

NEWS RELEASE

Download photos at http://www.fifthwheel.com/armor/press_releases.html



The Fontaine ARMOR yard truck fifth wheel.



Technician removes a wear plate to rebuild the fifth wheel from the top side.



Wear grooves built into the Fontaine ARMOR locking jaw.

Release Date: For Immediate Release

FONTAINE® ARMOR™ YARD TRUCK FIFTH WHEEL AWARDED TWO PATENTS FOR INNOVATIVE DESIGN

TRUSSVILLE, ALABAMA -- After learning about the unique pain-points customers experience in warehouse distribution, port, and rail applications with competitors' yard truck fifth wheels, Fontaine focused its extensive R&D resources on this important market segment to develop an innovative solution: Fontaine ARMOR. Launched in September 2015 after three years of research, engineering, and field testing, ARMOR is the only fifth wheel built specifically for the yard truck market. The innovative design that helps minimize downtime and maintenance cost is now patented (#9,302,557 issued April 2016 and #9,327,782 issued May 2016).

"We achieve more uptime for our customers and reduce maintenance costs by making wear parts (including the locking jaw/mechanism) removable and replaceable while the fifth wheel is still on the truck," explains Fontaine's director of advanced product development, Madhu Madheswaran. The newly patented system utilizes armor grade steel wear plates that can be easily removed to gain access to the wear components. In addition, Fontaine helps take the "guess work" out of the rebuild process by incorporating a wear groove in the jaw for quick and easy visual guidance. Another important design feature is that there are no protruding items extending around the top plate casting. This helps prevent the typical damage caused by misaligned kingpins in yard truck applications. "All put together we believe we have built a heavy duty fifth wheel solution that will truly benefit yard truck customers," Madheswaran concluded.

The Fontaine ARMOR is currently available at all major yard truck OEMs: Ottawa, TICO, Capacity, and Autocar. It is also available as a direct retrofit onto existing Holland FW35 yard truck fifth wheel brackets (Holland FW35 may be a registered trademark of SAF-HOLLAND and is used here for informational purposes only). For more information about the Fontaine Parts Connection ARMOR fifth wheel, call toll-free 800-874-9780 or visit www.fifthwheel.com.

XXX

Based in Trussville, Alabama, Fontaine Connection Group is the parent company of Fontaine Fifth Wheel, Fontaine Parts Connection and Fontaine Fifth Wheel Europe. Fontaine Fifth Wheel is the world's largest fifth wheel manufacturer and has ISO 14001 registered manufacturing facilities around the globe. Fontaine Connection Group is a Marmon Highway Technologies (MHT) company. MHT companies support the transportation industry worldwide with a wide range of high-quality products and services, and are members of the Marmon Group, an international association of business units that operate independently within diverse business sectors. The Marmon Group is a Berkshire Hathaway company.



Fontaine Parts Connection • 7574 Commerce Circle • Trussville, AL 35173 • 800-874-9780 • www.fifthwheel.com