



# Environmentally Friendly Shock Absorber

Powerdown has taken a step further in developing an environmentally friendly shock absorber solution. Collaborating with Re-Oil, a local Newcastle oil and lubrication specialist company, Powerdown have been instrumental in the development of a tailored high-performance shock absorber fluid made from sugar cane.

The base fluid selected for this application not only originates from a renewable plant-based resource but is also biodegradable. This makes BioShock Ultra the logical choice for an environmentally conscious user, who will not compromise on product performance.

Key performance features of this new fluid include a superior ability to distribute heat, which facilitates high rates of heat dissipation within the fluid and a superior flash point compared to traditional shock absorber oils.

The benefits of these features allow for exceptional shock absorber performance and endurance with consistent high resistance to fade or loss of damping. These characteristics ensure high level wheel stability for positive road traction and braking.

## BENCH TESTING

To ensure that the new fluid would perform to Powerdown's standards, a thermo-study was carried out at the Powerdown test facilities on a number of dynamometers and data gathering test machinery to expose the fluid to the most conceivable parameters of stress and enduring resistance factors, including any physical break down of the fluid composition that may have revealed themselves when



Hills Tankers' servicing facility at Beresfield NSW.

subjected to the "torture tests" considered compulsory by Powerdown.

## ON HIGHWAY TESTING

Currently a six month trial is under way with the support of Hills Tankers on a pair of B-double combinations. Like Powerdown, Hills tankers is a family business that began in the Hunter region in 1960. Since then, they have grown into one of Australia's leading transport and logistics providers for the liquid and dangerous goods industries.

The two-test vehicle made available by Hills Tankers shuttle between Beresfield,

northern NSW and inland as far as Glen Innes traveling up to 5,000km on a weekly basis. One has been fitted with a total of 12 Powerdown test shock absorbers and the other being used as a control vehicle, is running Original Equipment shock absorbers. Hills Tankers have a modern servicing facility where their trucks are inspected and serviced once every two weeks to ensure safe and efficient running of all vehicles.

During the six month trial, both vehicles will be evaluated and serviced at the same rate to compare the difference in performance; wear and tear will also be



Test and control vehicles provided by Hills Tankers.

monitored to evaluate the performance of the new shock absorber technology under real world working conditions. The trial is still underway, but the initial results look good, driver feedback has been very positive and overall performance has improved.

The Powerdown engineering team

will be available to discuss new exciting product developments at the 2019 Brisbane Truck Show.

## BIODEGRADABILITY EXPLAINED

The industrial terminology 'readily biodegradable' means, a product which reaches biodegradation greater

than 60 per cent in 28 days, and the 60 per cent level is reached within 10 days of reaching the 10 per cent mark ('10 day window' criterion).

In general, a 'readily biodegradable' material biodegrades more rapidly and more completely than an 'inherently biodegradable' material. IID

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From sugar cane to biodegradable shock absorber fluid

