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### **Visy Floored by Maxi-CUBE Dry Freight Efficiency!**

Whilst they're lighter and easier to load/unload when compared to other general freight items, empty palletised plastic bottles still require careful handling during transportation and Visy, one of Australia's leading provider of paper, packaging products and services, recently added three customised Maxi-CUBE Dry Freight vans to help cart these bottles and further enhance its operational efficiency within its local distribution depots.

As Australia's largest manufacturer of PET products, Visy prides itself in fostering innovative and sustainable solutions that provide value-added returns to both customers and its own operations. The three Maxi-CUBE Dry Freight Vans have been specified for their ability to provide increased profitability through benefits including high payload, high volume and a customised option that will allow for easier and more efficient loading and unloading of palletised freight.

Having long been the preferred design for express freight and general freight operations, Maxi-CUBE Dry Freight Vans are ideal for transporting goods where high utilisation, reliability and durability are important, attributes that Visy were looking for when considering their options.

The three Dry Freight Vans will be used to transfer PET bottles between Visy's local depots in Victoria and have been built utilising materials specific for that purpose.

The side walls incorporate 17mm fibreglass reinforced panels (FRP) and are complemented by external polished aluminium body rails. The rear doors also use FRP panels and incorporate co-extruded hard back door seals that are long lasting, providing excellent dust and water proofing.

More importantly, the area in which the vans will provide Visy with the most value and operational efficiency during loading and unloading can be found in the floor itself!

All three vans incorporate a specially designed semi-automated chain floor which will load and unload palletised PET bottles without the use of a forklift. This mechanism allows warehouse operators to seamlessly transfer products into the van and greatly reduce accidental product damage that can sometimes occur when pallets are solely handled by forklifts.

In addition to the improved efficiency, the chain floor will also further enhance OH&S as its operation eliminates the need for manual handling.

National Logistics Manager for Visy, Darren Bright, acknowledges this simple yet effective method of loading/unloading goods will assist their logistics operation, stating that *"The smooth transition of pallets from the entrance of the trailer to the front wall is a welcome feature of our fleet. The benefit of being able to perfectly load and unload pallets gives our customer's further confidence that they'll receive their goods in perfect condition every time."*

And with minimal maintenance required during the course of its life, the chain floor will ensure the internal side walls are not subjected to the bumps and scuffs commonly found on side walls that have been loaded/unloaded using forklifts.

Because the van floor will not be subjected to forklift use, it has been specified using a 3mm chequer plate, providing ample stability for the pallets of PET products it will cart whilst reducing overall tare weight of the trailer.

Troy Kitchen, Victorian Maxi-CUBE Account Manager who handled the sales process said that whilst Maxi-CUBE is renowned in the market for its range of refrigerated vans, it also excels at providing custom dry freight solutions, adding that *"Maxi-CUBE has, for over 35 years, provided Australian operators with application-specific dry freight vans and this project with Visy allowed us to demonstrate our strength in specifying non-standard options for the customer, which is going to simultaneously improve operational efficiency and performance whilst minimizing the maintenance cost associated with the product."*

Maxi-CUBE Classic Dry Freight Vans are available as either a stand-alone unit, in lead and tag or road train configuration, depending on individual needs. Further information on the Maxi-CUBE transport equipment range can be downloaded at [www.maxicube.com.au](http://www.maxicube.com.au). Further information on Visy and its range of packaging products can be found at [www.visy.com.au](http://www.visy.com.au).

Images overleaf →



*ABOVE: A great solution that began from the floor up!*

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