

Carrying cars the Transmech way

There aren't many trailer builders around Australia concentrating on car carriers, but this niche product area is exactly where South Australian firm Transmech's experience lies.

When Transmech started up back in 1984 it didn't set out to become a trailer builder. At first Transmech focused solely on trailer repairs before its expertise broadened to include servicing car carriers. It was this repair experience that led to Patrick Autocare asking Transmech to develop its very own design car carrier.

"We had been fixing the trailers for quite a few years. Having seen many common shortfalls amongst existing equipment, the idea came around to develop our own trailer which would incorporate new technologies, facilitating easier and

safer loading with less damage. We had already built a few six car/commercial carriers when Patrick Autocare approached us to develop a heavy duty car carrier to be used off road in WA and

Transmech had to come up with its own unique solution for a car carrier suitable for four fully loaded 4WDs.

that unit hit the road in 2004," explains Transmech's Owner, Theo Heuft. Patrick Autocare was so impressed that an order for 15 more carriers soon followed. The final two trailers saw the

birth of the new 'low loading' system, featuring self-lifting decks with all the hydraulics contained in the deck itself. The design is an answer to a major OH&S issue, allowing the driver to work

under the safe working height maximum of 1.5 metres and eliminating the need for safety railings. The whole deck also lowers to provide a level loading platform, a feature that

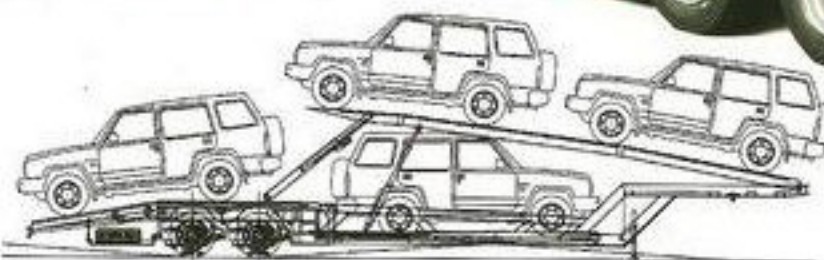


Transmech started off doing repairs on a range of equipment, including car carriers, but is today renowned as a specialist builder of car carriers.

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Transmech can custom build to suit individual requirements.



makes the task of securing the car not only safer, but faster. Once loaded the whole deck can then be positioned in any way to suit the load.

"Since our design first hit the road two years ago it has become increasingly popular and is fast becoming recognised as the safer alternative for car carriers. On top of that the design reduces the chances of doing damage to the cars." Transmech builds trailers to carry everything from trucks to sports cars in various configurations, including converter dollies and overhead loading

frames (cab frames). The newest addition to the Transmech range is its tough four car/commercial/truck carrier. "We were asked to design a car carrier that could accommodate four fully loaded 4WDs, all fitted with their trays, bullbars and lights. These are far too big and high for normal car carriers so we had to come up with our own unique solution," Theo says.

According to Theo, one of the reasons for Transmech's success is its ability to achieve whatever the customer requires. "Many builders only have a standard car

carrier, whereas we will custom build to suit the individual requirements. We work to continue to improve every aspect of our business at all times," he says.

While Transmech's reputation may today be based more on its car carriers, it has never taken its eye off the repairs and service side of the business. "It is what we are known for and something that is a very important part of our business, but we don't just repair car carriers," explains Theo.

As for the future, it is full steam ahead. "The next few years will see a period of expansion. There aren't that many people out there building car carriers and we pride ourselves on leading the way in this niche field." TBB



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