

Giving Your Mixer a

4.0

Doug Clemons is the type of driver every fleet manager wants behind the wheel of the truck. From all indications he is conscientious hard working and takes pride in how his truck looks. Having delivered concrete in the central portion of Missouri near Columbia for the better part of his adult

▶ A driver's simple idea may solve your drum cleaning problem.

life Clemons has learned to deal with the good and the bad. And like most good drivers Clemons spends much of his "windshield time" working on ways to improve his job.

As every driver knows cleaning out the inside of a mixer is just one of those unpleasant parts of the job. Fortunately for his crew Clemons has put his creativity in full gear to offer a simple solution to the problem of mortar buildup in the drum's nose.

Tired of the problem Clemons has come up with a method that he says has practically eliminated material buildup in his employer's trucks. In fact Clemons claims that in the more than seven years during which he has been driving trucks with the 4.0 mixer alteration he and his fellow drivers haven't used a jackhammer on the drums because the drums are so clean.

Clemons' design appears to be a simple application of the forces of nature. With a simple field modification to the drum's fins Clemons' 4.0 system converts the mixer into a washtub of sorts. The modification allows slurry and water to fully access the corners and shelves where the mortar builds up.

According to Clemons the modification process takes about four hours

and can be handled by any qualified welder or torch operator. The only necessary tools are found in most mechanics' shops. He cautions that to perform the modification safely it's necessary to be aware of OSHA's requirement for working in confined spaces.

Clemons hopes to find an easy way to share and profit from his idea. Last year he approached a patent attorney who after reviewing the process said it would be difficult to hold a patent on this idea. He has even approached several truck mixer manufacturers but they weren't interested.

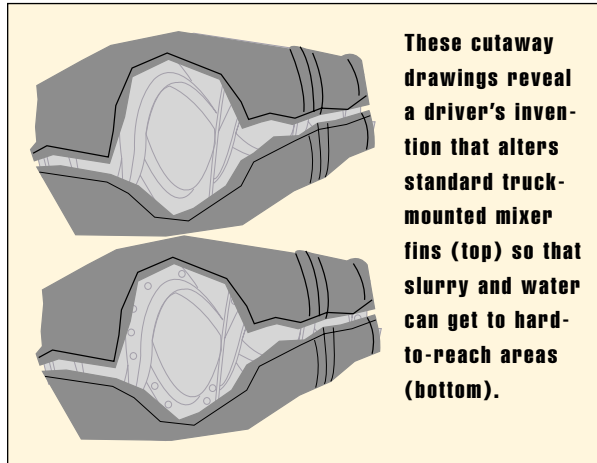
Undaunted by the establishment's rebuffs Clemons—like many innovators with great ideas—has just published a

four-page brochure describing the 4.0 modification process.

"I hope interested producers will want to buy my instruction report. I know I'm never going to get rich but if I can help eliminate the need for drivers to climb in the back of a drum I've done something good for the industry" says Clemons.

— RICK YELTON

To learn more about Doug Clemons' 4.0 mixer drum alteration you can mail him a request for a copy of his brochure "4.0 Mixer." The address is Doug Clemons 210 Co. Rd. #209 Fayette, MO 65248; phone: 660-248-3914.



These cutaway drawings reveal a driver's invention that alters standard truck-mounted mixer fins (top) so that slurry and water can get to hard-to-reach areas (bottom).

Wrap Maintains Drum Temperature

According to David Kelly of Peoria, Ariz., his invention can cool a mixer drum in the summer and help retain heat in the winter. His invention is made from a durable long-lasting material that encapsulates the drum. Easy to install the drum wrap also can be painted in such a way as to feature advertisements.

Kelly has registered his invention with Invention Submission Corp. He is looking for a drum manufacturer or marketing company with which to partner on the invention.

To learn more write Dept. 99-TME-755 ISC 217 Ninth St. Pittsburgh PA 15222 or call 412-288-1300 ext. 1368.