

Good things come in threes

LIQUIP WAGGA, A DIVISION OF DOUG SUTHERLAND TRUCK REPAIRS, HAS BEEN AT THE FOREFRONT OF HEAVY VEHICLE MECHANICAL REPAIRS AND SERVICING IN SOUTHERN NEW SOUTH WALES FOR THE PAST FOUR DECADES. LIQUIP WAGGA RECENTLY WORKED CLOSELY WITH LONGSTANDING CUSTOMER, **SOUTH WEST FUELS**, TO DESIGN AND INSTALL A LIQUIP SWIFT PUMPING SYSTEM ON ITS NEW HOLMWOOD HIGHGATE SIX-COMPARTMENT TANKER.

Doug Sutherland, owner of Doug Sutherland Truck Repairs (DSTR) based in the Riverina city of Wagga Wagga, started the heavy vehicle mechanical repair facility in 1980.

With hard work and determination, Doug commenced the business on his own and gradually grew it over the proceeding years, employing and developing more staff as demand grew.

Given the Riverina region is heavily road transport orientated, DSTR'S reputation for quality workmanship and service spread far and wide, guaranteeing a strong and healthy operation that is flourishing today.

According to Doug Sutherland, DSTR specialises in all things related to road transport, particularly, fuel tanker repairs, calibrations, servicing, tank truck fitups. "The experience we gained in the tanker repair industry enabled us to develop a strong relationship with Liquip International which

eventually led to the arrangement being formalised in 2009 when DSTR was proudly appointed as a Liquip distributor for the region, and formed a division known as Liquip Wagga Wagga (Liquip Wagga)," Doug says. By this stage, according to Doug, the business was well staffed with employees that had extensive experience working on tankers, which laid a solid foundation for further growth. "We simply applied the knowledge we'd previously gained; the facility was already here and we employed a number of spare parts interpreters to add to our highly skilled staff base," Doug says.

Doug adds that additional industry specific qualifications had to be obtained to enable the maintenance, installation and

calibration of pumping and metering equipment such as Liquip's level gauging systems.

Doug appointed now long-term employee Andrew Uhr who heads up Liquip Wagga, and under Andrew's supervision this arm of the business has gone from strength to strength. Andrew has been working for Liquip Wagga for 20 years, having previously spent 20 years working for Finemores Transport where he initially completed a diesel mechanic apprenticeship.

"When I commenced with Doug the business was starting to become heavily involved in tanker work, which suited me well because I had extensive experience with tankers from my previous employment with Finemores," Andrew says. Andrew explains that the company is a one-stop-shop for tanker operators in the region. "We do the meter calibrations and make our

own fuel delivery hoses for the tankers – we pretty much do everything in house," he says.

According to Andrew, the company has been designing and installing road tanker pumping systems for 20 years, and recently installed its first Swift delivery system for a long-term customer – South West Fuel – that does on-farm and commercial service station deliveries in NSW.

South West Fuel is a local Australian owned company that pride themselves on delivering the highest quality service and products to their customers. They are also heavily involved in supporting their local community so that their region can prosper and give back through a range of sponsorships and charities.

"The Swift system installation for South West Fuel went very smoothly, with all the kits supplied by Liquip, especially the electrical equipment, coming with comprehensive installation instructions. For us it was a reasonably straightforward process," Andrew says – adding that despite being more sophisticated the Swift system has less moving parts than earlier systems.

The Holmwood Highgate tanker Liquip Wagga fitted with a Swift pumping system is a 41,000 litre six-compartment unit with the barrel built using the tried and tested Holmwood design. This tanker is one of the first barrels fitted with Liquip's new double drop tested VOH451 series hatch, built for Australian conditions.

Doug adds that Liquip Wagga also has a lot of experience with Holmwood Highgate tankers, having worked with and become familiar with the products over many years.



Liquip Wagga recently fitted its first Swift pumping and metering system to a 41,000 litre six-compartment Holmwood Highgate tanker for South West Fuel.

"We enjoy working with the company – it is a great business partner for us," he says. According to Ian Williamson, Sales Representative at Holmwood Highgate, as a family-owned operation the company is all for supporting other local family businesses such as Liquip Wagga.

"We wish to thank Doug and his team for their ongoing support of our Australian built product," Ian says. "Holmwood started over 70 years ago and remains family-owned and with the same family at the helm," he adds. Ian started his career in the tanker industry with Liquip Sales back in February 1982 and has closely worked with Liquip International throughout his career. He says longevity is one of the standout features of Holmwood Highgate tankers and

Liquip pumping systems including Swift. "I would say the lifespan of this trailer will be well above 15 years with minimal downtime, due to the strength and integrity assured by Holmwood Highgate's proven engineering and build processes," he says.

"The company has built similarly designed tankers that are over 30 years old and still operating effectively today." In sum, the combined expertise of Liquip International, its distributor Liquip Wagga and Holmwood Highgate has produced a road tanker of the highest quality incorporating the latest technology Swift pumping and metering systems.

The result is a product designed to provide South West Fuel with many years of reliable service along with minimal downtime. 

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Fast Fact

South West Fuel has a long association with Liquip Wagga and Holmwood Highgate tankers. It's newest six-compartment tanker features the market leading Liquip Swift delivery system and is fitted with Liquip's double drop tested VOH451 series hatches.



Swift uses level gauging to accurately and conveniently deliver multiple products through a single pump to selectable outlets.

DSTR was founded at Wagga Wagga in 1980 by Doug Sutherland. In 2009 the business was formally appointed as a Liquip distributor.