



EAGLE EYE

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Dennis Eagle – Revelling in Recycling

Whilst many may argue that in comparison to some of our European neighbours we remain somewhat down the pecking order when it comes to attitudes to recycling, the winds of change that are now sweeping across the refuse collection industry are radically affecting this landscape. Instead of wallowing in the bottom half of the First Division, it will only be matter of time before we secure a Top Five position in the Premiership.

And this is not only good news for today's generation, but tomorrow's. Indeed we all share in the responsibility of ensuring that we create a legacy to be proud of and not one that we would be ashamed of. Protecting the precious natural resources that are being depleted from our planet is fast becoming a top priority for many, and thankfully so.

In this instance, if you will excuse the expression, talking rubbish definitely makes sense!

If one thing is for sure, the role the refuse collection industry will play in protecting the environment we live in should not be understated. Today, for example, we are seeing an increasing number of innovative and pioneering recycling schemes that are leading the way forward. Driven by the recycling targets the Government has laid down for local authorities – a minimum of 12% for this year and next rising to 18% by 2006 - and assisted by the grants that DEFRA (Department of the Environment & Rural Affairs) has allocated from the National Waste Minimisation and Recycling Fund, LA recycling policies continue to gain momentum.

Obviously central to any recycling scheme infrastructure are the workhorses that are put to task on a daily basis – to all of us this is the humble RCV. And given the fact that recycling policies can radically vary from one neighbouring authority to the next, never has the versatility of the RCV come under such scrutiny. They need to be more flexible, reliable, efficient, economical, and perhaps more rugged than ever before.

In order to meet such criteria and more, manufacturers are making available an increasingly diverse product offering. At Dennis Eagle, this extends to the complete RCV as well as the constituent elements that make whole – the body and chassis.

THE TIRELESS TWIN PACK

In what remains one of the industry's leading dual compartment compacting bodywork is the proven Twin Pack. Two totally separate bodies, tailgates and interdependent operational systems, guarantee that operators of the Twin Pack are safeguarded against waste contamination at all stages of the collection and recycling process.

Serving as a complete recycling solution, operators in the main serve to use the larger of the Twin Pack's body compartments to collect general household waste, the smaller one being dedicated to recycling. In an increasing number of recycling initiatives, however, both body compartments are being deployed to collect different categories of waste material. The Twin Pack can be supplied in body sizes of 15 and 20m³.



The Powerful Pedigree of Phoenix 2

Whilst the Phoenix 2 continues to make its mark in the field of general waste collection, operators are now putting the product to good use to support recycling schemes, particularly those that are based on alternate week collections; general waste being collected one week and recyclable the next.

Setting the standards in bodywork construction here in the UK and overseas, the Phoenix 2 is a highly engineered product that delivers outstanding payloads. Achieved by such features as its curved smooth body sides, keel shaped floor, external pack rams, short rear overhang and roof mounted hopper lift rams, Phoenix 2 is a highly versatile product that provides competitive whole of life costs.

The Dynamic Duo

An equally firm favourite with private and public sector operators of recycling schemes is another product that features two body compartments – the Duo. Differing from the Twin Pack by virtue of the fact that its smaller compartment is top loaded and located directly behind the cab, the Duo also provides total protection against contamination. With the top loading compartment almost exclusively being used for recyclable products, the Duo is a robust, versatile and reliable body offering that delivers excellent payloads: the latter benefit being delivered by the Phoenix 2 design principle of the larger and main body compartment.



As well as being compatible with any conventional OEM chassis type, the Phoenix 2 can be combined with all leading bin lift systems to deliver genuine choice and flexibility. However, it is when the Phoenix 2 is married to the Dennis Eagle Elite 2 chassis that this complete vehicle solution is at its most potent.

EXERCISING ITS ELITE STATUS



But it is not only Dennis Eagle bodies that find themselves in demand, the Elite chassis is equally living up to its name when it comes to the recycling arena. Available in both 2.5m wide and 2.2m narrow track variants, the Elite chassis can be specified with a number of two and three axle configurations. Providing a solution to all operating conditions, the Elite chassis is a drivetrain that is not only understandably compatible with the Dennis Eagle recycling body range, it also supports bodies manufactured by other suppliers.

