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ALE RESTORE ICONIC TRUCK TO FORMER GLORY



ALE has completed the refurbishment of a 1976 Scammell Contractor, named Intruder, earlier this year.

The truck, which was ALE founder Roger Harries' first truck, was originally acquired in 1983. Having worked worldwide for almost 20 years, the truck performed its last job in the Bahamas in 2002.

ALE started the build in June 2016 as a personal project and a specialist team of in-house mechanics and workshop staff were assigned to the task of restoring the iconic truck to its former glory.

Initially, the truck was outsourced externally to a specialist coach builder/sign writer Graham Booth, who stripped the body down, organised the shotblasting and painting and had most of the body panels remade to original specification. The timber framed cab was also removed and sent to a specialist to be remade.

Tom Banks, Gary Pemberton and Stephen Attwell were the ALE team who then led the rest of the restoration project. The project included a complete new air brake system, fully re-wired electrics, a rebuild of the original Cummins NTC 335 engine, and many more hours spent replacing and sourcing parts to keep the truck as authentic as possible and then connecting everything together to make it fully operational.

The ALE paint shop and fabrication department also played a big part in the restoration, refabricating and painting many original parts that they could not replace. The fluid flywheel and RV-30 gearbox were overhauled by GB Marine and the new tyres were sourced and fitted by Stafford Mobile Tyre and Battery Service.

“We wanted the truck to look the same as how it was when Roger first used it, and spent a lot of time analysing old photographs to get all the detail correct. It was a huge undertaking, as virtually nothing was salvageable, but with the resources available and a committed team we were able to put it into showroom condition,” said Tom Banks, Plant Maintenance Supervisor.

“The team has been so dedicated to working on this, working long days and weekends, even performing road tests hours before the grand unveiling.”

The truck was finally unveiled as a personal gift to Roger in March.

“To achieve this in such a tight time schedule is no mean feat. By utilising our in-house expertise and skills of our workshop teams, it demonstrates the capabilities of all of those involved. The drive and passion was evident throughout the project and we are all very proud of the efforts that have gone into making this restoration dream a reality,” Wendy Birch, Group Resource Manager.

ENDS

For more information or images, please contact Sarah Maia on 01782 977146 or email s.maia@ale-heavylift.com

Image 1: The original WNT in the early days.

Image 2: (L-R) Tom Banks, Stephen Attwell, Gary Pemberton and Roger Harries by the WNT in its refurbished glory.

Notes to editors:

ALE delivers a highly tailored, end-to-end service covering every aspect of the handling, transportation and installation of heavy, indivisible loads, including lifting, transporting, installing, ballasting, jacking and weighing.

ALE delivers strategic heavy-lift services to a wide range of sectors, including civil, oil and gas, energy, nuclear, offshore, renewables, petrochemical, ports, marine, minerals and metals and mining.

ALE has more than 30 offices across Europe, the Far East, Africa, America, South America, the Middle East and Australia. It is fully compliant with international standards of safety and excellence, including Quality standard ISO 9001:2015, Environmental standard ISO 14001:2015, and Health and Safety Standard OHSAS 18001:2007. Further information can be found on the ALE website at www.ale-heavylift.com.