

Focus on performance, fuel efficiency and productivity at CONEXPO-CON/AGG 2011

Patented torque converter, LBSS and second reverse are just some of the Allison Transmission technological features relied on by the global construction industry

Las Vegas, Nevada, USA - Allison Transmission, the premier global provider of commercial duty fully automatic transmissions and hybrid propulsion systems, invites the construction industry to learn how its comprehensive range of transmissions for mining, off road construction and heavy haulage applications deliver optimum performance, superior efficiency and productivity at this month's CONEXPO-CON/AGG (March 22-26; Las Vegas Convention Center). At booth S-18329 (South Hall, Level 2), Allison experts will be on hand to discuss the integration possibilities that exist for OEMs and end-users with an Allison transmission. The company is exhibiting an H6620 heavy duty transmission as well as six- and seven-speed transmissions from the 4000 Series family.

Allison will offer a variety of case studies to give visitors a very practical understanding of an Allison transmission's capability and features such as torque converter, LBSS (Load-Based Shift Scheduling) and second reverse gear. In Australia, a mine uses road trains with Allison to move more than 500 tons of iron ore; in Sweden, a heavy haulage customer has specified an Allison in a Volvo FH16; in the Swiss Alps, Astra HD8s turn up for hydroelectric power plant excavation duties via overhead cables; and in the USA, a team of three tractors relies on Allison to help carry a 375,000 lb transformer with a total gross weight of nearly 800,000 lb.

"Our fully automatic transmissions help construction fleets by providing extended torque ranges, higher GVW capacities and greater operation efficiency," says Lawrence Love, Executive Director of International Marketing. "Using an Allison transmission, there are no shift interrupts, just smooth, seamless full power shifts. By making full use of the engine's horsepower and through a holistic approach to configuring the vehicle driveline, termed 'Allison Optimized,' Allison customers can achieve the best balance of performance, economy and productivity.

“Trucks equipped with an Allison reach higher average vehicle speeds and also benefit from lower driveline maintenance, experiencing increased incremental revenue and lower operational costs.”

Evolving transmission technology for an optimized powertrain

In addition to the Allison 4000 Series and H6620 transmissions that will be featured at CONEXPO, the full range of Allison transmissions, from the 1000 Series to the 9000 Series is designed to support a multitude of rigorous tasks at mines and on construction sites. The smallest Allison 1000 Series is used in heavy duty pick-up trucks, while the 3000 Series equips medium-sized support vehicles and cranes with engine ratings up to 425 HP or 1,695 Nm. The 5000, 8000 and 9000 Series are the largest commercial transmissions offered by Allison. Like the 6000, they are suitable for stationary and mobile off-highway applications. The 9000 Series can handle engines with up to 2,250 hp and torque of 8,270 Nm.

The 4000 Series offers a new optional provision for a ground-driven pump, to ease the installation of the emergency steering system, a requirement for most European 8x4 tippers. Allison now also offers a 2nd ‘deep reverse’ gear in addition to the standard reverse gear, exclusively available on 4700 and 4800 Series seven speed models. The additional gear provides greater control and engine braking during operation on steep grades and for increased maneuverability when operating in confined spaces.

This transmission family, together with Allison’s medium and light Series, features enhanced electronic controls and incorporates among other features, Load-Based Shift Scheduling (LBSS) and Prognostics. LBSS automatically selects between Performance, Economy and Super Economy shift schedules based on the vehicle's actual payload and the grade on which it is operating. While results may vary depending on operating conditions, LBSS has proven to improve fuel economy by up to five percent. Allison Prognostics’ operating parameters determine and alert when service is due. Oil level, oil life, filter life and transmission health are all monitored. This feature eliminates unnecessary oil and filter changes and provides maximum transmission protection.

The 5620 and 6620 models have been recently introduced to respond to changes in engine characteristics that are increasingly prevalent in the construction sector. Greater use of digital control for engines delivers sharper torque ‘response’ through the driveline, necessitating upgrades to protect the drivetrain.

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The lock-up clutch, turbine shaft, turbine hub and flywheel benefit from design, manufacturing and material upgrades to further improve maintenance costs and reduce downtime. The transmissions have also received software updates..

Working with a great product is just one part of the story. Allison's customers can rely on its established and expanding global service network to provide qualified, trained staff to deliver vehicle maintenance and services, ensuring maximum vehicle uptime.

About Allison Transmission, Inc.

Allison Transmission, Inc. (Allison) is the premier global provider of commercial duty automatic transmissions and hybrid propulsion systems. Allison products are specified by over 250 of the world's leading vehicle manufacturers and are used in many market sectors including bus, refuse, fire, construction, distribution, military and specialty applications. Founded in 1915, the Allison business is headquartered in Indianapolis, Indiana, U.S.A. and employs approximately 2,700 people. Regional headquarters with dedicated support staff are located in China, The Netherlands, Brazil, India and Japan. With a global presence in 80 countries, Allison has over 1,550 distributor and dealer locations. More information about Allison is available at www.allisontransmission.com.

This press release may contain forward-looking statements. All statements other than statements of historical fact contained in this press release are forward-looking statements. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terminology such as "may," "will," "should," "expect," "plans," "project," "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "predict," "intend," "forecast," "could," "potential," "continue" or the negative of these terms or other similar terms or phrases. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve known and unknown risks. Factors which may cause the actual results to differ materially from those anticipated at the time the forward-looking statements are made include, but are not limited to: the loss or consolidation of any one of our significant customers; our substantial indebtedness, which could adversely affect our financial health, restrict our activities and affect our ability to meet our obligations; the adverse impact of competitors' actions; the discontinuation of a particular vehicle model for which we are a significant supplier; the discovery of defects in our products, resulting in delays in new model launches, recall campaigns and/or increased warranty costs and reduction in future sales; increases in cost of or disruption of the supply of raw materials; increased crude oil and energy prices and overall economic conditions; and continued volatility in and disruption to the global economic environment. Although we believe the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are based upon reasonable assumptions, we can give no assurance that the expectations will be attained or that any deviation will not be material. All information is as of the date of this press release, and we undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statement to conform the statement to actual results or changes in expectations.

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Photographs

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	<p>Allison's 5620 and 6620 (pictured) models have been recently upgraded to respond to changes in engine characteristics that are increasingly prevalent in the construction sector. The lock-up clutch, turbine shaft, turbine hub and flywheel benefit from design, manufacturing and material upgrades to further improve maintenance costs and reduce downtime.</p>
	<p>In North Western Australia, Gulf Transport has been operating 16 massive six trailer road trains which haul more than 500 tons of iron ore over a 53 kilometre haul road in temperatures often exceeding 50 degrees Celsius. This is largely due to the ability of Allison's M6610 six-speed automatic.</p>
	<p>Wallners Specialtransporter in Sweden installed an Allison 4700 transmission into a brand new Volvo FH16. The heavy hauler is able to start on an eight percent uphill grade pulling a GVW of 250 tons.</p>
	<p>Van Dyke Brothers, Inc, whose primary business is moving power company equipment all over the U.S.A., employs a team of three Mack trucks equipped with Allison transmissions to help carry a 375,000 lb transformer with a total gross weight of nearly 800,000 lb.</p>
	<p>For almost a decade Allison has been specified as the transmission of choice for the Hanson fleet of concrete agitators across Australia with more than 500 trucks fitted with Allison automatic transmissions mated to Cummins powerplants. The company is now introducing Allison's new Load-Based Shift Schedule (LBSS) programmes in its trucks in a bid to maximise efficiency.</p>

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