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Asset Alliance offers extra security for explosives transporter JMD Haulage

Liverpool-based JMD Haulage has renewed its road transport fleet with eight new Mercedes-Benz Actros 2545 tractor units supplied by Asset Alliance on a four-year full-service contract hire deal.

All eight trucks were specified with the manufacturer's GigaSpace cab, for driver comfort, while four feature additional modifications to make them EXIII-rated – meaning they can haul containers filled with explosives, a requirement needed for some demolition, mining and military contracts.

JMD Haulage Director Alan Maguire says: "The staff at Asset Alliance didn't blink an eye when we asked for EXIII-rated trucks, they just asked what cab we wanted with the additional protection. Although the majority of the work won't be explosives-related, being able to acquire such vehicles with minimal fuss is excellent.

"It's that level of flexibility that attracted us to Asset Alliance's full-service contract hire agreement, along with a competitive price, and the company's straightforward approach to business."

The eight new trucks join a mixed fleet of 62 trucks at the Merseyside company, which includes DAF, MAN and Mercedes-Benz tractor units. The trucks will primarily be used to haul containers to and from Liverpool docks, with occasional runs to the ports of Felixstowe, Southampton and Tilbury.

"A full-service contract hire agreement means we can keep our fleet modern and up-to-date, in terms of technology and emissions legislation," adds Maguire. "Plus, the fixed monthly payments mean there's no unexpected 'spikes' in expenditure – any issues are simply dealt with."

Expected to clock-up 120,000km on the road annually, the new arrivals will serve their full four-year term at JMD Haulage, before being returned to Asset Alliance, bypassing any of the stresses associated with used commercial vehicle disposal.

As part of the agreement, Asset Alliance, which is part of the Asset Alliance Group, and a specialist in commercial vehicle contract hire, finance, rental and leasing, will retain ownership of the tractor units, taking on all the associated costs, including safety inspections, repair and maintenance requirements, servicing, tyre replacement and breakdown cover.

Family-run JMD Haulage was founded in 1976 by John Deveney, a former merchant seaman. Now operating with a fleet of more than 80 sliding skeletal trailers, the company works with the majority of the shipping lines operating in Liverpool, and is one of a small number of UK hauliers to possess a Section 5 firearms licence, which enables the transport of prohibited weapons and ammunition.

ENDS

Note to editors:

Asset Alliance Group is redefining the way companies acquire commercial vehicles, through its brands <u>Asset Alliance</u>, ATE Truck and Trailer Sales, Forest Asset Finance and Total Reefer.

The Group occupies a unique position in the market, as it uses its own funds and significant buying power to supply multi-brand vehicles on any combination of contract hire, operating lease, finance lease or hire purchase. This flexibility, combined with a transparent and consultative approach, helps customers drive maximum efficiency from their fleets.

Asset Alliance Group also stands out for maintaining full control of residual risk through its retail arm ATE Truck and Trailer Sales, which protects customers from overly strict return conditions commonplace in the industry. Its modern workshop facilities also keep end-of-life costs to a minimum and provide the opportunity to refurbish vehicles in-house for an additional life in service.

The Group is headquartered in Wolverhampton and was founded in 2010 by Willie Paterson, former Director of Commercial Finance at Alliance & Leicester plc.

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