

# NEWS RELEASE

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*Release Date: For Immediate Release*

## **NEW FONTAINE® ARMOR™ YARD TRUCK FIFTH WHEEL PROVIDES GREATER CAPACITY WITH LESS DOWNTIME**



Fontaine Parts Connection introduces Armor™, the first fifth wheel designed from the ground up specifically for yard trucks.



Fontaine Armor™ is easier to maintain and faster to rebuild than other terminal tractor fifth wheels. Its unique lock design enables technicians to replace critical locking components from the top side, reducing rebuild time to as little as 15 minutes instead of the up to three hours required on other yard truck fifth wheels.

TRUSSVILLE, ALABAMA -- Fontaine Parts Connection introduces Armor™, the first fifth wheel designed from the ground up specifically for yard trucks. The Armor fifth wheel is stronger, easier to maintain and better protected from kingpin damage than other terminal tractor fifth wheels, providing increased uptime and lower total cost of ownership. It can be ordered on new trucks or fitted to existing competitor brackets in the aftermarket.

Fontaine Parts Connection personnel spent more than three years thoroughly studying the yard truck fifth wheel market, talking to more than 100 customers about how they use fifth wheels across warehouse distribution, industrial, port and rail applications. Industry data revealed that terminal tractor or 'yard truck' fifth wheels may be coupled and uncoupled up to 300 times a day vs. just once for most over-the-road trucks. In port applications, they load containers weighing tens of thousands of pounds on them daily. These extreme operating conditions lead to high maintenance costs as customers have to frequently rebuild and replace fifth wheels that were not specifically designed to handle these tough applications.

The Fontaine Fifth Wheel Group, the world's premier fifth wheel manufacturer, created a new product specifically to address the yard truck market. They started fresh and designed the patent-pending Armor fifth wheel from the ground up to meet the unique needs of the market. After thorough life cycle testing at the Fontaine Research and Development Center and in the field, Armor is now available.

To rebuild other yard truck fifth wheels, technicians must remove the wheel from the truck, and then turn it over to work from the bottom. The total rebuild process can take up to three hours. The Armor fifth wheel's unique lock design simplifies maintenance — critical locking components can be replaced from the top side, reducing rebuild time to as little as 15 minutes.

The Fontaine Armor fifth wheel is built with all components tucked away from the edges of the top plate to help shield against kingpin damage. To provide greater useful life, the wheel features replaceable wear pads and a composite air cylinder. Its locking mechanism includes a proprietary anti-high-hitch feature to help prevent dropped trailers due to false coupling.

While many yard truck fifth wheels are rated to 70,000 lbs., the Fontaine Armor fifth wheel can handle 80,000 lbs. vertical load and 200,000 lbs. drawbar pull. Plus it's backed by a one year warranty, double the length of the standard wheel used in this market.

"The Fontaine Armor fifth wheel addresses all of the yard truck customer 'pain points,'" says Steven Alldredge, product manager. "It cuts rebuild times, reduces maintenance and provides an overall lower total cost of ownership for customers in virtually any yard truck application. We're really proud to introduce such an innovative new product."

For more information about the Fontaine Parts Connection Armor fifth wheel, call toll-free 800-874-9780 or visit [www.fifthwheel.com](http://www.fifthwheel.com)

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Based in Trussville, Alabama, Fontaine Connection Group is the parent company of Fontaine Fifth Wheel, Fontaine Parts Connection and Fontaine Fifth Wheel Europe. Fontaine Fifth Wheel is the world's largest fifth wheel manufacturer and has ISO 14001 registered manufacturing facilities around the globe. Fontaine Connection Group is a Marmon Highway Technologies (MHT) company. MHT companies support the transportation industry worldwide with a wide range of high-quality products and services, and are members of the Marmon Group, an international association of business units that operate independently within diverse business sectors. The Marmon Group is a Berkshire Hathaway company.



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