

PRESS RELEASE

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Prioritising customer and dealer needs are key for Rokbak

With 25 years' experience in the industry under his belt, Rokbak Regional Sales Manager EMEA Kenny Price discusses increasing Rokbak hauler sales by 25% and how experience from the factory floor to working with a variety of OEM products at a dealership gives him a unique insight into customer needs.

In the last 12 months, unit sales for Rokbak have increased by 25% and unique customer numbers by 45% in Europe, the Middle East and Africa (EMEA). The Scottish articulated hauler manufacturer has recorded a 40% returning and 60% new business customer base in 2023. It's altogether indicative of strong customer satisfaction in product investment, aftersales support and the development of key partnerships.

"When customers buy machines, they buy them to perform and do a job – sometimes up to 24 hours a day, and so they need to be reliable," states Kenny Price, Rokbak Regional Sales Manager EMEA. "Rokbak trucks are popular with customers because they are hardworking, robust and durable.

"Our increased unit sales in 2023 are welcome confirmation of confidence in the product, that it's working well for the customer, and that customers enjoy working with Rokbak and our dealer partners. New customers coming into the Rokbak fold are starting to see the benefits they can get from investing in our products, in particular regarding the trucks' performance and fuel efficiency. We're always looking to strengthen existing relationships and start working with new customers."

Inside knowledge

Kenny worked his way up starting on the factory floor as an apprentice maintenance engineer at Rokbak's Motherwell factory in 1999, just three miles away from his hometown, learning valuable skills and working with the truck product. He progressed as an engineer before moving into product training and becoming a product manager.

Following this, he spent several years working with the distribution of construction equipment as a Regional Sales Manager, Head of Sales and General Manager, where he worked with several OEM products and gained first-hand experience within the dealer network. In 2020 he returned to Motherwell with a new perspective and a greater awareness of what customers prioritise.

"Being front and centre with the customer at a dealership, you understand what's required for an OEM to be successful, particularly with the aftersales and the upfront sales support," Kenny reflects. "You come to have an appreciation of how the dealerships are working and the importance of the relationship between them, the customer and the manufacturer.

"The customer really values support, the OEM being fair and trustworthy, and doing exactly what we say we're going to do. It definitely helps that, at Rokbak, we've got a passionate team with a wealth of experience and decades of hauling heritage. We strive for the best for our customers and dealers.

"We're a close group – there aren't thousands of us – and we only manufacture haulers, so we are extremely focused on being the experts in our field. We stay down-to-earth and form close bonds with customers and dealers – it's a partnership – and I know this is appreciated by everyone we work with."

Key markets

Region EMEA is a strong market for articulated dump trucks, with several important territories including the UK, France and Germany. In 2022, the UK ADT market was second only to the USA – and it is on track to compete for that position again by the end of 2023. For the UK market, 2022 was a boom year and Q1 2023 was the biggest opening quarter for market volume in recent memory.

"The UK market is incredibly important to Rokbak and the trucks we manufacture," explains Kenny. "This is particularly true when large-scale projects come up, which are ideal for our RA30 and RA40 articulated haulers."

Rokbak trucks can be found in mining, quarries, and in big construction and infrastructure projects. They are used to transport different types of materials all over the world, in a variety of conditions and terrain. Many are working in muckshift and landfill with specialised bodies to maximise capacity. Regardless of where they are or what they're doing, the same Rokbak backing is there.

"Investing time in the dealer means investing time in the customer," concludes Kenny. "The aftersales support is so important to them, and so it's important to us. Customer visits, technical product training and information are the framework of our system. The product needs to do its role but when it comes to things like servicing and maintenance, it's about being there and acting responsibly and quickly to any customer requirements."

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ABOUT ROKBAK

Rokbak is a manufacturer of off-highway articulated haulers that are used in mining, quarrying, and construction applications around the world. A member of the Volvo Group and headquartered in Motherwell, Scotland, UK, Rokbak has two models of articulated haulers, with payloads ranging from 28 to 38 tonnes (30.9 to 41.9 US tons).

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