

Protecting... lightly

CTA continues to innovate in the field of motorhome seatbelts, offering a new range of lightweight structures, able to reduce weight for vehicle manufacturers, with special attention to the rapidly developing campervan category.

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Specialising in metalworking, CTA has a vast product catalogue ranging from roof rails to swivelling plates, ladders and TV brackets. But it's seatbelt anchoring structures that make CTA a true market leader at European level: the Rome-based company has been working in this field for more than thirty years, having therefore acquired considerable experience, able to satisfy the requirements of the various motorhome manufacturers who really need special structures for belts in the area behind the cab. Having recently received the positive results of the tests carried out, CTA can make its appearance at Düsseldorf with completely updated range, with state-of-

the-art belt anchorage systems.

There will be standard belts, but also a version expressly dedicated to campervans, a type of recreational vehicle experiencing a surprising rate of growth in Europe. The change to the consolidated range has a very clear purpose: lowering the weight of the structure. Saving weight is essential to the design of state-of-the-art motorhomes, so

there needs to be an effort to reduce the weight of seatbelts as well: let's not forget that it is of necessity a metal structure with a mass that's by no means limited. The new structures for belts in campervans, type-approved in category M1, will have a weight of 13.5 kg. "We'll go to the Caravan Salon with an updated range of belts," explains Dario



Bellezze, CTA Sales Manager, "to reaffirm our leading position in this particular production area. We had an ambitious objective: lowering the weight of the belt structure. We succeeded in achieving this objective and proposing a specific structure for campervans with limited weight. So we have a structure which is lighter but just as strong. In order to do this we used state-of-the-art high-strength materials. We made use of specific knowledge in processing these particular sheet metals, which can't be processed in the same way as normal kinds, but require particular cutting, bending and welding methods."

First of all there was a theoretical study, with virtual simulations using dedicated software, then various hypothetical implementations were proposed, about 150 different solutions for 3 types of structure. Finally, having chosen the most suitable solutions, tests were carried out on the prototypes. More than 400 tests were carried out to achieve a definitive result. The product presented at Düsseldorf is already ready for sale. A version equipped with Isofix anchoring system for child seats will be presented subsequently. The new structures for the belts have already been certified with

Company Profile

CTA has a 40 year long experience in the automotive industry, and it is mainly focused on transforming different kinds of technical vehicles and structures. It addresses mainly vehicle manufacturers which need not only the design, production and supply of finished



products, but also after-sales assistance. Its great experience and organization capacity lead to a rapid development in production; this is what enables the technical department to carry out extremely innovative studies, while efficiently following up on the progress of purchased orders. Today CTA works with the most famous Italian and European RV manufacturers providing seatbelt anchoring structures, luggage racks, seat swivels, TV brackets, ladders. All in compliance with European safety standards.

German certification bodies, such as TÜV. But the new products are already prepared for certification according to the American Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS), which are more restrictive.

There are also developments concerning the method of supply to clients however: they can have the belts already installed on the structure, to ensure a reduction in operating times for the motorhome manufacturer. Manufacturers can then install the belt unit directly into the vehicle, without preparing a pre-assembly station on the floor. New packing systems have also been provided: there will now be 60 belt structures in a standard 1.20x1.20 m pack. The reduction in packaging volumes will permit a reduction in transport costs.

The new range of belts extends CTA's offer even further, with countless solutions for structures, types of anchorages and seatbelts: more than 50,000 possible combinations. So it's another step forward for the Rome-based company that for more than

thirty years has been dedicating a great part of its resources to the design and production of seatbelts for motorhomes. Its structures can be adapted to the chassis of the most widespread brands in the motorhome sector, from Fiat to Iveco, Mercedes, Renault, Peugeot and Citroën. In the catalogue there are structures for single or double belts, in on against the direction of travel, also with structures specially designed to house Truma Combi, Webasto and Alde heating systems.