In addition to the appeal of the axle and powertrain configurations of the Elite chassis, operators are also benefiting from the new stainless steel Elite 2 cab. Radically redesigned, it provides both space and comfort levels that will ensure it retains its popularity with crews here in the UK, Europe and beyond.



Collecting comments along the way

As the old saying goes, “the proof of the pudding is in the eating.” Below we focus on operators who are using the Dennis Eagle refuse collection vehicle concept to deliver recycling initiatives across the length and breadth of the country.

DUO DRIVES INTO SUFFOLK COASTAL DC

“For our current recycling operation which is carried out on alternate weeks, we operate the Dennis Eagle Duo. The equipment is solid, well engineered and reliable, and as such we experience very few problems with it. It is well liked by our workshop teams who benefit from knowing the product inside out,” says Transport Manager, Malcolm Barton.

“The crews are also positive about Dennis Eagle, and in particular sing the praises of the low slung cab that is a bonus, particularly when working in an urban environment,” adds Malcolm.

SCOTTISH TWIN PACK FIRST FOR COMHAIRLE NAN EILEAN SIAR

As Alistair Montgomery, the Council's Principal Officer Cleansing Section states: “Whilst we looked at a number of recycling bodywork options, none of them were as good as the Dennis Eagle Twin Pack when it came to the segregation of waste. We have also had good service from the Elite chassis which features in our existing RCV fleet, so the combination was an obvious one.”

And being the first Twin Pack to enter service in Scotland, The Chairman of the Comhairle's Environmental Service Committee, Cllr Angus Nicolson, said at the time: “This is an important step in implementing the recycling policies of the Comhairle. Householders will have to segregate waste to allow us to undertake composting on a larger scale. This lorry allows us to maintain the same level of service to households, whilst reducing the amount going to landfill.”

DENNIS EAGLE HELPING LAUNCH LONDON ESTATES SCHEME – Enfield, Islington and Camden

Dennis Eagle's refuse collection vehicles (RCVs) are helping deliver an innovative recycling scheme for many of London's estates residents.

A joint partnership between north London councils, including Islington, Camden and Enfield, is using Dennis Eagle vehicles to collect recyclable materials from residents on estates or multi-occupancy flat-blocks not served by a kerbside scheme.

Commenting on behalf of Enfield Borough Council, Recycling & Contracts Manager Jo Milne said: “This is a very exciting initiative that has been well received and supported by the residents who are already benefiting from the scheme, and we are confident that the new vehicles will help us achieve our recycling objectives.”

TWIN PACKS AT TEST VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Comments Transport Manager, John Steed: “Test Valley has enjoyed excellent service from the Twin Pack over a number of years. It is a very good vehicle package that continues to prove itself time after time. We also enjoy a very good working relationship with Dennis Eagle and feel confident that the product will help us meet the refuse and recycling policy requirements of the Council.”

COMPLETE RCV SOLUTION FOR COPELAND BOROUGH COUNCIL

A fleet of four new Dennis Eagle Phoenix 2 23s based on the Elite 6 X 4 chassis are the driving force behind a green waste recycling initiative launched by Copeland Borough Council.

Comments Head of Amenity & Environmental Services, Keith Parker: “We are delighted that we have been able to launch the green waste recycling initiative using new Dennis Eagle vehicles, and this is largely down to the flexible manner in which Lex Transfleet, who satisfy the needs of our entire vehicle fleet programme, approached the problem. We have always enjoyed reliable service from Dennis Eagle's RCVs in the past, which is crucial to a Council such as Copeland, bearing in mind that we experience access problems across what can be a quite isolated and remote part of the country.”

ELITE CHASSIS PAIRS UP WITH KERSIDER BODY IN LICHFIELD

“When it comes to recycling collections, the vehicles offer all round optimum specification,” states Lichfield District Council's Corporate Director of Operational Services. “In addition to meeting our waste recycling needs, we are really pleased with the projected whole life costs for the vehicles and the ease with which they can be operated,” he added.



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COMMENTS AND FEEDBACK

We hope you have enjoyed this edition of Eagle Eye, however should you have any comments please do not hesitate contact me.

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