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January 2020

## WORK TRUCK SHOW PREVIEW

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**2020  
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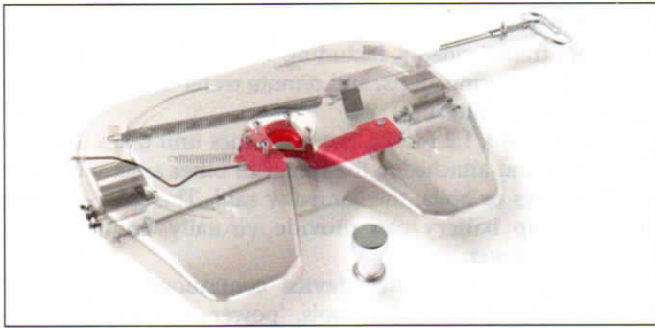
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panel talks tech**

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## Fontaine's TechLock fifth-wheel system makes trailer coupling safer

Fontaine recently introduced the TechLock locking system, which it says guarantees problem-free, tractor/trailer coupling for all users, and highlighted its new 3000 cast fifth wheel and 3000 LM low-maintenance fifth wheel.

"Since the introduction of pneumatic suspension systems, tractor units have encountered a universal problem—mis-couplings, wrong coupling manoeuvres (and) dropped trailers," the company said. "The consequences are clear to everybody involved, but because there has been no clear solution, many operators have had no choice but to accept the risk.

"Now, however, Fontaine's fifth wheel expertise has broken new ground in safety and security."

Designed to reduce mis-coupling, Fontaine's TechLock system's jaw height sensor will not allow the fifth wheel to close if the kingpin enters at an incorrect height or position, Fontaine said.

The fifth wheel's profiled protective forging helps safeguard the TechLock mechanism from damage due to high-coupling errors, and 360-degree kingpin surface contact extends the life of the kingpin and fifth wheel mechanism.

The 3000 cast fifth wheel features Fontaine's single safety clip sensor and "green-eye" safety indicator, along with an extended handle. The safety clip sensor helps ensure the safety clip is attached—a critical check for any driver. When the clip is attached, the sensor shows a green LED light, which is clearly visible from beside the trailer, Fontaine maintained.

If the green LED light is NOT on, the driver has not done a check and the safety clip has not been attached. The LED light is a second fail-safe and can be routinely checked by the driver and security before the vehicle departs.

Additionally, the extended handle, which houses the sensor and LED, makes it easier for the driver to reach and operate the fifth wheel.

The 3000 LM coupler combines safety with low maintenance. Featuring an interlock handle, an alternative to Fontaine's safety clip system, the 3000 LM removes the need for a clip by integrating the safety mechanism into the handle.

The 150SF slider has an optional air-operated mechanism that removes the need to manually operate the release handle, reducing physical demands on the driver. For use with Fontaine 2-inch fifth wheels, the standard and medium-duty slider is designed for easy positional adjustment, enabling permissible axle loads and vehicle lengths to be achieved, Fontaine said. It also is available in two positions for increased driver safety.

For more information on Fontaine Fifth Wheel products, including mounting options, lubrication, air-operated and sensor systems, visit [fifthwheel.com](http://fifthwheel.com).

## Phillips Industries improves 3-in-1, 4-in-1 combination assemblies

Phillips Industries recently improved its premium 3-in-1 and 4-in-1 electrical and air combination assemblies with QCP trailer-side connections.

The company says the upgraded assemblies help reduce the fatigue and strain on the plug and 7-way electrical cable experienced on some trailer applications where the electrical connection is higher than the air connections.

The trailer side lead on the 7-way electrical cable now extends out an additional 6 inches, and the spiral wrap on the same side is reduced by 6 inches, creating more slack on the 7-way cable. This change helps relieve strain placed on the cable lead and coupled 7-way electrical connection due to pull from the weight of the combination assembly experienced on some trailer applications, Phillips said.

With this improvement, the rubber air hoses now act as a shock absorber vs the electrical cable that should not be stretched or stressed, Phillips maintained. Also, the gladhand connections better support additional assembly pull-weight with a metal-to-metal connection. As an additional benefit, the extended length allows for more rotation in the lines during a severe jack-knife.

Phillips' 3-in-1 and 4-in-1 combination assemblies with QCP or STA-DRY QCMS2/QCP 7-way electrical connectors are designed to provide an all-in-one electrical and air system for cable protection and corrosion prevention.

Visit [phillipsind.com](http://phillipsind.com) to learn more.



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