



## WESTERN STAR TRUCKS CUSTOMER PROFILE

# Stars boost Emerald Shire's productivity

The Emerald Shire Council has just taken delivery of two Western Star 4964FXC Constellation prime movers and two AB-triple side tippers, boosting productivity in the shire.

The Emerald Shire region has been going through a huge development explosion in recent years driven by the boom in the local mining resource sector.

According to Emerald Shire Mayor Peter Maguire, the Council's biggest single expenditure is on the maintenance and upgrade of its 900 klm road network that transverses the 10,000 square klm shire.

"The Federal Government over the last few years has initiated the Roads Recovery Program which they fund direct to local councils," said Mayor Maguire.

"Being part of that program we have been able to lay a lot more bitumen and improve our road network than we would have expected to be able to do if the program had not been in place.

"Because of that program and as part of this investment in the two Western Star trucks and AB-triple side-tipper trailers we can extend the life span of some of those roads, upgrade them and do what we can especially in the rural parts of the shire."

Implementing the Mayor's drive to deliver better and more efficient services to its ratepayers is Col Dziewicki, Executive Manager Civil Operations of the Emerald Shire Council.

Dziewicki explains that due to the performance and reliability that they had experienced with the Western Star 4964FXC Constellation purchased in August of last year it was decided that the tender let would be for two AB-triple road trains.

"There were a number of reasons that



LR: Loren Schroff (Western Star Trucks), Cr. Jim Dendle (Emerald Shire Council), Mayor Peter Maguire (Emerald Shire Council), Col Dziewicki (Executive Manager Civil Operations Emerald Shire Council) and Bryan Ottone (CEO Emerald Shire Council)

we decided to go with the AB-triple combination," said Dziewicki.

"The primary reason was that it is difficult to get good drivers. I could have looked at a three road train configuration but that would have meant the additional cost of a third truck and then the extra cost of third driver.

"The AB-triple combination means that we are able to utilise our two existing drivers and still obtain a significant payload."

On the question of payload Dziewicki mentions that under mass management they expect to get a gross of 113 tonne of which the payload will be around 70 tonne.

"Predominantly the two AB-triple road trains will be used for gravel haulage and are expected to clock up about 70,000 klm each per year. While this doesn't sound much compared to long haul it is significant mileage in council circles," he said.

"The awarding of the tender to Western Star Trucks was due to the innovative approach in supplying a truck and trailer combination that

offered the most productivity gain possible for the council.

"In fact the winning tender to supply the council with the optimum truck and trailer combination was won on the basis of weighting various factors against each competing suppliers' bids," said Dziewicki.

"While the Western Star tender won on the day it wasn't actually the cheapest price but rather it offered us the best whole of life value package."

According to Dziewicki, the Western Star 4964FXC Constellation prime mover is spec'd with a Caterpillar 550 HP engine, 18 speed RoadRanger transmission, 46,000lb diffs, airbag suspension and each truck is fitted with a Starlight Sleeper.

"The overall length of the rig is 36.3 metres which comes well within the Type 1 Road Train dimensions of 36.5metres."

On the question of back up and support Dziewicki is quick to point out the positive experience that they have had with Western Star's local parts and service agent.

"We were very happy to receive a visit from Western Star's service agent Clermont Motors along with Western Star's Service Manager once the tender was let.

"They made us feel at ease that they were interested in us and prepared to support us. The Council is very pleased with the Western Star product and their excellent back up service and support."



A Star line-up in the Emerald Shire



WESTERN STAR TRUCKS®

Western Star Trucks Australia

Ph: 07 3271 7777

www.westernstar.com.au