

CONNECTION

 VBG GROUP

NEWSLETTER FROM VBG GROUP TRUCK EQUIPMENT

1/2008

Design award for text-free instructions

The Swedish Design Awards were presented in Stockholm last October. Guess who received a Silver Diploma? Read more on last page!



Would you like to have this year's VBG picture?

As usual you have the opportunity to receive your own print completely free. Read more on last page!



One of the groups that completed the Mr VBG training this autumn and winter. They all look very cheerful, don't they?

Seeing prototypes of the revolutionary future multi-function coupling 'live' were one of the high-points of the training sessions.



Record-breaking interest in 'Mr VBG' training

Knowledge is essential for first-rate safety – which is why VBG puts a lot of effort into training its customers, technicians and drivers. Since last autumn more than 150 supervisors, mechanics and spare parts managers on the Swedish market have qualified for their Mr VBG Diploma. Turn the page to read about what happened!



Training in focus – 150 new Mr VBGs!

INTEREST IN VBG GROUP training is at peak level – during the autumn and winter more than 150 Swedes received diplomas for Mr VBG!

VBG HAS HELD A series of different training activities for dealers and customers for many years. 'This is an integral part of our fundamental safety concept at VBG GROUP,' says Thomas Bergenklev, Marketing Manager at VBG GROUP TRUCK EQUIPMENT:

'A sound knowledge of the products is essential to ensure that the safety we have built in throughout the design stage is preserved in the tough conditions out on the roads. This is why we offer training courses like Mr VBG, which have been highly appreciated both in Sweden and in Denmark. It is very pleasing to see that there is a great deal of interest'.

In 2008 'Mr VBG' courses will be held in Norway for the first time. They normally run for one and a half day, and are mainly intended for service functions – supervisors, mechanics and spare parts managers. Practical handling tips are combined with current information on new rules and regulations, and the presentation of new product innovations. When the courses are held in Vänersborg a look at the completely new and state-of-the-art production facilities, which have contributed to the higher product quality and delivery capacity, are included.

'The Mr VBG courses are kept fully up to date because we adapt the content to what is happening in the world around us and on the product side. So after a few years it's a good idea to have another

Bengt Blom discusses power actuators with a group of Mr VBG-participants.




go,' says Bengt Blom, who usually plays the role of an instructor on the courses, which in the last six months have attracted over 150 participants just in Sweden.

BROAD COVERAGE

VBG's training courses are not only intended for service personnel. Thomas Bergenklev continues:

'It's also important for truck sales staff to have a broad product knowledge, to be able to give customers sound advice on the choice of equipment and to find cost-effective solutions. And it's also very important for drivers to keep safety in focus – to know how to prevent problems out on the roads through the correct maintenance, and to be familiar with rules and regula-

tions. This is why we have produced similar courses for these groups as well, with the content adapted under the designations VBG Business Master and VBG Road Master. These courses have also been highly appreciated, not least because of the valuable opportunities to meet our designers and technicians face to face. There is a lot to be said for exchanging experiences with colleagues from other parts of the country,' concludes Thomas Bergenklev.

 **Mr VBG in Norway 2008:**
6-7-8 May & 20-21-22 May

About 150 supervisors, mechanics and spare parts managers in Sweden took part in Mr VBG training in the autumn and winter. The courses were about installation and trouble shooting, as well as general tips on couplings, OnSpot and Fontaine Fifthwheels. And of course we took a closer look at the MFC concept. The evening activities were arranged at the in-door Playa in Vänersborg – a highly appreciated break from the dismal autumn weather!

Work AND play!



'The new modular couplings are least 3.0 times better!'



VBG's new modular coupling system 3.0 has rapidly acquired a host of new supporters. We asked Magnus Löfgren, service market manager at LidBil in Lidköping, Sweden, what he thought:

'The whole concept is very easy to handle, both for us as dealers

and for our customers. Some people take the opportunity to upgrade to a Power Actuator when it's

time to replace the mechanism. The most important thing of all though is probably that the quality seems to be absolutely tip top. We haven't had one single claim, which is extremely unusual for completely new products,' explains Magnus.

'The concept of replacing all worn parts at the same time means a lot for a carrier's overall economy, when you can minimise downtime. Most people have realised this by now. I also think the new information material is very good. It's incredibly easy to find everything you need on the web page,' concludes Magnus Löfgren.

Josef Kokot is workshop manager at Mertz Transport in Malmö, Sweden. He shares Magnus's opinion and confirms the high quality of the VBG couplings:

'Our trucks run up about 300,000 km a year, but even so it can take up to more than three years before the mechanisms need replacing. The new 3.0 generation seems to be even better! The modular couplings are also much easier and quicker to work with, which should lead to an even better overall economy,' says Josef.



Magnus Löfgren, service market manager at LidBil in Lidköping (top) and Josef Kokot, workshop manager at Mertz Transport in Malmö (left), like the operating reliability of the 3.0 couplings.

PRODUCT NEWS

OnSpot for even more light vehicles

The range of OnSpot brackets adapted to different vehicles is expanding with the following new variants:

- **Ford Transit T350 2007**, plate suspension with single wheel ≥ 215/75-16
- **Mercedes-Benz Sprinter 515-518**, plate suspension with double wheels ≥ 195/75-16
- **Volkswagen Crafter 50**, plate suspension with double wheels ≥ 195/75-16

There are already brackets for:

- **Volkswagen LT 35 1998-2006**, steel suspension
- **Volkswagen Crafter 30**, steel suspension with single wheel
- **Renault Mascot DXI 160**, steel suspension M16x1.5
- **Mercedes-Benz Sprinter 311-316 902XXX-905XXX**, steel suspension
- **Mercedes-Benz Sprinter 311-316 906XXX**, steel suspension
- **Ford Transit T430 2007**, steel suspension with double wheels

