

## Edscha Trailer System - DrySystem – Clear the water from tarpaulin roofs, rapidly and safely

Drivers know the problem and fear it: it is winter and the truck in front is losing chunks of ice which have formed on the tarpaulin roof of its trailer overnight, and are now breaking free and flying off onto the road across a wide radius. Potentially deadly clumps of ice for the vehicles behind, with more than unpleasant implications for the freight forwarding company and its driver.

Ice, snow and water on the tarpaulin roof of a truck represent not only an unpleasant load, but also a dangerous one. In this context 700 litres of water, roughly equating to a weight of 700 kilogrammes, is no rarity. The greatest danger of all is ice. Clumps of ice weighing 80-100 kilogrammes can form – an incalculably high risk for any freight forwarder. In a worst case, not properly removing these roof loads before starting the journey can lead to a charge of causing death through negligence. However the economic damages which can be caused due to water and ice on the roof are also considerable.

The employers' liability insurance association prohibits drivers to climb up onto the truck's roof. Therefore water, ice and snow can only be removed properly at some specially

equipped vehicle depots. This costs time and money. Or those involved ignore the rulings and deliberately put themselves at fault in the eyes of the law.

As the specialist for truck roofs, Edscha Trailer Systems has addressed this problem and developed a new system for water removal. The design is well thought through and raises the level of safety for all concerned, rapidly amortising itself due to the time saved. In future, an Edscha TS roof can be ordered directly with an integrated DrySystem. No comparable system clears the roof more quickly and safely of an unnecessary water load; and where there is no water, no clumps of ice can form. An Edscha TS roof with the DrySystem is raised up to only one third of the height of conventional roof clearance systems. This process is completed by the truck's own compressed-air facility; in one third of the time required by comparable products, the vehicle is already able to be put to work. In addition the limited extent by which the roof is raised treats the materials sparingly. All these factors raise the product life expectancy and minimise the likelihood of repair work being needed. The superior design principle and the extremely high durability of the DrySystem are also in evidence, for example, in the material used for the air hoses: this has particularly high elasticity, thus avoiding holes and tears on a lasting basis.

The advantages of the DrySystem are plain to see and they go beyond the elimination of danger to other people: the spontaneously-formed extra load, carried by vehicles without a roof clearance system, can weigh up to one tonne. The additional fuel costs which arise are saved by the DrySystem. Damages to the goods being carried - incurred due to there being water on the tarpaulin, even if tarpaulins are only slightly damaged - are a thing of the past. That way, one can avoid consequential costs due to insurance-related damage. When the roof is raised, condensed water formed by temperature differences underneath the tarpaulin flows off to the sides. Sensitive goods, such as paper or electronic equipment, are thus reliably protected against drops of water.

Companies with their own vehicle washing unit can save thousands of litres of water, which are no longer carried out of the vehicle washing facility, thanks to the Edscha TS DrySystem.

Save costs through a financial incentive. **Our tip: make a claim for a government subsidy!** With its "De Minimis" assistance programme, the German Federal Office for Freight Transport is offering a financial incentive to companies who are engaged in transporting goods, as defined in Article 1 of Germany's Freight Transport Act (Güterkraftverkehrsgesetz, GüKG), and who are owners or holders of heavy commercial vehicles (12 t or over), registered in the Federal Republic of Germany and designated exclusively for the transportation of goods. Subsidies are provided, among other things, for safety measures and thereby also for roof clearance systems.