

PowerHaul Launch

24/11/2009

Today the official launch of the eagerly awaited PowerHaul locomotives was held at Freightliner Maintenance's Midland Road depot, seeing the first locomotive named as 'PowerHaul'.

70001 was named as a result of a competition held by Freightliner giving their employees the opportunity to name the first of these revolutionary new locomotives. Michael Dickinson based at Euston was the successful competition winner.

The development of PowerHaul is an example of Freightliner's long-term commitment to provide customers the sustained performance and reliability for which Freightliner is renowned.

Since privatisation, Freightliner's innovation has seen it continue to be the market leader in the container haulage industry whilst expanding into new markets. Freightliner Heavy Haul's breakthrough into the bulk rail freight market 10 years ago completely reshaped the way freight was delivered in the UK bulk rail freight sector. New European operations in Poland and the more recent ground breaking entry into the Australian rail freight market - which has seen Freightliner secure a 10 year contract with one of the worlds leading mining companies - are all examples of Freightliner's commitment to remain at the forefront of the freight industry for the future.



The PowerHaul locomotive introduces new state-of-the-art technology to the UK's rail freight market and represents GE Transportation's entry to the UK and European marketplace.

"PowerHaul is a more business efficient locomotive, hauling more freight and providing more power at the rail-head, it will enable better use of the rail network whilst lowering Freightliner's carbon footprint." Commented Peter Maybury, CEO, Freightliner Group Limited at the naming ceremony.

"PowerHaul is yet another example of innovation and forward thinking that has been crucial in taking Freightliner to the position we are in today. PowerHaul would not have been possible without the excellent partnership Freightliner and GE have formed and the dedication of all the team over the last two years. The introduction of this new technology will further advance Freightliner's reputation as a dynamic and modern logistics company."

Lorenzo Simonelli, CEO, GE Transportation added, "Our partnership with Freightliner began two years ago, and I am extremely proud to see the first two PowerHaul locomotives on UK soil here today. The presence of the PowerHaul locomotives not only confirms the firm relationship that exists between GE and Freightliner, but also represents GE Transportation's entry to the UK and European market place. This is one more important step in what I expect to be a long and fruitful relationship with our customer and partner - Freightliner."

Freightliner
www.freightliner.co.uk

About Freightliner Group Ltd.

Previously part of British Rail, Freightliner was privatised in 1996 and has since increased turnover by over 180 percent. Initially only providing Intermodal services, the company has since expanded to have five subsidiary companies, all operating under Freightliner Group Limited. Freightliner Limited is the UK's largest hauler of maritime containers, accounting for 20 percent of the total market share, and 83 percent of the rail-fed market. It provides trunk rail services between key ports and inland rail freight interchanges within the UK, supplemented with local road services, to move customers' containers on the first or last leg of a worldwide journey. In 1999, Freightliner identified a significant opportunity to expand, and established Freightliner Heavy Haul Limited (FHH) to service the bulk rail freight industry. FHH now operates nationwide in the coal, aggregates, cement, specialist minerals, waste and petroleum sectors, and has grown to a turnover of over £100m. Since then, Freightliner Group has established new subsidiaries, Freightliner Maintenance Limited, a separate entity dedicated to the repair and maintenance of traction and rolling stock, and international subsidiaries; Freightliner PL Limited - operational in Poland and Germany, and Freightliner Australia Pty Limited, which began operations this year. For more information visit: www.freightliner.co.uk.

About GE Transportation

Established more than 100 years ago, GE Transportation, an operational unit of General Electric Company (NYSE: GE), is a global technology leader and supplier to the railroad, marine, drilling, mining and wind power industries. GE Transportation provides freight and passenger locomotives, signalling and communications systems, information technology solutions, marine engines, motorized drive systems for mining trucks and drills, high-quality replacement parts and value added services. GE Transportation is headquartered in Erie, Pa., and employs approximately 10,000 employees worldwide. For more information visit www.getransportation.com.

Media contacts

Freightliner Group Limited

Philippa Brooks

Tel: +44 (0) 20 7200 3902

Tel: +44 (0) 7793 666367

brooksP@freightliner.co.uk

Mary-Clare O'Boyle

Tel: +44 (0) 20 7200 3900

Tel: +44 (0) 7590 000185

oboylemc@freightliner.co.uk

GE Transportation

Tom Scott

Tel: +33 635 249 233

thomasxavier.scott@ge.com

Stephan Koller

Tel: +1 814 875 3457

Tel: +1 814 431 3150

stephan.koller@ge.com

More information on the project and photos can be found at www.freightliner.co.uk/PowerHaul



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