

# SPEC MY TRUCK

Check out Steve Beeler's rig, page 14

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# Service Truck

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## CHANGING SEASONS

# Prepare for winter challenges

Operators and managers share experiences dealing with snow and cold

MATT JONES

If you live in areas of the northern United States or in Canada, chances are good the phrase, "Winter is coming," would already send a chill up your spine long before *Game of Thrones* made it a catchphrase. For service truck operators, the expression is more than a cliché. Extreme cold and snowy conditions can be debilitating. It takes careful planning and preparation to overcome the challenges of a long winter.

"In the dead of winter, we can get as cold as -35° C, with wind-chill in excess of minus 50 degrees," says Morley Marwick, corporate service manager for Red-head Equipment in Regina, Sask. "It gets pretty severe here sometimes in January and February."

With many kilometers separating major centers and towns, it's essential to retain heat under the hood and in the cab, Marwick says. The key solution is proper

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Photo courtesy of LSM Home Comfort Solutions



After this LSM Home Comfort Solutions service truck ended up in a snow bank, a friendly neighborhood dog tried to help pull the vehicle free.

## INNOVATION

# The skinny on lube skids

Lube skid manufacturers report increasing demand for those products

BY BRENNAN CLARKE

Developing new products to keep up with evolving consumer needs isn't just good business practice, it's a basic principle of supply and demand economics. Find a gap in the market, offer customers a cost-effective solution and chances are you'll be successful.

When it comes to service truck equipment and accessories, Maintainer Corporation of Iowa Inc.'s new line of ready-made lube skids certainly falls into that category.

Introduced at the 2018 Work Truck Show in Indianapolis in March, Maintainer's lube skids come in eight standard models with mix-and-



Jeff Taylor Sr., Frank Stevenson, Jeff Taylor Jr., and Mike Thulin work the Taylor Pump & Lift stand at the 2017 International Construction & Utility Equipment Exposition in Louisville, Ky.

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## REGULATIONS

# Crane operator certification deadline looms

Service truck crane operators still included in proposed federal regulations

KEITH NORBURY

The latest deadline for a national requirement to certify U.S. crane operators, including operators of service truck cranes, working in construction is this Nov. 10.

This time it looks as though the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration will stick with the deadline, said the CEO of the National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators.

"I spoke to the directorate last week and they are still confident they can get this final rule out before then," Graham Brent said in

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James Singleton, an apprenticeship and training crane instructor with local 18 of the International Union of Operating Engineers, maneuvers a steel weight through a course designed to test the capabilities of service truck crane operators at the 2015 International Construction & Utility Equipment Exposition in Louisville, Ky.

File photo by Keith Norbury

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