

Global launch of the Bell B20E LGP

Following successful introductions to the highly competitive Articulated Dump Truck (ADT) markets in the United Kingdom and North America, Bell Equipment has extended its global 6x6 ADT offering with the 20-ton Bell B20E Low Ground Pressure (LGP). This compact and durable solution perfectly combines the renowned Bell qualities of class-leading suspension travel, outstanding fuel economy, leading standards of driver comfort and safety with the benefits of low ground pressure characteristics in soft underfoot conditions and environmentally sensitive areas.

Until recently, the global 20-ton ADT market offered customers limited choice. None of Bell Equipment's larger competitors in the quarrying and mining industries offer solutions with payloads below 20 tonnes, leaving that segment to a few specialists of smaller machinery. Bell Equipment offers the largest ADT range on the globe from large to small ADTs and is therefore the exception. For a number of decades, the company has successfully offered several generations of Bell B18 and B20

models in Southern Africa to construction companies or as customised haulers to many other sectors, including agriculture and forestry.

Based on this experience and making full use of the E-series innovation and developments, the Bell B20E LGP features efficient and powerful drivetrain components providing customers the complete Bell package of proven machine control and automation. This ensures state-of-the-art levels of

comfort, safety and productivity. The emission-compliant Mercedes-Benz 4-cylinder Diesel engine provides 170kW, enabling the 20-ton truck (rated payload: 18t; gross: 34.5t) to perform with a similar power-to-weight ratio as the Bell 30-ton workhorse, the B30E. Power is transferred through a six-gear Allison automatic transmission with optional integrated retarder, ensuring smooth gear changes and actively contributing to an outstanding fuel efficiency.

To ensure extreme off-road capabilities, the new model's unique selling point is the 6x6-drivetrain which is equipped with the latest Bell automatic traction control technologies. Interaxle differential lock (IDL) and limited slip differentials on all axles provide full traction on deep wet ground or soft and sandy areas – fully sealed wet brakes on the front and middle axle handle extreme conditions with ease and reduce maintenance to a minimum.

Superior flotation, another crucial off-road requirement, is guaranteed by low profile, extra wide 800/45 R30.5 tyres that provide the lowest ground pressures under a full load. With these values, the B20E LGP outperforms specialist solutions while still able to offer traditional ADT qualities such as high productivity with fast cycles on well-maintained haul roads, when equipped with standard 20.5R25 tyres.

Wide fields of application

It's exactly that versatility which marks the success of the Bell B20E LGP since its first introduction in specific national markets in 2017. "UK rental companies were on search for a multi-purpose machine, complying with the needs of construction companies in ground development projects for smaller to medium housing or industrial areas," explains Bell Equipment Product Marketing Manager, Tristan du Pisanie. "We presented the B20E LGP as an ideal solution with proven technology and the solid background of our leading customer support." As a result, Bell UK was able to place over 80 units in less than three years.

With its low ground pressure, the Bell B20E LGP is suitable for site stripping in difficult sandy or muddy underfoot conditions. It also guarantees quick access to remote construction sites, such as wind farms, or projects in environmentally sensitive areas,

where larger machines require extensive preparation or cause excessive underfoot damage. The 20-ton truck also operates in most adverse weather conditions ensuring all-year utilisation with a great return on investment.

An important key to the machine's versatility is its compact dimensions: an extremely tight turning radius of 7 585mm guarantees maximum manoeuvrability in close working environments while the transport width of just under 3 metres (fitted 20.5 standard tyres) allows fast relocation via a lowbed without the need for a costly permit. This positions the B20E LGP as the perfect addition to Bell Equipment's already comprehensive ADT range with benefits for everyone involved: customers can maximise their returns through operational flexibility, technical personnel can use their skills on more machines in a given fleet and operators enjoy a comfortable and safe working environment.

Since late 2018, all emissions-regulated Bell B20E LGPs for the Northern Hemisphere markets are produced in Bell Equipment's assembly facility in Eisenach-Kindel, Germany.

