



## New world-class John Deere D Series

Hitachi Construction Machinery (Australia) Pty Ltd (HCA) has announced the arrival of the new world-class John Deere D Series skid steer range. Featuring customer driven enhancements and many industry firsts, the new D Series provides a superior alternative for Australian customers - one that is backed by the peace of mind of HCA's nationwide branch network.

Built in the same factory as Hitachi's leading G Series graders, the new D Series skid steer range packs all of Hitachi's big machine features in one powerhouse new compact. With a roomier operator station, cab visibility that is second-to-none and the choice of an open canopy or a super quiet, positively pressurized AC cab, it's easy to forget you're in a skid steer.

Choose between foot controls, hand controls or EH (Electro-Hydraulic) controls across the range.

Or opt for the EH Performance Package that lets the operator choose between ISO or H pattern at the flick of a switch with the added benefit of creeper mode, a cruise control when running attachments as well as boom and bucket speed control. Along with the larger entryway and curved glass door, it's just another example of how seriously committed Hitachi is to making the D Series the easiest machine you've ever run.

As you'd expect from John Deere, the Tier 3 / iTier 4 engine is unmatched. Auto-idle is included standard (a world first for skid steers), and exclusive electronic injection delivers significant torque rise and more usable power.

The new D Series completes HCA's skid steer lineup, with the larger machines complementing the smaller John Deere 313 and 315 models currently available. [CL](#)

## On site ease with Universal Quick Coupling

MB S.p.A., a Vicenza-based company that produces and sells crusher buckets, has introduced the Universal Quick Coupling, a winning piece of equipment designed to make on-site jobs easier.

The new accessory is available in seven versions, depending on the excavator and the pin on which it is assembled and allows for all kinds of equipment, from the crusher bucket to the hammer, from the traditional bucket to the drill, to the same excavator, with very short installation times.

The Universal Quick Coupling therefore improves pick-up geometry by reducing the distance between the excavator arm and the equipment used, thus speeding up the jobs carried out on site.

The strain on the excavator is also diminished, thanks to reduction of more than 50 per cent of the weight compared to traditional couplings offered on the market.

This universal coupling is quick and versatile and makes assembly operations easy thanks to the possibility of quickly assembling the pieces of equipment on both sides (front and back). [CL](#)



## Queensland Ombudsman doubles original training target

Ombudsman officers have delivered the highest number of training sessions since the first programs launch in 2005. In that year they delivered 60; in 2009-10 they delivered 120 sessions.

Despite increasing pressure on budgets, the Ombudsman has provided Complaints Management and Good Decisions training to more than 8000 officers since 2005.

Queensland Ombudsman David Bevan said recent training conducted in the greater Brisbane region had received overwhelmingly positive feedback.

"Ninety-eight per cent of officers that attended the training in the past financial year have

stated that the training would help them in their daily work and that they would recommend the training to their colleagues," Mr Bevan said.

"We tailor training to the unique practices and processes of the council concerned, and provide council officers with scenarios that relate specifically to their day-to-day activities. We also provide scenarios that officers may not usually encounter."

Over the next few months the Ombudsman will be conducting both Good Decisions and Complaints Management training sessions throughout Brisbane and regional Queensland. Visit their online training calendar for more information. [CL](#)