28 July 2023

Dear %custfullname%

Hi

Talking with our customers it sounds like there are a lot of people out and about in the motorhomes and caravans which is great to hear. RV’s are made to be used not just look pretty! There is some information about the coming changes to Self Containment and a copy of the web address where you can register to receive information as it is developed.

**Fiat Ducato Semi Air Suspension**

We are now in the position where we can install and have certified Semi Air Suspension kits to Fiat Ducato motorhomes. These kits are designed to assist the original suspension and improve the handling of the motorhome. They also allow you to raise and lower the rear of the motorhome, invaluable if you have a long overhang at the rear. Operation is very simple from a small control panel mounted at the dashboard. You will also notice a reduction in vibration and road noise.

Semi Air Suspension is an addition to your Motorhomes suspension system. The leaf springs remain as they are. The Semi Air system supplements your existing suspension.

The initial kits are designed for vehicles that are on a COF. If you have a vehicle with a 9-speed automatic transmission you may be able to increase your GVM by up to an additional 200kg.

Our pricing for this kit installed at UCC in Christchurch is $4998.43 inc. GST PLUS Engineering Certification.

A basic manual inflate/deflate system is priced at $2985.00 inc. GST PLUS Engineering Certification

If you would like more information or to have a Semi Air Suspension kit installed, please contact the Service Team at UCC Motorhomes & Caravans ([service@uccmotorhomes.co.nz](mailto:service@uccmotorhomes.co.nz) or 03 349 7747 ext 2).

**Self Containment**

This is a brief update on the forth coming changes to the Self Containment Regulations.

The Self-contained Motor Vehicles Legislation Bill received Royal Assent on 6 June 2023. This means the law and its regulations will come into effect on 6 December 2023. The Plumbers Gasfitters and Drainlayers Board (PGDB) is now responsible for enforcing the provisions of the Act and associated Regulations. They will be responsible for appointing Certifying Authorities and maintaining a register of Self Contained Vehicles. Expect there to be a cost for this when you renew your Self Containment in the future.

Prior to 6 December 2023 current Certifying Authorities (NZMCA etc) will continue to certify Self Contained Vehicles. The NZMCA has made provision to provide a certification for vehicles with portable toilets to allow these vehicles to have access to NZMCA Parks, Rallies and events. The blue self-containment warrant card and A4 certificates will clearly note “Certification is not for freedom camping purposes”.

Important freedom camping changesto note:

* Vehicle-based freedom campers must use a certified self-contained vehicle when they stay on council administered land. That is unless the council designates freedom camping sites suitable for non-self-contained vehicles.
* Vehicles must have a permanently fixed toilet to be certified self-contained, portable toilets will be no longer acceptable (see prior note about NZMCA Parks etc).
* The Plumbers, Gasfitters and Drainlayers Board will implement a new system for the certification and registration of certified self-contained vehicles, including a publicly accessible register of all certified vehicles. A fee will be charged for registration in this system, the level of which is yet to be set however indications are it will be somewhere between $91-$120 per renewal (ie every four years).
* The infringement regime will increase fines from $200 to $1,000 to further deter freedom campers who continue to flout the rules.
* The Freedom Camping Act 2011 will be extended to include land managed by Waka Kotahi NZTA and Toitū Te Whenua LINZ. Council bylaws will be able to restrict and prohibit freedom camping on NZTA land. Freedom camping will be prohibited across all LINZ land, save for any designated sites (there are currently 5 designated sites across New Zealand).

Importantly, the new Act addresses vehicle-based camping only. It does not regulate the use of tents for camping. The Act does not affect freedom camping on public conservation land, or the decisions made by the Department of Conservation. DOC can, if deemed necessary, restrict freedom camping in specific areas to certified vehicles with a fixed toilet.

This is a very brief summary of information from various sources and is for you information, it is not a definitive guide. The PGDB will release more information as they develop it which we will share as we are made aware of it.

If you want to keep yourself up to date you can go to the following page where you will find current information from the Plumbers Gasfitters and Drainlayers Board.

https://www.pgdb.co.nz/about-us/self-contained-vehicles/

**Annual Water Ingress Inspection**

We have been asked quite a lot recently about Water Ingress Inspections, what do they involve and are they necessary. Most European manufacturers require an Annual Water Ingress inspection as part of their warranty protection. This is to identify problems before they become a major issue and carry out any remedial work. Thankfully water leaks are very rare in a modern motorhome.

Our approach to these inspections is to carry out a preventative maintenance inspection to ensure, as best as we can, that everything is going to work as intended when you are away from home as well as the Water Ingress Check. Our inspection checklist has 50 items that are to be checked covering the relatively straight forward, hinges and catches through to safety related items such as the LPG system and 230V system.

A motorhome or caravan is a big investment, and a little bit of preventative maintenance will go a long way to help protect the investment.

**Facebook**

We have had a UCC Motorhomes & Caravans Facebook page for some time but have never actively used it. We have reactivated it and will use it to keep you updated with useful information in addition to our usual newsletters. Please follow us to keep up to date.

Wishing you and your family enjoyable, warm and safe travels.

Kind regards

The Team @ UCC Motorhomes and Caravans

If you do not wish to receive these emails from UCC Motorhomes please reply to [service@uccmotorhomes.co.nz](mailto:service@uccmotorhomes.co.nz) with “unsubscribe” and your name in the subject line