Press Release
Neu-Isenburg, October 2009

Heavy duty coupling for increased safety

ROCKINGER, one of the world's leading manufacturers of towing hitches for agricultural machinery, will unveil a heavy duty version of the ball coupling at Agritechnica 2009, taking place 10 - 14 November.

ROCKINGER has developed a reinforced ball coupling for use with heavy trailers, which the company will present for the first time at Agritechnica 2009 in Hanover. The heavy duty coupling withstands the increasingly demanding requirements on load bearing capacities and especially on the ball joint lock. A reinforced forge-formed down-holder keeps the coupling socket securely attached to the ball head even when upward-acting forces (negative vertical loads) are applied – such as when dumping or loading with uneven weight distribution.

The heavy duty RO 826L model can carry up to 4.0 tonnes vertical load and has a D-value of 89.3 kilonewtons. The reinforced coupling is only available in the shackle-equipped model. To mount, the item is attached to the drawbar bracket on the coupling while the front end of the shackle is fastened to a mounting on the bottom of the gearing. The matching add-on parts are also included in the ROCKINGER range of products. The new, stronger ball coupling permits a vertical swivel angle of at least 20 degrees either up or down, as well as a horizontal swivel angle of at least 60 degrees to the left and right. The RO 826L will be available for many makes of tractor and various tractor types as of Agritechnica 2009. As an alternative to the ball head, the heavy duty coupling is also available with Piton Fix.

Ball couplings are becoming more and more popular in agriculture because of the excellent driving comfort and great vertical loads this technology offers. This design facilitates an almost completely play-free connection between the ball and the ball joint (socket). Jolt-free driving is made possible both on-road and off-road. Ball couplings are therefore particularly suitable for use with heavy trailers, for example slurry wagons.
ROCKINGER ball couplings offer an easily operated locking system, which ensures reliable monitoring of locking by means of a patented raster.
Piton Fix couplings are especially popular in France. With these couplings, a 44.5 millimetre thick and 70 millimetre high cylindrical spigot, rather than a ball, locks the drawbar eye. However, to enable vertical swivel angles of 20 degrees up and down, it is necessary to provide for a play of at least 5.5 millimetres between the spigot and the eye as this is the root of reduced driving comfort.

Press Contact:

Monika Smilovic
Siemensstraße 2
63263 Neu-Isenburg, Germany

Tel: +49 (6102) 295-383
E-mail: monika.smilovic@jost-werke.de