vehicles. These axles can be found all over the world, usually in combination with DAF-built PACCAR engines.

20 YEARS OF PACCAR FINANCIAL EUROPE

PACCAR Financial Europe is celebrating its 20th birthday. Over the past two decades the organisation has grown to become the most important financing company in Europe for customers and dealers wishing to acquire a DAF truck.

A team of 375 professional and passionate employees furnishes DAF customers with cutting edge financial products and services created specifically for the transport sector.

Active in 16 countries

PFE is now active in no less than sixteen countries in Europe and is responsible for the financing of one in every three new DAF trucks. Over the years PFE has expanded its package of services to include the financing and administrative requirements of repairs & maintenance, insurance and road tax, to name but a few. Recently, the organisation also successfully launched its cross-border financing service.

Today PACCAR Financial Services Europe, of which PacLease is a subsidiary, has

more than 55,000 trucks in its portfolio. In addition to financing, PFE also facilitates the sale of used trucks for both DAF and PFE at a growing number of DAF Used Truck Centers throughout Europe.



200 CFS FOR COLOMBIA

It is the largest order ever for DAF Trucks in South America: 200 trucks ordered by GRUPO PRODES. The vehicles are all three-axle 6x4 tractors for the transportation of goods such as beer, soft drinks and tropical fruit in inhospitable areas in Colombia.

GRUPO PRODES is one of the largest transport firms in the country, with a fleet of around 1,500 trucks and 2,000 trailers. "Our fleet contains different brands and types of chassis, so we have lots of vehicles we can use for comparison. In terms of comfort, fuel consumption, manoeuvrability and reliability, however, the CF really is in a different class", says Federico Medina, Directeur of Transport at GRUPO PRODES. "That's why we increased our initial order of 150 trucks to 200."

Demanding conditions

In terms of appearance the DAF trucks will look much like the regular CFs, but 'under the hood' they are being prepared for a very difficult working life: GRUPO PRODES has ordered heavy-duty chassis from DAF with an extra robust tandem for maximum traction, which will enable the vehicles to operate day in, day out under the most demanding conditions.



NEW TRUCKS BROUGHT TO LIFE DIGITALLY

Thanks to an amazing augmented reality app and an unparalleled virtual DAF Experience, DAF is now in a position to present the new XF, XG and XG+ on computer screens and mobile devices. This represents a first in the truck industry.

With a single swipe, the new XF, XG and XG+ can be conjured up on the screen of a mobile telephone or tablet in the interactive augmented reality app New Generation DAF (free to download from Google Play and Apple app stores). The truck can then be moved to any virtual location you wish. To a parking lot, for example, or even to your living room. Users of the app can explore the vehicle both inside and out in great detail – and from every angle – from the comfort of their own armchair.



In addition to the New Generation DAF app, DAF is also introducing the DAF Virtual Experience, which can be found on startthefuture.com. This offers shows, presentations, videos and a live chat. Visitors can even sign up for a virtual drive in the new generation XG and XG+. A visit to the DAF Museum is also possible and a range of DAF merchandise is available in the virtual webshop. The app has been nominated for the prestigious 'Digital Communication Awards' international digital communication prize. Since 2011, this prize has been awarded each year by the Quadriga University in Berlin to exceptional online projects and campaigns from all around the world.

DAF XF SCORES HAT-TRICK AS 'FLEET TRUCK OF THE YEAR'

For the third year in a row, the DAF XF has been named 'Fleet Truck of the Year' at the prestigious Motor Transport Awards in the UK. It is the first time in the history of the awards that a truck has scored a hat-trick.

'DAF Trucks has introduced a number of important innovations to ensure that its best model retains the number one ranking on the sales list,' wrote the jury in its report. 'The XF has more than proven its worth.'

"For transporters DAF is synonymous with reliability, efficiency and comfort," says Laurence Drake, managing director of DAF Trucks UK. "This amazing hat-trick is further proof of the quality and first-class performance of the XF. In combination with our excellent dealer and service organisation, the XF forms a terrific business proposition."

From left to right – Alexander Armstrong (host during the MT Awards), Laurence Drake (Managing Director DAF UK) and Steve Hobson (Motor Transport magazine).



NEW GENERATION DAF

Number One
in every aspect



XF XG XG+



The New Generation DAF XF, XG and XG+ set a new standard in efficiency, safety and driver comfort. That is why they have been awarded 'International Truck of the Year 2022'.

Visit **startthefuture.com** and discover why these game-changing trucks are the Number One in every aspect.