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See Feature Page 3

Page 4

Geoff Dunning – RHA – the voice of the industry



Page 8

Lord Berkeley – Rail Freight Lines



Pages 10-14
Multimodal 2010



Pages 26-31
Commercial Vehicle Operator Show



Stay ahead of the competition

By **Michael Parry**

For many companies that provide products and/or services to the freight transport and logistics sectors it's a case of getting back to business as both the Commercial Vehicle Operator Show and Multimodal 2010 take place at the NEC Birmingham during April.

The Commercial Vehicle Operator Show will be

welcomed with open arms by many following the cancellation of the Commercial Vehicle Show last year. The response and enthusiasm shown by the exhibitors signed up for this year's event is testament to the demand from the road haulage industry for an exhibition of this magnitude. What is encouraging is the Commercial Vehicle Show partnership expects the Commercial Vehicle Show to return to its original format next year.

Running alongside the Commercial Vehicle Operator Show is Workshop 2010. Supported by the Garage Equipment Association, Workshop is designed to save you time by bringing you face-to-face with technical experts eager to provide solutions to your every business problem. For the road transport and automotive service industry, the Commercial Vehicle Operator Show and Workshop 2010 should help smarter firms stay ahead of the competition.

Last year's Multimodal exhibition and conference took centre stage and received many plaudits. For this year's gathering both the number of exhibitors and visitor registrations show a marked increase. Around a quarter of the exhibitors will be there for the first time, while visitor numbers are expected to increase by around 40%.

Multimodal again features the Shipper's Voice

Seminars, which explore the benefits of collaboration in the supply chain and what it can do for you. These free-to-attend interactive knowledge forums feature panels of up to five industry experts made up of shippers, forwarders, transport providers, and leading associations, including TIACA, BIFA and the Rail Freight Group. Trade Extensions is also running a series of briefings.

"Multimodal is the only event of its kind in the UK where freight forwarders, supply chain management companies, hauliers, ferry operators, deepsea shipping lines, rail logistics companies, equipment manufacturers, IT solutions providers, airlines, warehouse operators, insurers, academic institutions and ports can be found under one roof," said event organiser Robert Jervis.

The Commercial Vehicle Operator Show and Multimodal 2010 are two key events in the sector's calendar. They are important indicators that the UK needs a strong and vibrant freight transport and logistics industry – and one that is so important to the well-being of the economy.

● Freight Industry Times is exhibiting at The Commercial Vehicle Operator Show on Stand 5012 and at Multimodal 2010 on Stand 906



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The safe transportation of dangerous goods

Founded in 2001, ADR Express Ltd has developed into a successful express light haulage delivery company, specialising in the carriage of dangerous goods. Directors, Neil and Beccy Ricketts, have taken the company from strength to strength, offering an unrivalled service.

Neil has been in transport since he was 21. All he ever wanted to do was to follow in his father's footsteps and be a driver against his father's wise words 'don't get married and don't get involved in transport'. So, the day after his 21st birthday in 1983, Neil booked himself on a Class 1 HGV driver's course, qualified and went on to get married. He started work at MG White Transport of Alcester in Warwickshire, who operated an express delivery service throughout the UK, driving a 3.5 tonne flatbed. Although a recent holder of a Class 1 licence, Neil thought it best to get to know his way round the country before progressing onto bigger vehicles. Also, at the time, having no HGV experience, Neil could earn more money as a light goods vehicle driver with MG White than was being offered elsewhere locally by other general haulage operators. As MG White Transport expanded and grew to larger vehicles so did the size of the vehicles that Neil drove. He finally moved into the traffic office as Transport Manager. After 10 years at MG White, Neil moved to an international freight forwarder who specialised in the Irish market and continued in the role as Transport Manager.

Wanting to do something for himself, Neil decided to start up his own transport company so he purchased

his first XLWB Mercedes Sprinter '98 registered van with 60,000 on the clock and traded it in after two years. Now onto his third Mercedes Sprinter Van, Neil travels the length and breadth of the UK and Ireland, as well as crossing into Europe, covering nearly 100,000 miles a year. His van is suitably equipped to carry all nine hazard classes as well as being Type II, which meets the requirements for the approval of vehicles intended for the carriage of explosive substances (class 1).

Also working in the transport industry for nearly 10 years, and having a successful period at selling internet advertising in between, Beccy decided to join Neil in 2002, doing a mixture of driving and promoting the business. She has successfully built up a strong and loyal client base getting work from across all industry sectors, either directly from manufacturers of chemicals, paints, pharmaceutical products, marine life-saving appliances, fuel for motorsport, waste disposal sites and the MoD, or from transport companies and freight forwarders.

Both Neil and Beccy are ADR trained and in 2008, Beccy also qualified as a Dangerous Goods Safety Advisor (DGSA). Having the specialist knowledge on hand, ADR Express can ensure that each hazardous job undertaken meets the current Domestic and International Regulations. Beccy also uses this qualification to extend the company's services by contracting as a DGSA to other transport companies and suppliers or handlers of hazardous goods. In addition, she welcomes queries, from anyone involved in the Carriage of Dangerous Goods,



ADR Express offers a dedicated service throughout the UK and Europe

whether they are from drivers, handlers or office staff. The advice is freely given and Beccy can be contacted directly on 07973 442354.

Neil is the main driver of the company, but ADR Express also employs eight owner drivers to assist with its operations. All drivers are ADR trained and equipped, and each driver is regularly audited by Beccy to ensure that their licences, qualifications and insurances are up to date. Occasionally Beccy gets behind the wheel but in the main orchestrates the day to day running of the business.

Having gained in-depth knowledge and experience, both Neil and Beccy supply all their clients with a comprehensive range of services in general haulage and in the transportation of dangerous goods for both national and international transport. By

working closely with selected freight service providers, ADR Express also offers clients alternatives to a dedicated service.

The continued repeat business from its customers emphasises that ADR Express is providing a quality service that is tailored to their customers' requirements.

● If ADR Express can be of service to your company, call Neil on 07816 671291 or Beccy on 07973 442354,

send an e-mail to: enquiries@adrepress.co.uk or visit: www.adrepress.co.uk

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